

May 8, 1970

STATEMENT FROM THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION

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During our discussions over the past several days, our delegations have failed to reach agreement on several of the principles which we believe must serve as a basis to any future relationship of free association between the United States and Micronesia. As we have repeatedly stated, however, it is our sincere belief that the interests of the United States in Micronesia can be accommodated within the framework of free association as our delegation understands it, and without Micronesia becoming a permanent part of the United States. Our delegation therefore respectfully requests that you transmit our delegation's position statements to the President of the United States and to the interagency committee concerned with the future political status of Micronesia.

In addition, we fully support the position which is expressed in your proposal and your position statements, that the terms of any association between the United States and Micronesia be approved by the Congress of Micronesia before any legislation is introduced in the United States Congress.

If, after review and discussion of our position statements in Washington, you are able to provide us with any further information or comments regarding the position of the United States, other than what we have received to date, we would be more than happy to receive them, and to consider them in our report to the Congress of Micronesia.

We thank you, Mr. Secretary, and the members of your delegation, for the cooperation and understanding you have displayed in these discussions, and we are certain that these meetings have contributed greatly to our understanding of each other's positions, and in providing the information necessary for our delegation's report to the Congress of Micronesia.

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