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HOLD FOR POLAD JOHN DORRANCE WHO WILL PICK UP FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 3.

Your report of conversation with Senator Pangelinan and Rep. Guerrero was read with interest and their queries have been given serious consideration. As you well know, Marianas separatism is a delicate matter and must be handled with care. Request you arrange a meeting with Pangelinan and Guerrero before departing Guam and convey in your own language the following views which respond to their questions and set forth the U.S. position.

1. The U.S. is obliged by the Trusteeship Agreement to take into account the "freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned" and this obligation applies to our dealings with the Marianas as well as with other peoples of Micronesia. It is essential, however, that the United Nations

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understand that this desire for close association comes from the Marianas themselves and does not represent US initiative to split the TTPI.

2. The US considers that in view Senator Salii's initial statement at Hana, Marianas require no further central authorization to pursue a separate course, particularly in light of repeated Marianas District Legislature resolutions expressing desire for continued close relationship with us. It would still be helpful, however, for the Marianas to make clear through some type of public initiative that they wish to open separate talks with us.

3. It would strengthen any such request, if the Marianas spokesmen had an authorization from the Marianas District Legislature to engage in discussions with the U.S. delegation concerning the future status of the Marianas.

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~~RESPONSE TO PUBLIC OPINION ON MICRONESIA~~

67. Separate subject. Reference also mentioned that Senator Salii's intentions were to surface separatism at Palau talks and determine if U.S. is ready to negotiate separately with Marianas. Would appreciate any additional or more current information you can elicit about Salii's thinking and intentions at Palau regarding this subject. Ambassador Williams sends.

END

GP-3

DRAFTED BY: Williams/Crowe	DRAFTING DATE 3/1/72	TEL. EXT. 39143	APPROVED BY: <i>Haydn Williams</i> Haydn Williams, The President's Personal Representative for Micronesia Status Negotiations
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