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INFO RUHNSAA/CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI UNN

RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1699

RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 353

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 5837

RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1490

RUMJPG/USLO PEKING 555

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3053

PLEASE PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OMSN

CINCPAC REP FOR STATUS LNO FOR HICOM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, TG

SUBJECT: TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL 41ST SESSION: SUMMARY

REF: USUN 1917

SUMMARY: TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (TC) APPROVED VISITING  
MISSION TO OBSERVE MARIANAS PELBISCITE (OVER SOVIET  
OPPOSITION) THUS RECOGNIZING LEGITIMACY OF ACT OF SELF-

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DETERMINATION. CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESENT STALEMATE IN NEGOTIATIONS CAME THROUGH CLEARLY, BUT COUNCIL SHOWED IMPATIENCE AT LACK OF PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-GOVERNMENT. PRESSURES FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF TRUSTEESHIP LIKELY TO GROW. END SUMMARY.

1. MARIANAS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL SESSION MAY 27-JUNE 7 AUTHORIZED (OVER SOVIET OPPOSITION) VISITING MISSION TO OBSERVE MARIANAS PLEBISCITE, THUS ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESENCE AT ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND IMPLICITLY RECOGNIZING LEGITIMACY OF PLEBISCITE.

2. BRITISH-FRENCH-AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT WAS LOGICAL STEP IN LONG PROCESS OF EDUCATION ON THE ISSUES INVOLVED, THROUGH COUNCIL SESSIONS, INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, AND PARTICIPATION IN PREVIOUS VISITING MISSIONS. CAREFUL WORK BORE FRUIT, AS DID OUT TOLERANCE FOR CONVENIENCE OF STUBBORN FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE IN SETTING DATES OF VISITING MISSION TO MARIANAS.

3. SOVIET OPPOSITION TOOK FORM OF VOTE AGAINST THE MISSION. OTHERWISE, IT WAS VERY SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS YEAR'S AND NOT VERY MUCH MORE POLEMIC. SOVI'S HAVE CONSISTENTLY MADE CLEAR THEIR OPPOSITION TO SEPARATION OF MARIANAS. WHILE THERE WERE RUMORS THAT THEY MIGHT REQUEST A RULING FROM UN LEGAL COUNSEL ON LEGALITY OF MARIANAS PLEBISCITE, THEY DID NOT DO SO. FURTHERMORE, DESPITE SOME EARLY HINTS OF OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS ON PART OF SOV REP RECKLESS-- WHICH COULD HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR VISITING MISSION TO DEPART ON TIME --HE BECAME MORE COOPERATIVE AS THE SESSION PROGRESSED AND AGREED TO FINAL SESSION SATURDAY, JUNE 7 SO THAT MISSION COULD DEPART ON SCHEDULE JUNE 9.

4. FIVE PRO-CONVENANT PETITIONERS MADE GOOD IMPRESSION WITH SOLID, CONVINCING STATEMENTS. FAILURE OF MOST VOCAL OPPONENTS TO APPEAR AS PETITIONER ALSO HAD IMPACT. NEITHER OF THE TWO WHO DID APPEAR--AN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL OF QUESTIONABLE CREDITIALS AND TINIAN PETITIONER SAN NICOLAS --WAS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE.

5. WHILE ACCEPTING THE PLEBISCITE, OUR FRIENDS ON THE COUNCIL ARE SENSITIVE TO ANY EVIDENCE THAT THE US IS

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"RAILROADING" THE SEPARATION OR NOT LIVING UP TO ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT. THUS IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REITERATE OUR INTENTION TO SEEK TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE ENTIRE TERRITORY SIMULTANEOUSLY. IT WILL BE OF CONTINUING IMPORTANCE TO SHOW THAT WE ARE SCRUPULOUSLY CARRYING OUT OUR TRUSTEESHIP OBLIGATIONS, AND ARE NOT REGARDING THE MARIANAS SEPARATION AS A FAIT ACCOMPLI UNTIL THE TRUSTEESHIP IS ENDED. WE REITERATE OUR RECOMMENDATIONS (USUN 1917) THAT THE US NOT RULE THE MARIANAS OUT OF THE JULY 8 REFERENDUM OR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND TAKE NO STEP TOWARD SETTING UP SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION UNTIL THE US CONGRESS HAS APPROVED THE COVENANT.

