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April 8, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD WILLENS

SUBJECT: Revised Draft Report of the Ad Hoc Preparatory Committee on Transition in the Marianas

I have reviewed the revised draft report we received today. The United States appears to have made all of the changes which you suggested at the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee. I have these minor comments:

✓ --On page 3 there is a reference to "the Northern Marianas Islands;" does the MPSC feel strongly that this nomenclature should not be used;

✓ --On page 3 the word "recommend" on the second and third lines of the paragraph entitled "A Secretariat" is wrongly divided;

✓ --On page 12 the third full paragraph, which consists of one sentence, has mistakenly been typed in this location; it should either be eliminated entirely or moved to become the third sentence in the third full paragraph on page 11;

|| --On page 13 in the first line of the last paragraph on the page the word "or" should probably read "as."

On the question how to proceed in response to this draft of the report, there seem to me to be two alternatives. First, you could simply sign the report and indicate your reservations in a separate statement. This appears to be what the United States expects, as indicated in the third full paragraph of page 2. Alternatively, you could now insist that the draft before us be turned into the report of the United States representatives to the Ad Hoc Committee; you and Jim Leonard could decline to sign it, but instead provide a concurrence which states that you have reluctantly decided to agree to the overall planning structure laid out in the draft, but that you do not agree with the details of the report nor do you consider the funding proposed adequate. The report of the Ad Hoc

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Committee would then be a cover letter which all four of you would sign which would state that the views of the two delegations are reflected in two separate reports which are attached to the letter. I wonder, however, whether this second course would be worth the fight.

  
Michael S. Helfer