

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTONAuthority E.O. 12958  
By AB NARA Date 1/19/05SECRET

March 19, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Richard L. Sneider

SUBJECT: Trust Territory

The State Department has prepared a memorandum for the Under Secretaries meeting on Trust Territory (Tab A) which states the problem quite well although with a predictable bias about its problems with the UN. They also propose terms of reference for the Under Secretaries Committee review of Trust Territory policy which again tend to stress "our international obligations".

I would strongly recommend that we go with the review outline approved by the President as follows: (Tab B)

- (1) U.S. strategic interests and objectives in the Trust Territory;
- (2) Alternative means of achieving these objectives, including costs;
- (3) Requirements for effective administration of the Trust Territory, including costs.

Talking points for your use are immediately underlying. My note to you on some of the pitfalls in this area is at Tab C, and the original NSAM at Tab D.

Attachments

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MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Richard L. Sneider

SUBJECT: Trust Territory Pacific Islands - Talking  
Points for Under Secretaries' Committee

The Under Secretaries' Committee is scheduled to take up the proposed action program for the TTPI at its March 20 meeting. I will join you. Suggested talking points for your presentation follow:

1. There is reason for serious and pressing concern over the problems posed by the TTPI -
  - Continued U.S. administration of the territory is essential to assure U.S. control of the Central and Western Pacific.
  - We have failed to come to grips with the problem of assuming permanent U.S. control. The USG decided in 1962 (NSAM 145) that the TTPI was unlikely to develop into a viable independent nation, and that it is in the U.S. interest that the TTPI move into a lasting relationship within the U.S. political framework. Very little has been accomplished to assure this national goal.
  - We cannot simply let this matter ride any longer.
2. The President has directed that our policies be reviewed and decisions taken as to what must be done to protect our interests in the TTPI.
3. Decisions and action are required in three important areas:
  - A. Examination of our strategic requirements for the Trust Territory.

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- B. Formulation of a political action plan to assure permanent U.S. control over the territory, including a decision on a status commission.
- C. Development of an administrative action plan for immediate and long-term improvement in the quality of U.S. administration.
4. It is the responsibility of the Under Secretaries' Committee to -
- Work out the particulars of such a program, and
  - See that responsibility is clearly assigned to be sure that the necessary actions will be taken.
5. Time is vital -
- Recommendations should be ready by May 1, reflecting the options available and any differences within this group.
  - These recommendations should be submitted to the President at that time for his decision.
  - An action program should be underway and clearly visible shortly thereafter.
6. NSC staff will be glad to cooperate.

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