



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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February 15, 1972

Honorable Melvin R. Laird
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to keep you informed of an important change in the staffing of the Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations.

Ambassador Arthur W. Hummel, Jr., my deputy and Director of the Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations, is returning to State to replace James Wilson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, who is suffering from a serious illness.

I have asked Captain William J. Crowe, Jr., USN, to relieve Ambassador Hummel and to assume the position of Acting Director of the Office and to serve concurrently as chairman of the Interagency Group on Micronesian status negotiations.

Over the next several weeks I will be relying primarily on Captain Crowe's leadership for the planning, coordination, and final preparation of the U.S. position for the next round of talks now scheduled for early April in Micronesia. My action in naming Captain Crowe to this position expresses my full confidence in his ability to manage this difficult and, at times, somewhat delicate task involving, as it does, the interests of State, Interior, Justice, DOD, and the White House, as well as the Congress. Captain Crowe has certainly lived up to his high recommendations and I owe you and the Navy a real debt in making him available.

Your past interest and support are greatly appreciated and I hope that it will be possible for me to discuss with you our plans for the next round of negotiations prior to my departure for Palau.

Sincerely yours,

Declassified/Released on 9/5/89
under provisions of E.O. 12356
by F. Grubbs, National Security Council

Hayden Williams

Franklin Hayden Williams
The President's Personal Representative
for Micronesian Status Negotiations

cc: Adm. Moorer
Adm. Zumwalt

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