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Pacific Islands

The position at the end of December is summarized in the attached Minute by Mr. Malcolm. Since then we have received 348/41/40, which leaves it to our discretion when to decide to approach the State Department as previously instructed, and 348/42/40, which supplies a quantity of background material but does not otherwise affect the question.

I submit a draft to the American Department suggesting that our communication should be delayed until the discussion on bases in London is complete. Meanwhile, Mr. Malcolm's draft to the State Department should be suspend-

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WGH: GA