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February 15, 1977

Presidential Review Memorandum/NSC 19

TO: The Vice President  
The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense

ALSO: The Attorney General  
The Secretary of Interior  
The Secretary of Transportation  
The United States Representative to the  
United Nations  
The Director, Office of Management  
and Budget  
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Micronesian Status Negotiations (U)

The President has directed that the Policy Review Committee, under the chairmanship of the Department of State, review our policy with respect to the Micronesian status negotiations. The review -- which should be no more than about 30 pages in length -- should be completed by March 25 and should:

1. Review briefly the record and current status of the negotiations.
2. Identify U. S. political, security and economic interests at stake in Micronesia including those which derive from our responsibilities under the trusteeship agreement with the UN; in particular, analyze U. S. security requirements in Micronesia, including their relation to U. S. interests in the East Asia and Pacific region; and assess the adequacy of the draft compact of free association initialled June 2, 1976 in protecting these interests.
3. Analyze Micronesian objectives in the negotiations, and assess trends toward separate status and independence in Micronesia and the impact of these trends on U. S. interests.

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by B. Reger, National Security Council

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4. Examine alternative courses of action (including an assessment of costs and benefits) for dealing with the following issues:

(a) Marine resources, including Micronesian claims to an archipelagic zone and to control over resources in any economic zones recognized by international agreement plus problems of surveillance and enforcement.

(b) U. S. missile testing in the Marshalls and the feasibility of using other sites or open ocean recovery.

(c) Separatist and independence trends in Micronesia, and the problems of reconciling the draft Micronesian Constitution with a compact of free association.

(d) Termination of the trusteeship and transition arrangements.

(e) Timing and approach to the resumption of negotiations.

(f) Institutional arrangements to manage and conduct political status negotiations.

5. Recommend the basic elements of a negotiating strategy, within which detailed negotiating instructions will subsequently be developed.



Zbigniew Brzezinski

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