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11/9/77 22522
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REVIEWED BY W. U. Krop DATE AUG 6 1985

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ROUTINE ALEMB, DHARAN, JERUSALEM, NAPLES, RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO, BEIRUT,

CFR REPORT, INFORM CONSULS, CINC/SHAPE FOR POLADS ONLY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TASS: XX, US

SUBJECT: CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS, ISSUE NO. 45, NOVEMBER 9, 1977

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b. EA - MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED
(CONFIDENTIAL)

AFTER A HIATUS OF SIXTEEN MONTHS, THE FIRST ROUND OF THE RESUMED MICRONESIAN POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE ON MOLOKAI, HAWAII OCTOBER 25-27. THE U.S. DELEGATION, LED BY AMBASSADOR PETER R. ROSENBLATT, MET WITH DELEGATIONS FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, PALAU AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

ONE SIGNIFICANT OUTCOME OF THE MOLOKAI MEETING WAS THE RESUMPTION OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE THREE MICRONESIAN DELEGATIONS ABOUT THE POLITICAL FUTURE OF MICRONESIA. THIS INTRA-MICRONESIAN DIALOGUE IMPROVES THE PROSPECTS FOR ATTAINING AGREEMENT ON A SINGLE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS FOR ALL DISTRICTS.

IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR ROSENBLATT'S URGINGS, THE THREE PARTIES AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT AN ALL-MICRONESIAN ENTITY WILL BE FORMED IN THE POST-TRUSTEESHIP PERIOD. SOME PROGRESS WAS ALSO MADE IN ALLOCATING TOPICS BETWEEN THE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATING TIER (WITH ALL THREE PARTIES) AND THE BILATERAL TIER, AND THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT THE NEXT US-MICRONESIAN ROUND WILL TAKE PLACE IN HONOLULU BY EARLY JANUARY.

THERE WERE ALSO SOME TROUBLESOME ISSUES. THE MARSHALLESE ARGUED THAT THE U.S. CONCEPT OF A FREE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT THAT COULD NOT BE UNILATERALLY TERMINATED FOR A MINIMUM PERIOD IS IN CONFLICT WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND THE PALAUANS ARGUED THAT THE U.S. SHOULD MAKE SEPARATE PAYMENTS TO THE MICRONESIANS FOR THEIR AGREEMENT TO MILITARY DENIAL TO THIRD PARTIES. WE REJECTED BOTH ARGUMENTS BUT THEY CAN BE EXPECTED TO SURFACE AGAIN IN THE FUTURE. ANOTHER COMPLICATING FACTOR IS THAT WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED AGREEMENT WITH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ON THE ISSUE OF HOW TO MAKE THE DRAFT MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTION, WHICH CONTAINS ELEMENTS OF INDEPENDENCE AND IS NOW SET FOR A REFERENDUM IN JULY, COMPATIBLE WITH THE CONCEPT OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

ON BALANCE WE FOUND THE MOLOKAI ROUND USEFUL. IN ADDITION TO THE PROGRESS MADE, WE GAINED SOME INSIGHT INTO THE PROBLEMS THAT LIE AHEAD, PARTICULARLY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THREE MICRONESIAN ENTITIES SIMULTANEOUSLY. WE ARE NOW ABLE TO FOCUS MORE CLEARLY ON THOSE PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE SOLVED IF WE ARE TO MEET OUR TARGET DATE OF 1981 FOR THE TERMINATION OF THIS TRUSTEESHIP.

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CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS
ADDITIONAL ACTION ADDRESSEES

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