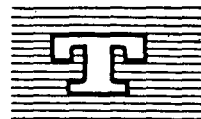


AUG 14 1979

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL

UN/SA COLLECTION

Distr.  
LIMITEDT/COM.10/L.235  
9 January 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION FROM HIGH CHIEFS IBEDUL AND REKLAI, KOROR, PALAU,  
CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of procedure  
of the Trusteeship Council)

HEADQUARTERS FOR RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

KOROR, PALAU - CAROLINE ISLANDS

24 July 1978

Honorable Peter R. Rosenblatt  
Personal Representative of the  
President of the United States of America for  
Micronesian Status Negotiations  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ambassador:

Recent political developments in Micronesia clearly indicate that the United States has the intensions to divide our people into political fragmentations for the purpose of annexation. It began with the Marianas District, now a Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. That district was manipulated into a referendum which rejected unity, just at the time when Micronesians were convening in Saipan to write a constitution. Such a timing created an awkward and even hostile political atmosphere around the Micronesian Constitutional Convention.

To pursue the same scheme, the United States has become an enthusiastic party to negotiations leading to further division and fragmentations of Micronesia. When the July 12 referendum on Micronesian constitution 1/ was only some 90 days away, the United States successfully extracted from the three Micronesian negotiating groups the Statement on agreed principles for free association for Micronesia. 2/

---

1/ For the text of the draft constitution see document T/COM.10/L.174, annex.

2/ For the text of the statement, see Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Forty-fifth Session, Sessional Fascicle, Annexes, document T/1789, enclosure.

In form and substance, this document dated 9 April 1978, in fact became a declaration of disunity. As such a situation is applied to Palau, the practical consequence was a total confusion. Conflicting interpretations of compatibility of the agreement and the constitution and the characteristically ambiguous contents of the former became the source of tormenting anxieties in Palau. On 12 July, Palau voted regretfully into deadlock in effect rejecting both the constitution and the separation.

We, who have advocated unity through the constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia, can in retrospect only attribute the failure to the United States negotiators and those few Micronesians who played the United States security interest in Micronesia at the cost of unity. For Palau, the immediate task at hand is one of reconciliation and unification of our local political institutions and factions before any political status question is to be undertaken.

Therefore, Mr. Ambassador, we beg you and your good offices to bring our expressed concern and views to bear on all your dealings with or relative to the political future for Palau District. In particular, we, Chief Ibedul and Chief Reklai and our associates, are to be consulted and involved in any and all further negotiations.

(Signed) High Chief IBEDUL

(Signed) High Chief REKLAI

cc: President of the United States of America  
United Nations Trusteeship Council  
Congress of Micronesia  
High Commissioner for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

-----