

UATC
7/3/74

Chen ¹⁷³
P

The Political Education Script

Background:

In his June 4 statement Senator Kendall raised a question regarding the handling of certain program material prepared last summer for a preliminary program on political education in the Trust Territory. He accused the U.S. of censoring Micronesian material. The subject *may be* was raised in the question period.

Suggested U.S. Response

~~Senator Kendall has reopened an issue previously believed put to rest. He should have noted that~~ The material in question was an initial draft of a script on political status issues prepared for possible use by the executive branch of the TT Government in an initial radio presentation on political education. A copy was made available to the Chairman of the Micronesian Joint Committee ~~on~~ Future Status and was also sent for review to the administration authority. As is normal in such circumstances, a number of changes were suggested in the interests of clarity and accuracy. After discussion last October between the Chairman, ^{of the Joint Committee} the President's Personal Representative, the High Commissioner, ^{the} Director of Public Affairs, and the Director of the Interior Department's Office of Territorial Affairs, it was agreed that a new program of

Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library



political education would be initiated by the TT Government outside the context of ongoing negotiations. This was the beginning of the present highly successful special program for self-government described in the material presented by the Special Representative on June 4. This has completely superceded the original script which until now was considered to have been completely overtaken by events.

Additional Information

The author of the scripts, Carl Heine, was ^{ASSIGNED} ~~hired~~ on a temporary basis by Strik Yoma to do an initial study and report for the TT Headquarters on what was needed in the way of a political education program on status issues. Instead Carl, who has had previously served as a counsel for the Micronesian Joint Status Committee, produced a draft radio script which discussed the pro's and cons of various status alternatives. He sent a copy to Senator Salii on his own. The TT Headquarters for its part sent Interior a copy which in turn went to OMSU, State and Defense for comments. There were numerous. (It was not a very good effort). Salii heard of this and cried "foul", refusing to accept the Washington changes. The ensuing argument was finally settled in October in Hawaii when the individuals named above met and decided to "launch" a new "neutral" program.

