

1

FILE
MPSC 03
192

June 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING, JUNE 12, 1975, 12:15 to Approx. 1:30

PRESENT AT MEETING: Ambassador Williams, Adrian deGraffenried,
James E. White, Michael S. Helfer

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

1. Request that we convey to MPSC the following:
 - A. Treat the visiting mission nicely
 - B. Get the vote out
 - C. U.S. Congress vote on Covenant depends on the percentage vote in the Marianas, apparently needing substantially more than just the 55%.
 - D. Youth vote potentially serious problem especially in these later days. Should develop program to build youth vote if at all possible. These are the most swayable votes at this time.
 - E. If possible, get more information out in reference to security of jobs for government employees. Maybe rallies on the Hill would help.
 - F. Make use of the recent letter from Rasa to the U.S. Senators dated May 15. Use it against the opposition by indicating that Rasa thinks the people are stupid, not educated, etc. Also, a memorandum entitled "American Attempt to Militarize and Create Another Indian Reservation in the Western Pacific." Use that against them.
 - G. Use Burton's letter more in campaign. Good strong letter -- make effective use of it.

14604

2. MPSC should develop, possibly in coordination with MDL a response letter to Rasa's letter. This may be more appropriate after plebiscite.

3. In reference to Northern Marianas participation on the referendum scheduled for July 8, 1975 and also for the later Constitutional Convention, Ambassador feels it would be helpful if special session of MDL was either requested or held with a resolution indicating that the Northern Marianas did not want to proceed or participate in the referendum or the Micronesian Con Con.

4. In reference to separate administration, present thinking is that there will be a Secretarial Order immediately after plebiscite that will cover possibly the three following merger areas:

- A. Separation of the Congressional function from Congress of Micronesia to MDL.
- B. Revenues applicable to the Marianas that presently go to Congress of Micronesia but made applicable to MDL.
- C. That an immediate planning effort toward the formation of separate administration begin quickly. Conceivably within this same Secretarial Order there is presently a split of thinking in the U.S. in this regard but if the resolution was adopted by MDL asking for non-participation in the referendum vote of July 8 and later Con Con that that may also be included in the Secretarial Order.

6. Again in reference to separate administration, there was an indication of the present thinking on the part of the United States that the actual Resident Commissioner and separate administration would not be developed in all probability until after approval by the U.S. Congress. U.S. Administration's target date for this accomplishment is August 30, with an indication of possibly even an earlier approval. Further discussions were had with reference to whether or not client should be made aware of this possible variance from Ambassador Williams' speech where he indicated Step 4 would be separate administration and Step 5 would be U.S. Congressional approval. He discussed the idea that there was nothing specifically stated anywhere in the Covenant or elsewhere in writing where separate administration would in fact occur. That so long as there was separation from the Congress of Micronesia and Congress of Micronesia funds were also separated out and if there was an indication of an immediate intensive planning effort toward separate administration, that those steps would sufficiently comply with what had previously been indicated, that in all probability prior to the completion of the planning effort for separate administration the U.S. Congress would have made its approval so that the question of whether to hold off separate administration until after Congressional approval would be moot.

The only question then remaining is that if the U.S. Congress **does not approve the Covenant** by the time the planning effort for separate administration is complete, then the U.S. decision will have to be made as to whether or not they wish to implement separate administration in its entirety until after U.S. Congressional approval.

James E. White