DRAFT:AdeG:7/31/74:mjw

MEMCON

Participants:

J.M. Wilson, Jr. Herman Marcuse Andre Surena Adrian de Graffenried Howard Willens Michael Helfer Erica Ward

Date: July 31, 1974

Time: 10:15

JW: Two items discussed since last week.

- A. Points for further resolution
- B. Interim application of laws formula

MH: List issues for further resolution which were postponed during JW absence - not all inclusive of current outstanding issues.

JW: #1. U.S.

HW: Concerned formal approval by USC regarding chances of changes in Constitution.

(b) Potential for delay; want to move expeditiously for new Marianas government. U.S. Presidential approval expidite process. Recognize interests of USC so suggested waiting formula after which U.S. President acts if USC doesn't.

JW: Some USC interests, no definitive judgment of USC however. Prefer Executive Branch, is so Presidential ; consult more fully, however, with USC and proposed at time of consultation the period of waiting formula proposed by MPSC.

HW: USC distinguish between status agreement and constitution - approval?

JW: - Can't say.

MH: Agree to draft formula?

JW: Yes, subject to consultation.

HW: Problem is getting USC to focus on issue at present.

JW: Neec to draft to 2 alternatives: (1) Straight U.S. Presidential approval; (2) Waiting period (30 days).

HW: Need an "unless" clause to trigger President action.

HM: Don't want "unless" clause but pure time clause.

AS: Waiting clause essentially a consultation process.

MH: Yes.

JW: #2

HW: Time, constitutional convention be a pol. responsive instrument, but may need more than 1 constitutional convention. Recognize USC concerns on PR constitutional convention and hope USC less concerned if review both at same time.

JW: U.S. Article IV more elaborate where USC review 1st them go to people. U.S. reviewed, in light of approval process for status agreement and having status plebiscite prior to submission to USC. So, USC may insist on knowing local government prior to giving approval and might insist on seeing both at same time or having a local constitution to look at before approving status. So, let's do plebiscite 1st prior to going to USC with constitution.

HW: (c) obviously answered in affirmative then.

JW: Yes.

MH: (d) same is interim applicability?

JW: Yes and can drop (e), U.S. won't insist.

HW:

JW: 2 problems.

- (1) Procedural with considering political overturns whether we should attempt to get into USC by putting into status agreement; or whether USC should handle on its own.
 - (2) Substantive problem is what to include in the approach to USC.

 HW: Both sides received same message no rep.

MPSC draft gave a non-voting delegate then delegate upon X population. On procedures - MPSC feels appropriate to have rep. in Washington Rep. in status agreement; U.S. Executive intrusion into USC domain can be handled by noting that U.S. agreeing subject to USC review or in alternative fall back to saying U.S. agreed to support MPSC desires before USC. MPSC wants in draft agreement; look at as a Magna Carta for Marianas. MPSC wants to know if U.S. has approach USC on this issue of rep. in USC, and want consideration by USC.

JW: 2 comments - (1) is a subject to be treated as part of whole arrangement and recognize Marianas wants an answer before they vote; (2) don't want to put in agreement something which will kill it; could have exchange of letters confirming support; or letter to USC on this giving support to MPSC desire. Need to consult with USC on substance and how to handle on substance is sympathy for rep. when local population r-aches level as say in VI; also USC may want to put Guam and Marianas together in future and if so, a separate rep. for Marianas and for Guam may note to USC that this is an obstacle.

HW: Per original MPSC draft, Marianas would be rep. by Guam but MPSC rejected; wanted an America Samoa rep. rather than share Won Pat. Want MPSC to reconsider if USC can note they could share Won Pat until X population and own rep.

HW: Is true, if Marianas reaches 50-60,000 and a separate rep. could act as a barrier; would like to present alternative to MPSC that could share Guam until future date.

JW: U.S. executive has been sympathetic to MPSC desires. Think best approach is put squarely to USC to see if they could accept MPSC approach. Won Pat has been approached, and chuckles in a friendly fashion.

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JW: Agree - we have good relations with Won Pat.

HW: Problem is how he could represent differing interests between Guam/Mariana Island.

JW: Same problem with Carson City and Reno.

HW: Need to have our MPSC Chairman spend some time on hill and them acress the table to see if the USC will deny.

JW: Lets put this on a special consultation.

HW: A need for America Samoa type rep. in ?

JW: No problem.

HM: America Somoa procedure is not to have anything in agreement.

HW: But MPSC wants in agreement.

AS: Isn't basic difference rights on hill.

HW: No more rights on hill than I do.

JW: America Samoa have a special statute?

MH: Early PR was recognized in one of acts in early 1900's got letter from Gov. certifying - MPSC will check.

JW: Lanc alientation issue; this may be one we ought to "split" (noting differences in approaches) since MPSC not want to be required.

MH: Want a provision specify permit vice require Marianas Government to regulate land alienation.

HW: U.S. seems to look for a commitment by Marianas leaders they will support such restriction. If this is true could do outside bu letters. But, if U.S. doing due to USC reactions, MPSC feels USC not want mandatory provisions today as they did 10-15 years ago. Is legal contrary to U.S. experience.

MH: Difficulty is (1) growth of Marianas where not advisable to have land restrictions and (2)

HW: If mandatory, should be only for a fixed period of time because the requirement is . Want to prevent in Marianas what is happening in Guam/Hawaii.

JW: Aside from liberal tendencies of USC members, is that some Marianas residents may otherwise wake up they have lost their birthright.

HW: How can Japanese investment Guam reduce dep. on USG? problems?

JW: (1) take over public X for private use (2) depriving local people of means of livlihood by of lands and an increase in U.S. grants.

