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# U.S. Marianas Move Criticized

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The United States has betrayed its trusteeship obligations to the Pacific islands of Micronesia and is headed toward approval of an ill-considered acquisition of the Northern Marianas, a foundation report said yesterday.

According to a study by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a proposed commonwealth compact with the Marianas is based on an exaggerated American view of the islands' military importance and inadequate concern for the islanders' independence and economic well-being.

The 439-page report, scheduled for publication as a book in the fall, was released in typewritten form on the eve of Senate Interior Committee hearings on the recently negotiated compact for the first

U.S. territorial acquisition since the 1917 purchase of the Virgin Islands.

On Monday the House approved the compact after brief discussion, a move that was criticized as hasty by James F. McHenry of Carnegie's humanitarian policy studies program.

McHenry, principal draftsman of the report, said, "The House of Representatives felt it could deal adequately with the question of the first acquisition of territory in 75 years—could consider an agreement which grew out of six years of negotiations—in a little more than a month." He urged more caution in the Senate.

The Carnegie report was criticized by Edward D.L.G. Pangelinan, head of the Marianas Political Status Commission, which negotiated the compact with U.S. officials.

"The report ignores the view of the people of the Marianas and their long-felt interest in becoming part of the United States," Pangelinan said. As for the alleged haste, he said, "Congress has been continuously and completely informed" during years of negotiations.

The Marianas is one of the chains of 2,000 tiny and sparsely populated islands scattered over a West Pacific area the size of the United States. With the Marshalls and the Carolines, the island group makes up the Micronesian territory administered by the United States since World War II.

McHenry said the separate agreement with the Marianas region was "contrary to international law and international practice" and vulnerable to eventual rejection in the United Nations.