#### OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

9 April 1974

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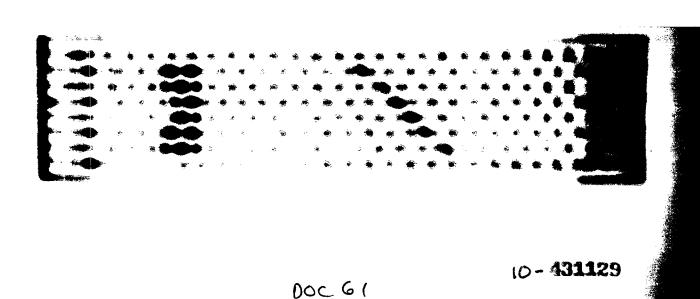
Attached is a short update paper we provided to

Memo For\_

Attached is a short update paper we provided to Mr. Jordan recently. It may be useful for Mr. Clements in his meeting with Hayden Williams.

EDWARD A. DINGES
COLONEL USA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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#### POLITICAL SITUATION IN MICRONESIA

## (C) Groundwork Being Laid for Next Rounds of Negotiations

- After the last session of political status negotiations, it was decided that more progress could be achieved in these formal talks, if the leaders met informally several months earlier to reach agreement in principle on as many issues as possible.

# (U) Meeting with Marianas in March - Prospects Good

- Ambassador Williams met in Honlulu the week of 18 March and prospects for Fourth Round of Marians talks look good.
  - -- Did precipitate communication among Marianas leaders which should benefit US.
  - -- DOD land requirements to be first agenda item.
  - -- Agreed to schedule talks for 15 May.

### (S) Agreement With Micronesians Reached on Several Key Issues

- Ambassador Williams meeting with leaders of Micronesian Joint Committee on Future Status (JCFS) in California 2-8 April.
- Williams reported that Chairman Salii (JCFS) agreed on three issues which had been areas of major dispute:
  - -- Total annual support about \$52.5 million.
  - -- A moratorium during which the Compact of Free Association could not be terminated would be set for 15 years.
  - -- The Compact would not be terminated unilaterally without first having mutually agreed on a Defense treaty (to ensure survivability of US Defense rights).
- However, Chairman Salii's reliability and leadership sometimes questionable...or he may be attempting to conclude an agreement before political fragmentation expands further in Micronesia (e.g., Marshall District's bid for separate status last week)

DENNIS J. DOOLIN

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Desk Officer

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