

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 15, 1971

COMPEDENTAL SEFEED

To:

Ambassador Williams

From:

Arthur Hummen

Subject:

CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR SALII AND CARL HEINE, OCT. 2

After some confusion on the part of Sen. Salii about the agreed time of meeting at the Pacific Club (about which Sen. Salii exhibited considerable irritation in a phone call to Mr. Midkiff) you and I tracked Salii down at the Ala Moana Hotel for a half-hour talk, 12:00-12:30, in the lobby, Oct. 2.

The following major points emerged:

- 1. There would be no joint press release today.
- 2. The Micronesians think they might at some point in the talks consider it advisable to inform the people of Micronesia about some aspect of the talks. They would do this through Autovon telephone to Saipan, and would inform the US side first (although there was some slight hedging in this latter point).
- 3. Amb. Williams would make the opening statement. Salii said there had been some discussion of this point on his delegation, but Salii himself felt that because the Micronesians had been waiting to hear the US reaction to last year's Micronesian actions and proposals, Amb. Williams should begin.
- 4. Both sides had given instructions, and had reached agreement, that there would be no talking to the press by any members of the delegations during the talks. Again there was a little hedging on this when Salii said he would do any talking to the press himself, presumably referring to #2 above, in case his side decided to issue a formal statement.
- 5. The Micronesians accepted the Sunday dinner invitation with pleasure, and would like to entertain the American side for cocktails, perhaps on Monday.

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- 6. Salii agreed that the talks should be as informal as possible, and that portions of them should be off the record.
- 7. Salii responded positively when Amb. Williams pointed to the probable need for the leaders of both sides to get together from time to time to talk about the best means for moving the talks along, resolving any problems, setting the time for the next meeting, agreeing to temporary recesses, etc.

The atmosphere was cordial (considering the natural formality and restraint that Salii exhibits on such occasions) and both sides expressed confidence that the talks would be useful and productive.

Arthur W. Hummel, Jr.

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