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CLOSING REMARKS BY THE U. S. DELEGATION

In closing, I would like to make two general observations. First, history has shown that political arrangements between peoples of different cultures and areas have been successful only when there has been an effort to understand and seek accommodation by both sides. We believe the United States has come a long way, Mr. Chairman, since our first meetings last October, in understanding and seeking to accommodate Micronesian concerns. Our proposal is certainly not an ideal one from a purely United States viewpoint. Similarly, from a purely Micronesian viewpoint, it no doubt is not ideal. But it is a balanced proposal for a relationship in which both Micronesia and the United States would each give and each receive. Mr. Chairman, I would be lacking in candor if I did not state that we had hoped for a more forthcoming approach by the Micronesian delegation in recognizing and seeking to relate your position to the very real United States concerns and practical limitations, of which we have previously spoken, in seeking to arrive at a mutual accommodation. However, we do realize the limitations, as you have stated them, imposed upon you by your delegation's terms of reference.

My second general observation is with respect to the diversity of social and cultural groups and the varying interests of these groups within Micronesia. The United States proposal takes this into account and seeks to provide the framework of a stable relationship with the United States within

which the legitimate interests of the various groups can be protected. Mutual accommodation between these groups will be necessary, in any event, regardless of the form of future political structure, and may not always be easily achieved. The cohesion of Micronesia, currently desired both by its people and by the United States, would be fostered by our proposal, with the interests of all of the people of Micronesia protected.