

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

January 26, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: NSC SECRETARIAT
 FROM: DON GREGG
 SUBJECT: Micronesian Nuclear Claims

The attached paper was sent by State to the White House in the dying days of the Carter Administration to fulfill a long-delayed promise to submit a status report on this aspect of the Micronesian negotiations. The paper is largely informational, does not require immediate action, and should not be looked at in isolation. It is best considered later, after Ambassador Rosenblatt is or is not retained, and after the key players, both here and at State are in place.

The issue will naturally arise in the future, as the Compact of Free Association, and its subsidiary codicils are negotiated. This paper will be useful at that time, not now. The Interagency Group at State concurs in this view.

Declassified/Released on 9/6/95
 under provisions of E.O. 12350
 by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council
 (F87-249)

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ACTION MEMORANDUM

S/S

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TO: The Deputy Secretary
FROM: EA - John Holdridge, Designate
IO - Elliott Abrams, Designate
SUBJECT: Micronesia Status Negotiations

Issue

To designate a chairman for the Micronesia Inter-Agency Group (IG) as soon as possible.

Background

Pursuant to a 1969 Presidential decision to terminate the UN Trusteeship, the US has been engaged in negotiations which culminated with the initialing of a Compact, which sets forth the political, strategic, and economic relationship between the US and the three Micronesian governments. As soon as possible, we need to determine the new Administration's position by undertaking a major policy review of the negotiated terms by convening the IG, chaired by a 7th floor principal. Various budget cuts, uncertainty about the new Administration's position, and loss of key personnel are making the Micronesians very uneasy and may jeopardize our position in Micronesia.

Discussion

A 1977 Presidential Decision Memorandum (PD/NSC-11, attached) designated the Counselor of the Department as Chairman of the Micronesia Inter-Agency Group (IG), created in 1971, to coordinate overall policy for the negotiations on the future status of our UN Trusteeship in Micronesia. The IG includes State, Interior, Defense, OMB, the NSC staff, and the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations (a separate inter-agency office headed by the chief U.S. negotiator).

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GDS 3/11/87 (Lew, Ginger)

Went to William Clark 13 Mar. He was ready for it. Lew met Clark
on 12 Mar.

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Under the new SIG/IG system, most IAG's are chaired by an Assistant Secretary. However, eleven years of negotiations have shown that high-level oversight is essential to managing this complex issue. All concerned State offices (C, EA, IO, L, S/P, S/S) agree that it must be chaired by a 7th floor principal.

Without strong leadership from State, the initiative could pass to another agency.

Recommendation No. 1

That you designate Under Secretary Buckley as Chairman of the Micronesia Inter-Agency Group:

_____ Approve _____ Disapprove

Recommendation No. 2

That an IG meeting be convened by March 20 to begin the interagency review of the Compact.

_____ Approve _____ Disapprove

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