

file - (Marianas) Separation

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August 8, 1974

The Honorable Andon Amaraich, Chairman
Senate Joint Committee on Judiciary
and Governmental Operations
Congress of Micronesia
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Executive Branch of the Trust Territory Government has no stated position on Senate Joint Resolution 131, "Requesting the sense of the Congress of Micronesia concerning the possibility of the separate administration of any part of Micronesia prior to the termination of the Trusteeship." The question of separate administration of one district, specifically the Marianas was raised during the 1974 Trusteeship Council hearings in New York. At that time, Ambassador Barbara White stated that "if the future of the Marianas is to be quite different from that of the rest of Micronesia, there will of course be a requirement for differing transitional measures leading to the new political status. The timing and character of such transitional measures, including, possibly separate administrative arrangements under the trusteeship, will be decided as a part of the on-going negotiations in consultation with the Marianas elected leadership. No moves toward separate administrative arrangements will be taken in the absence of requests for such action by the elected representatives of the Marianas, and I should like to reiterate here the statement made by the United States representative to this Council last year that the United States intends to terminate the trusteeship simultaneously for all parts of Micronesia and not for one part at any time. The United States consider, however, that it has the legal right to administer one part of the Territory separately from the others under the trusteeship, and in fact did so in the case of most of the present Mariana Islands District between 1951 and 1962".

N. Nelson Craley, Jr.

cc: Michael White, Esq.

bcc: Status LNO
Director/Public Affairs

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