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BEING PUSHED TOO FAST. BOTH CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION ARE UNDER TTPI-HIDE CRITICISH FOR HAVING NEGLECTED TO KEEP PEOPLE INFORMED ON STATUS MATTERS. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES CONVERSATIONS. FULLER MEMCONS UNDER PREPARATION. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) IN MEETING WITH JCFS CHAIRMAN SEN SALII AND CO-CHAIRMAN CONGRESSMAN SILK EVENING JAN 29 AMBASSADOR SKETCHED FOLLOWING TENTATIVE TIMETABLE: MID-MARCH MEETING OF PRINCIPALS (AMBASSADOR-WILSON/SALII-SILK) PROBABLY ON WEST COAST TO WORK ON REMAINING ISSUES IN DRAFT COMPACT; FOLLOWED BY CONSULTATION IN RESPECTIVE HOME AREAS,

1.E. SALII'S CONSULTATION WITH FULL JCFS AND OTHER ELEMENTS ESPEC-IALLY INVOLVED; MID-APRIL, SECOND MEETING OF PRINCIPALS TO REVIEW INTERIM CONSULTATIONS, DO FINAL DRAFTING AND LAY PLANS FOR FORMAL ROUND (MICRO VIII). AMBASSADOR, WITH SALII AGREEING, THOUGHT BOTH SECOND PRELIMINARY MEETING AND MICRO VIII SHOULD BE HELD IN MICRO-NESIA, TIME AND PLACE OF LATTER TO BE DETERMINED LATER AT APRIL MEETING OF PRINCIPALS IF PROSPECTS SEEM PROMISING.

3. (C) PROBING SALII'S VIEWS ON FURTHER SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, AMBAS-SADDR REFERRED TO SALII'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE PROSPECTIVE 3. CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND THE PROPOSAL THAT IT SHOULD CONVENE IN APRIL 1975. (STATUS LND 16C.) SALII SAID HE PERSONALLY WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF A SEVEN-YEAR TIME FRAME BEGINNING WITH ELECTICN OF DELEGATES IN NOVEMBER 1974. HE FORESEES REFERENDUM ON CONSTITUTION IN 1976, AND POSSIBLY PLEBISCITE DNISTATUS AS WELL, FOLLOWED BY FIVE-YEAR PHASED PROGRAM LEADING TO FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSTI-TUTION AND END OF THE TRUSTEESHIP. HE POINTED OUT THAT UNDER JCFS PROPOSAL OF A VEAR DEPION. THING WE HAD OUT THAT UNDER JCFS PROPOSAL OF 10 YEAR PERIOD, TIMING HE HAD DUTLINED WOULD PROVIDE TOTAL PERIOD OF 17 YEARS FROM NOW BEFORE ANY UNILATERAL TERMINATION COULD COME INTO EFFECT. (IN ADDITION THERE WOULD BE 2 YEAR GRACE PERIOD.) HE DID NOT PURSUE THIS POINT OR SPEAK SPECIFICALLY AGAINST U.S.

POSITION CALLING FOR 15 YEAR PERIOD.

4. (C) IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION JAN 30 WITH SALII AND SILK, AMBASSADOR RAISED SUBJECT OF REPORTS OF JCFS SUB-COMMITTEES. #SALII SAID THE TWO SUB-COMMITTEES WILL COME UR WITH AN OVERALL REPORT TO BE PRESENTED TO COM.

5. (C) THE AMBASSADOR SAID IT MIGHT NOW BE TIME TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE LONG-PLANNED SURVEY FOR U.S. MILITARY OPTIONS IN PALAU AND SEND TETH TO CARRY GUT SUCH SURVEY. SALII AGREED BUT SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BETPREFERABLE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS (MARCH 4) CONFIDENTIAL

