

MEMORANDUM

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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ACTION

June 13, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

FROM: MIKE ARMACOST MA

SUBJECT: Micronesia Negotiator

We face considerable confusion with respect to the selection of the President's Special Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations. I have been unable to find out precisely where things stand. The most recent developments are these:

-- Barry Carter, who was one of our candidates, has inquired whether he is "still in the running" for the job.

-- State has recommended Peter Rosenblatt (Tab A) for the position.

-- Interior has proposed (Tab B) that Phil Manhard be elevated to Chief Negotiator, or, alternatively, that John Havelock be considered for the assignment.

Rosenblatt is a Washington lawyer with previous foreign policy experience at AID and on the White House staff. He is interested in the assignment, but is prepared to assume the responsibility only on a part-time basis. Although Haydn Williams was a part-time negotiator, I believe that the tempo of negotiations will increase, and this will consequently be a full time job. Thus I have doubts about Rosenblatt unless he is prepared to devote full time to this at least for the next year.

As for Manhard, by all accounts he acquitted himself reasonably well at the Honolulu consultations. He is a professional, knows the issues, and has some empathy for the Micronesians. He is not a "new face", however, and neither State nor Defense would endorse his selection.

John Havelock is an unknown quantity. He is a lawyer and is currently serving as Director of Legal Studies at the University of Alaska. He has

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no previous foreign policy experience, and no personal familiarity with the issues in the Micronesian negotiations.

Barry Carter is obviously still interested, and in my judgment has superior qualifications to these other candidates -- as does Phil Trezise, who would be ideal if he could be released from his obligations at Brookings.

We need to move expeditiously on this matter. The next round of consultations with the Micronesians is scheduled for late July. Under the circumstances, I would suggest that you get in touch with Ham Jordan, alert him to the fact that Interior and State have offered new recommendations for this position, and urge him to raise with the President whether there are any problems with the NSC's earlier suggestion of getting Barry Carter on board quickly.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to Hamilton Jordan at Tab I, as the President's Special Representative for Micronesian Negotiations. We have the informal endorsement of the Department of Defense. Rosenblatt is currently *Special Representative* in Washington and has had *Department policy experience* at AID and on the White House staff. He could do with several groups in a private capacity. He should serve *like the last Special Representative*, on a part-time basis.

Given the President's public statement that the new Administration is giving new importance to the Micronesian negotiations and is committed to the early termination of the Trusteeship, I believe it is necessary that Rosenblatt have the personal rank of Ambassador. Both Phil Hubbard, who has been the acting negotiator, and Maynard Williams, the last Special Representative, have held the title of Ambassador. (Hubbard's rank comes from his stint in Mauritius.) Sending a new Special Representative without the rank of Ambassador might be resented by the Micronesians, who are particularly sensitive to issues of status, and would make our work much more difficult. Rosenblatt has already received the approval of the Ambassadorial Review Commission (he had been suggested as a candidate for Ambassador to Turkey or Austria).

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