6. OTHER NEGOTIATIONS. UNLIKE LAST YEAR'S SESSION, WHERE THE US AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA (COM) REPRESENTATIVES VOICED ESSENTIALLY THE SAME OPTIMISTIC VIEWS ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS ON FREE ASSOCIATION, THIS YEAR THE PICTURE WAS BOTH CONFUSED AND NEGATIVE. COM REPRESENTATIVES USED STRONG LANGUAGE, CONDEMNING US "BAD FAITH" IN CONDUCT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND SEPARATION OF THE MARIANAS. SENATOR KENDALL WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE US "HAS FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES REMOVED FREE ASSOCIATION... FROM CONSIDERATION AS A VIABLE MEANS FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR OBJECTIVES." THE STRONG LANGUAGE OF THE PREPARED STATEMENTS, HOWEVER, WAS NOT MATCHED BY REPLIES UNDER QUESTIONING. WHAT CAME THROUGH MOST CLEARLY, BOTH IN PUBLIC SESSIONS AND IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS, WAS THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CONSIDERS THE MARIANAS' SEPARATION A BODY BLOW TO THE FUTURE OF MICRONESIA, AND THAT THEY ARE SOMEWHAT AT A LOSS TO KNOW HOW TO PROCEED. US REPRESENTATIVES FIRMLY REFUTED CHARGES OF BAD FAITH, AND BY REITERATING US REDINESS TO RESUME TALKS, MADE CLEAR THAT THE BALL IS NOW IN THE MICRONESIANS' COURT.

7. WHILE ACCEPTING THE MARIANAS' SEPARATION EC MEMBERS ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO FURTHER FRACTIONING OF MICRONESIA. THUS IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE US REITERATED IT CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE UNITY OF THE MARSHALLS AND CAROLINES.

8. SENATOR SALII, CHAIRMAN OF THE COM JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, THOUGHT NOT A REPRESENTATIVE AT COUNCIL

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SESSION, WAS IN NEW YORK AT THE TIME AND PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. HE STATED PRIVATELY WHAT THE COM REPRESENTATIVES SAID PUBLICLY - THAT HE DIDNT KNOW WHAT THE NEXT STEPS WOULD BE, AND THAT THE COM NEEDED TIME TO SORT THINGS OUT. HE TOLD AMB WHITE THAT IT WOULD BE SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE THE COM DECIDED HOW TO PROCEED. BY PURE ACCIDENT USUN LEARNED THAT SALII HAD BOUGHT AN APPOINTMENT WITH CHINESE PERMREP, AND WAS EVIDENTLY RECEIVED BY THE DEPUTY SINCE AMB HUANG HUA WAS OUT OF TOWN. WE KNOW NOTHING OF WHAT TRANSPIRED. (CHINESE CONTINUE NOT TO TAKE THEIR SEAT IN TC.)

9. PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SELF-GOVERNMENT. DURING EXTENSIVE QUESTIONING OF ADMINISTERING POWER IN TWO LENGTHY SESSIONS, TC MEMBERS MADE CLEAR THEY WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH EITHER THE STATE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OR PROGRESS TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT. IN SHREWD AND FRANK COMMENTS, BOTH BRITISH AND AUSTRALIANS QUESTIONED WHETHER MICRONESIA WOULD EVER HAVE THE ECONOMIC STRENGTH TO STAND ON ITS OWN AND WHETHER COM REJECTION OF SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL PROVISIONS OF COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WAS WISE. FAMILIAR COMPLAINTS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS--LACK OF LOCAL REVENUE, LACK OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS, US TRADE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MICRONESIA, QUESTION OF WHEN US WOULD PROPOSE LEGISLATION FOR MICRONESIAN PARTICIPATION IN ASIA DEVELOPMENT BANK--WERE VOICED SOMEWHAT MORE INSISTENTLY BY TC MEMBERS THIS YEAR. SO WERE CRITICISMS ECHOING FORCEFULLY STATEMENTS BY COM REPRESENTATIVES, THAT MICRONESIA WAS NOT PROGRESSING TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT BUT WAS EVEN SLIPPING BACKWARD.

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