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BEING PUSMED TOD FAST. BOTH CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION ARE UNDER TIPI-KIDE CRITICISH FOR HAVING NEGLECTED TO KEEP PEOPLE INFORMED ON STATUS MATTERS. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES CONVERSATIONS. FULLER MEMODNS UNDER PREPARATION. END SUMMARY. (C) IN MEETING WITH JCFS CHAIRHAN SEN SALII AND CO-CHAIRHAN 2.

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 ISSJES IN DRAFT COMPACT: FOLLOWED BY CONSULTATION IN RESPECTIVE MOME AREAS,

1.E. SALII'S CONSULTATION WITH FULL JCFS AND OTHER ELEMENTS ESPEC-JALLY 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 FROMISING. (C) PROBING SALII'S VIEWS ON FURTHER SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, AMBAS-3. SADOR REFERRED TO SALII'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE PROSPECTIVE 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 ELECTICS 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 CONST :-TUTION AND END OF THE TRUSTEESHIP. HE POINTED DUT THAT UNDER JOFS PROPOSAL OF 10 YEAR PERIOD, TIMING HE HAD OUTLINED HOULD PROVIDE TOTAL PERIOD OF 17 YEARS FROM NON BEFORE ANY UNILATERAL TERMINATION COULD COME 1. TO EFFECT. (IN ADDITION THERE HOULD 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 38 WITH GALII AND SILK. AMBASSADOR RAISED SUBJECT OF REPORTS OF JCFS SUE-COMMITTEES. #SAL:1 SAID THE TWO SUB-COMMITTEES WILL COME UP WITH AN OVERALL REPORT TO BE PRESENTED TO COM.

(C) THE AMBASSADOR SAID IT HIGHT NON BE TIME TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE 5. LONG-PLANNED SURVEY FOR U.S. HILITARY OPTIONS IN PALAU AND SEND "E: TO CARRY OUT SUCH SURVEY. SALII AGREED BUT SUGGESTED THAT IT HOULD BE PREFERABLE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS (MARCH 4) CONFIDENTIAL

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HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS TIMING WOULD PERMIT HIM AND FELLOW SENATOR! TMETUCHL TO BE ON MAND. AMD WILLIAMS SUGGESTED LAST PART OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL. SALII SAID HE SAW NO OBJECTION AND WOULD DISCUSS THIS WITH IBEDUL AND REKLAI WHO ARE COMING SHORTLY TO SAIPAN. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED ROUND VII IN THIS "GARD, OUDTED FROM PROCEEDINGS. AND POINTED TO COMMITMENT OF JCFS AND PALAUAN DELEGATION TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH THE MILITARY REQUIREMENTS IN ANNEX B OF DRAFT COMPACT. BOTH SALII AND SILK AGREED THAT JCFS AND PALAUAN DELEGATION MAD AGREED TO MEET U.S. MILITARY LAND REDUIREMENTS AS SET FORTH ANNEX. BOTH SALII WORK IN CHARTER NO LONGER AT ISSUE.

5. (C) AT WORKING LUNCH JAN 38 AMBASSADOR REVIEWED WITH CHAIRMAN

PANGELINAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN SANTOS POST-MARIANAS 111 DEVELCPMENTS. PANGELINAN AND SANTOS SPOKE ENTHUSIASTICALLY OF MPSC POLITICAL EDU-CATION EFFORTS (STATUS LNO 25C), AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE OF EVGLVING COMMONWEALTH PROPOSAL. IN RESPONSE TO A COMMENT FROM THE AMBASSADOR ON THE DESIRAPILITY OF ELICITING FROM ROTA A FIRM UN-EDUIVOCAL STATEMENT OF ITS SUPPORT FOR MPSC OBJECTIVES, BOTH PANGELINAN AND SANTOS EXPRESSED SOME IMPATIENCE WITH ROTA SITUATION AND POINTED GUT THAT MONEY WAS ROOT OF THE PROBLEM IN THIS INTRA-MARIANAS RELATIONSHIP. BUT THEY WERE FIRM IN THEIR INSISTENCE THAT . RGTANESE WOULD CHOOSE CLCSE RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. AND U.S. CITIZEN-

7. (C) CONCERNING MPSC MEETING SCHEDULED TINIAN FEB 9, FANGELINAN FELT IT PREFERABLE THAT MPSC ALONE BE PRESENT WITH PEOFLE OF TINIAN BUT THOUGHT MEETING WOULD OPEN WAY FOR SUBSEQUENT VISIT BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVES.

8. (C) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN SPOKE WITH NO SURPRISE BUT WITH CONSIDERABLE IRRITATION CONCERNING COM OPPOSITION TO SEPARATE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS. PANGELINAN SAID TIME HAS COME FOR MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE TO REQUEST U.S. TO SEPARATE MARIANAS DISTRICT FOR ADMIN-ISTRATIVE PURPOSES. SANTOS AGREED AND THOUGHT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

SY MDL AT FORTHCOMING SESSION CONVENING FEB 4. PANGELINAN POINTED OUT THAT LATER SPECIAL SESSION COULD BE CALLED. HE SUGGESTED THAT IN LATER MEETING SAME AFTERNOON AMBASSADOR DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH MPSC. AMBASSADOR REFLIED THAT OF COURSE THIS ACTION SHOULD BE HEIGHED VERY CAREFULLY AND, GIVEN ITS IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS, HE SUGGESTED THAT IT BE DISCUSSED WITH WILSON DUE TO ARRIVE SHORTLY. RECALLING PANGELINAN'S EARLIER RELUCTANCE ABOUT SUCH A MOVE AS HE C O N F I D E N T I A L

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WAS NOT FUGGESTING, AMBASSADOR STRESSED IT ESSENTIAL THAT IT BE INITIATED BY MARIANAS, AND THAT SUCH ORIGIN BE VERY CLEAR. 9. (C) AS TO TIMING FOR ON-GOING MARIANAS STATUS DEVELOPMENTS. AMBASSADOR AND PANGELINAN AGREED TO NEW DUE DATE OF MARCH 15 FOR REPORT OF AD MOC COMMITTEE AND THOUGHT IT LOOKED FEASIBLE FOR THEM TO MEET, PROBABLY IN MASHINGTON, IN EARLY APRIL TO GO OVER THE REPORT AND PLAN FOR MARIANAS IV TO TAKE PLACE LATE APRIL-MAY. 10. (C) IN COURSE OF MEETING WITH 7 MEMBERS OF MP3C AFTERNOON JAN 30. AMBASSADOR WAS AGAIN CONFRONTED WITH COMPLAINTS THAT ADMINISTRATION MAS TAKEN NO ACTION ON PRE-MAY 8 HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS FOR TINIAN. PARTICIPATING IN MEETING WERE TINIAN MAYOR BORJA AND SPEAKER AND VICE SPEAKER OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED ME MAD AGAIN PRESSED FOR ACTION BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN THIS MATTER IN LINE WITH

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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 AMBASSADOR AS TO THEIR PRINCIPAL IMMEDIATE CONCERNS FOR MICRONESIA, SOTH 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

AMBASSADOR PARTICIPATED, BROUGHT THE SUGGESTION THAT THE PROBLEM MAY Have to be taken out of the administration's hands; it may es too big for handling in that way and solution may have to be found elsewhere.

15. (C) COMMENT: AMPASSADOR'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 NEGDIJATIONS, 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-ATISH. 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-80

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