

DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

Ambassador <sup>F.</sup> Haydn Williams, President Nixon's personal representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, today submitted his report on the talks held at Hana, Maui, Hawaii, October 4-12.

This was the third round of talks between representatives of the Micronesian Congress and U.S. negotiators for the purpose of determining the future political status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Previous meetings were held in Washington in October 1969, and on Saipan in May 1970.

Ambassador Williams reported that these latest meetings brought significant progress in several major areas, but that one important matter--~~the~~ <sup>the means of (amendment or)</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> termination of future relationship, ~~was~~ <sup>^</sup> requested by the Micronesian Status Committee remains to be resolved.

The trusteeship, the only one designated a strategic trusteeship by the United Nations, is administered by the <sup>United States as a result of</sup> Department of the Interior. <sup>under an agreement with the Security Council.</sup> Ambassador Williams' delegation, however, was formed ~~by~~ <sup>by</sup> members from ~~the State and Defense Departments, as well as from Interior, responsible to the National Security Council through the Undersecretary's Committee.~~ <sup>Consisted of representatives of the Departments of State, Defense, and Interior, the latter being responsible for administration of the Trust Territory. Ambassador Williams reports to the NSC through the Under Secretary's Committee.</sup>

The United States made a number of new proposals at Hana, in response to issues Micronesians had previously set forth as of greatest importance to them: <sup>e.g.</sup> ~~i.e., issues concerned with their control of land,~~ <sup>their</sup> ~~and the future development of laws in Micronesia.~~ <sup>expectation</sup> ~~laws and of future status.~~

Neither side had the ~~intention~~ <sup>expectation</sup> of resolving all outstanding issues ~~there was no intention to resolve all problems~~ during the Hana talks, <sup>which</sup> The talks were, in fact, described by both sides as ~~productive~~ <sup>means</sup> discussions which ~~could~~ <sup>to lay</sup> form the groundwork for a future settlement.

~~However,~~ As Ambassador Williams concluded in his letter to the President:

"We believe that the basis for a mutually-beneficial and enduring relationship between the United States and Micronesia exists. We will continue to work for an agreement which will recognize, respect, and further the long-term interests and welfare of the people of Micronesia and which will also serve our own requirements and obligations in the Pacific Ocean Area in the years ahead."