MH: Loss of jobs may have to do more with immigration than loss land.

JW: Fong gave U.S. long lecture about foreign investments.

HW: Mink dubious about Hawaii public land approach.

JW: Burton adamant; in behond mandatory requirement.

HW: How about a "time duration"?

JW: Is new, will consider.

AS: Don't understand MPSC views.

MH: As economy becomes more sophisticated - new ways to hold wealth may want to own corp. shares in lieu of land; on Guam, problem is selling for too low a value.

JW: U.S. will think about MPSC "time" approach for requiring Marianas restrictions.

On drafting, MPSC want to include in constitution or through local laws.

MH: MPSC draft contains both.

HW: Recommend be in Constitution.

JW: How about soft approach for inclusion into constitution. Is really up to Marianas whether they want in constitution or regulate through local laws.

HW: As to #2 of land issue, could agree it is against U.S. legal tradition, especially if a "right winger".

JW: Is same argument as Hawaii land act.

HW: Don't want it in Constitution, would have M.L. Authority control and restrict; thus want outside agreement as is now being done. Any strong USC input?

JW: Strong USC sentiment in favor of.

HW: Believe they are more flexible.

HW: Problem is keeping public land from being chewed up into small via homestading.

JW: Issue is normally considered "internal matters" outside preview of USG, so should be addressed here in the agreement.

HW: U.S. satisfied with just recognition that Marianas will regulate; and no problem with having any limitation?

JW: Yes - up to Marianas to determine exact extent of land holding.

HW: Exect regulations would be in MLA charter.

JW: Thing to do is draft with a "split" approach; U.S. will go back to USC with it.

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HW: U.S. should note that MLA charter will address this issue.

JW: OK

JW: 1 man, 1 vote problem; not sure Marianas concerns are clear. Understand Tinian and Rota concerns but how to translate practically.

HW: Rota and Tinian concerned that Saipan majority would have disproportionate influence; some separatist feelings and some legal risks to having an upper house based on a non-population basis.

JW: Proposal would be bicaneral?

HW: Wouldn't want to specify address in agreement. Is a problem e.g. i representative from Tinian in MDL yet he rep. only 680 vice 10,000 in Saipan. This is an internal matter for Marianas Constitution to address, only want to preserve that option.

AS: If we had this, almost certain USC would want to review Marianas constitution.

HW: Hadn't thought of this. Is a good point.

JW: Problem is too much gov. for TTPI.

HW: True; simpliest problem is to ignore, but then Tinian/Rota may feel ignored so that they may insist their concern must be protected.

JW: Our problem is USC, has not been discussed.

HW: Reynolds & Sims Lucas v. Colorado provide the basis; (1) no independence right for rep. by co. in a state as state is sovereign and can alter alegnments of boundaries and (2)

JW: "At large rep." as Guam -? result

MH: Rota - Tinian have no rep.

JW: Maybe, maybe not.

HW: Want either an upper house or a single house that gives more rep. to Tinian/Rota than they now have.

MH: If rep. basis would have Rota = 1; Tinian = 1 Saipan = 15.

HW: Our scheme would have 4/5 for Tinian and several for Rota vice 1 representative.

JW: What about ignoring issue.

HW: If ignored, then no protections to Tinian and Rota from USC that they could have interests represented in constitutional convention.

JW: ? clause is this?

MH: Equal protect clause of 14th amendment.

JW: If we go to a bicameral legislature under local constitution and then a court case.

MH: If courts rule against then reapportion houses by population; a legal argument could be made that exception to 14th clause is invalid much like exception for land alienation clause.

JW: How is rep. figured? would base population on Tinian be counted?

MH: Will research.

JW: Mutual consent items discussed earlier. As to these we want to keep as few as possible. No changes in citizenship without USC approval; no financial changes after approval as would be breach of faith.

MH: Politically is desirable to address fact that U.S. citizenship not to be taken away in status agreement.

JW: Could draft into the Article but not make subject to mutual consent

MH: Yes, and would still apply 14th.

JW: Lets try drafting.

HW: If U.S. view it is enforceable obligation can we get language to this effect?

JW: Yes.

JW: Membership in International and Regional Organizations. Problem is Guam and other territories; discussion is raging argument no final decision. This is reason U.S. draft deleted the provision from its covenant. It has USC overtones. Will be resolved shortly and U.S. can then address.

HW: What is State view.

AS: Not resolved; U.S. State Department has problems with actions by territories that conflict with U.S. foreign policy. Best territories could expect would be "associate" membership; give opinions but no vote.

JW: So we'll have to put on shelf - should resolve in a month - 2 months.

HW: See why need uniform treatment; I member (Palacios) feels that loss of Marianas if associate membership right in U.N. organizations would inhibit growth potential of Marianas.

AS: Some membership requires dues; certain memberships may not return the same benefits and MPSC should address this.

HW: Neec State to list of dubious to Marianas; J. Leonard has told them ADB is not for Marianas so there are some not of benefit to Marianas.

JW: Same problems in Guam and Puerto Rico. U.S. needs time to resolve - is out of our hands here in the office.

JW: On Application of Laws. Understand a new draft available.

MH: Yes - need to meet again.

HW: Want group to review before discussing.

JW: May want to delete Consolidated _____ Act in light of U.S. agreement for U.S. loans to farmers cooperatives; applicable laws provision on drafting, want to draft in "fool proof" fashion then simplify exceptions.

HW: Where do we start drafting?

JW: Let's start from top of agenda, drafting process should clarify areas of agreement and disagreement.

HW: Can get through agenda by next week if we can meet twice next week. Will be going to the Marianas week after and want to discuss areas of agreement/disagreement with client.

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