

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13-224

RE: C.R. NO. 13-57/EA

SUBJECT: RATIFICATION OF SOLOMON ISLANDS DEPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

JANUARY 25, 2005

The Honorable Peter M. Christian
Speaker, Thirteenth Congress
Federated States of Micronesia
Fifth Regular Session, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on External Affairs, to which was referred C.R. No. 13-57 entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOLOMON ISLANDS, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, FIJI, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, SAMOA, AND TONGA CONCERNING THE OPERATIONS AND STATUS OF THE POLICE AND ARMED FORCES AND OTHER PERSONNEL DEPLOYED TO SOLOMON ISLANDS TO ASSIST THE RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER AND SECURITY WAS CONCLUDED AND SIGNED IN TOWNSVILLE.",

begs leave to report as follows:

The intent and purpose of the resolution are expressed in its title.

As its title suggests, the Agreement between the Solomon Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Tonga Concerning the Operations and Status of the Police, Armed Forces, and Other Personnel Deployed to Solomon Islands to Assist in the Restoration of Law and Order and Security ('the Agreement') is a multilateral international agreement that provides a framework for the deployment of personnel.

In particular, the Agreement sets out the status of participating military personnel, police and other personnel, establishes chains of command and addresses liability and jurisdictional issues in relation to such personnel.

The Government of the FSM is a signatory to the Agreement, which was concluded on July 24, 2003.

In the unlikely event that the FSM were to commit personnel or resources, the cost of such a deployment would be borne by the FSM.

Your Committee considers that the support of the FSM through ratification of the Agreement would be significant in itself.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13-224

RE: C.R. NO. 13-57/EA

SUBJECT: RATIFICATION OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS DEPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

JANUARY 25, 2005

Your committee has given serious consideration to this resolution and its purpose. Your committee therefore recommends the following technical change to C.R. No. 13-57:

1. Page 1, line 18 - delete "Second Regular Session, 2003" and insert "Fifth Regular Session, 2005" in lieu thereof.

With the foregoing amendment, your Committee on External Affairs is in accord with the intent and purpose of C.R. No. 13-57 and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as C.R. No. 13-57, C.D.1.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Isaac V. Figir
Isaac V. Figir, chairman

Dion G. Neth, member

/s/ Alik L. Alik
Alik L. Alik, member

/s/ Henry C. Asugar
Henry C. Asugar, member

Resio Moses, member

/s/ Tiwiter Aritos
Tiwiter Aritos, member

Manny Mori, member