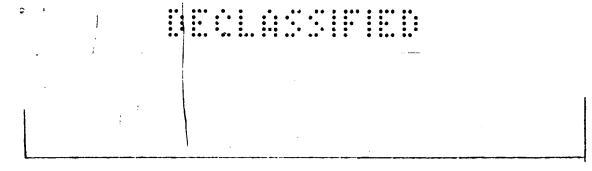
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ISTRATIVE BY MDL AT DUT THAT LATER MEE MPSC. AM WEIGHED V SUGGESTED	RE TO REQUEST U.S. TO SEPARATE MARIANAS DISTRICT FOR ADMIN- PURPOSES. SANTOS AGREED AND THOUGHT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN FORTHCOMING SESSION CONVENING FEB 4. PANGELINAN POINTED LATER SPECIAL SESSION COULD BE CALLED. HE SUGGESTED THAT 1: TING SAME AFTERNOON AMBASSADOR DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH BASSADOR REPLIED THAT OF COURSE THIS ACTION SHOULD BE ERY CAREFULLY AND, GIVEN ITS IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS, HE THAT IT BE DISCUSSED WITH WILSON DUE TO ARRIVE SHORTLY. PANGELINAN'S EARLIER RELUCTANCE ABOUT SUCH A MOVE AS HE C O N F I D E N T I A L 2229	1 - -

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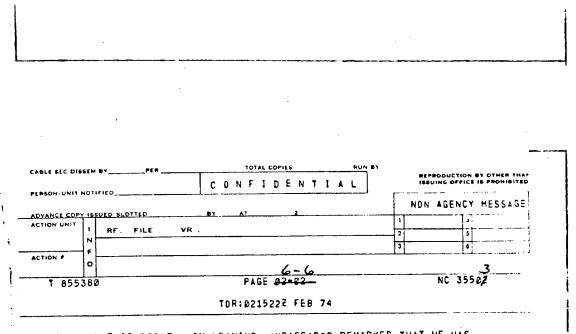
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VIEWS ON THIS POINT. IN LEAVING, AMBASSADOR REMARKED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF NAKAYAMA'S STRONG FEELING THAT MICRONESIA SHOULD MOVE RAPIDLY TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND THAT IN THE FUTURE IT SHOULD LIVE WITHIN ITS MEANS, A COMMENT WHICH BROUGHT A RATHER WAN SMILE FROM NAKAYAMA.

14. (C) ASKED BY THE AMBASSADDR AS TO THEIR PRINCIPAL IMMEDIATE CONCERNS FOR MICRONESIA, BOTH PRESIDENT AND SPEAKER REPLIED AS ONE: THE SHIPPING SITUATION. MENTION OF THIS APPARENTLY CRUCIAL PROBLEM, WHICH WAS RAISED IN ALMOST EVERY SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATION IN WHICH THE

AMBASSADDR PARTICIPATED; BROUGHT THE SUGGESTIDN THAT THE PROBLEM MAY Have to be taken out of the administration's hands; it may be too BIG for Handling in that way and solution may have to be found else-Hhere.

15. (C) COMMENT: AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSIONS FOCUSING ON STATUS MATTERS PROVIDED TANGIBLE ASSURANCE OF U.S. INTENTION AND ACTIVITY IN MOVING AHEAD, AND POINTED UP THE NEED FOR A WILL ON BOTH SIDES, IN BOTH NEGOTIATIONS, TO PRESS AHEAD TOWARD AN AGREED GOAL. DIVERSIONARY EFFORTS, INTRODUCTION OF EXTRANEOUS ISSUES AND TEMPORIZING DELAYS (SUCH AS ARE LIKELY TO OCCUR IN CONNECTION WITH JCFS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS) MAY BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO THREATEN PROGRESS IN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, BUT MOMENTUM IS ACTIVE IN BOTH SETS OF TALKS. CHAL-LENGE TO SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES DEPENDS OF COURSE ON MANY FACTORS; ONE WHICH LOOMS LARGEST UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IS UNITY VS. SEPAR-ATISM. WITH MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS HAVING MOVED A CONSIDERABLE WAY DOWN THE ROAD THIS IS NO LONGER AN ACADEMIC DUESTION, AND COM SEES IT AS A REAL AND PRESENT CHALLENGE TO ITS AUTHORITY, TRENT GDS-60

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