

5/22/72

NOV 1971

Ambassador WILLIAM

- 1 Captain Crowe
- 7 Mr. Crawford
- 2 Mr. Johnson
- Dr. Myttenbach

4 Secretary *Stand for Amb.*
J. Grile

Remarks:

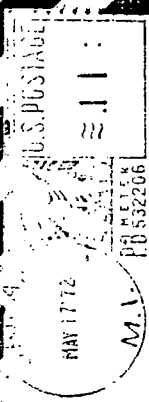
Good response by Roy
Woo

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With the Compliments
of
John C. Dorrance
Department of State Political Advisor

Office of the High Commissioner
 Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
 Saipan, Mariana Islands, 96950



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VIA AIR MAIL

Captain William Crowe, Jr.
 Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations
 Room 6514
 Department of the Interior
 Washington, D.C., 20240

John C. Dorrance, Political Advisor
 Office of the High Commissioner
 Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

May 22, 1972

Mr. Joseph C. Murphy, Editor
The Pacific Daily News
P. O. Box DN
Agana, Guam 96910

Dear Joe,

I am writing in reference to your column of May 13, which I have just received. It leads me to wonder if you sometimes fail to read your paper.

I am referring to the piece about hearing, for the first time, that the Micronesian Status Committee suggested \$100 million a year in support from the United States. You said you had to learn it from the Micronitor.

You should know that your correspondent, Mike Malone, was the first reporter to learn of, and report on, the Micronesian suggestion. This was on the same day the proposal was made at Palau. In addition, Mike reported on this subject in his interview with Ambassador Williams, which appeared on the April 20th edition of the Pacific Daily News. Ambassador Williams spent one hour with Mike on April 18th and it was the only exclusive interview given following the talks. Further, I hand-carried Mike's story and film to your office that same evening.

In addition, you know that I offered to spend as much time with you as you needed to discuss the Palau Talks. You will recall, I am sure, that I waited for you several hours after I had to check out of the Cliff Hotel, but you failed to show up or return my call.

I've read that you have had a scare with the ticker, and hope that it was only a scare. However, I had not realized that you were having problems with the memory. The story you complain about was carried by the Micronesia News Service, AP, UPI, all the vernacular papers in Micronesia and the Honolulu media, all after it appeared in the PDN. In short, instead of berating Ambassador Williams, you should be boasting of your own paper's exclusive scoop.

Best regards,

/s/
Roy W. Johnson,
Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations,
Room 6514, Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

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I really don't think that you can blame the press for resenting the shoddy treatment that we have received thus far in the very important Micronesian Status Talks. Not only has the press been totally excluded from the sessions, and Guam, which has a vital interest in the talks, has been completely ignored, but Ambassador E. Hayden Williams, who has passed through Guam at least four times, has yet to even nod his head to the local press.

To get one of the most important items yet to come out of the recently concluded Palauan talks I had to read the account of a speech made by Ambassador Williams to students of the Marshall Islands High School, printed in the May 9 issue of the Micronitor, published in Majuro.

The ambassador revealed (to the high school kids) the block-busting piece of information that the Micronesian delegation had requested \$100 million per year in aid from the U.S. after termination of the trusteeship. What? \$100 million a year? For ever? For what? Right now the U.S. is shelling out \$60 million a year for Micronesia. Williams did tell the students that this amount was a lot more than his government contemplated.

Maybe if the Micronesians can con Williams and Uncle Sam out of \$100 million a year, Guam should start its own status talks? I'm not saying that we don't do pretty well by the federal government, with our tax dollars staying here, the rehab money, etc. but it sure isn't any \$100 million, and we have more military land than the T.T. will ever see.

What I'm mainly saying, though, is that \$100 million request is big news, and I sort of resent having to hear about it two weeks after some high school kids in the Marshalls. Breaking through the grass curtain the hard way.
