ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON.D.C. 20301

INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

In reply refer to:
I-27965/72

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Micronesian Status Negotiations Debrief by Ambassador Williams

Participants:

Honorable Kenneth Rush, Deputy Secretary of Defense
Ambassador F. Haydn Williams, The President's Personal Representative
  for Micronesian Status Negotiations
Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN, Chief of Naval Operations
Honorable G. Warren Nutter, Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA)
Vice Admiral John P. Weinel, USN, Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs
  of Staff
Captain G. J. Schuller, USN, OASD/ISA/EAPR, TTPI Desk Officer

Time: 1500-1600, 19 October 1972

Place: Deputy Secretary of Defense Rush's Office, Pentagon

1. Purpose of the Meeting: This meeting was initiated at the request
of Ambassador Williams to receive Deputy Secretary of Defense Rush's
"clearance" on State's nomination of Mr. Wilson as Chairman of the IAG
on Micronesian Status Negotiations, to be effective 1 November 1972,
and to review the current situation with regard to the negotiations.

2. Discussion: After the customary opening courtesies, Ambassador
Williams reviewed the events of the 6th round of the Micronesian Status
Talks held in Hawaii 28 September to 6 October 1972. Clarifying ques-
tions were asked by several of the participants, and a general discussion
on tactical and strategic policy with regard to future planning and al-
ternative courses of action followed.

In the course of the discussion Ambassador Williams made the following
points:

- Actions recently taken by the Congress of Micronesia now require us
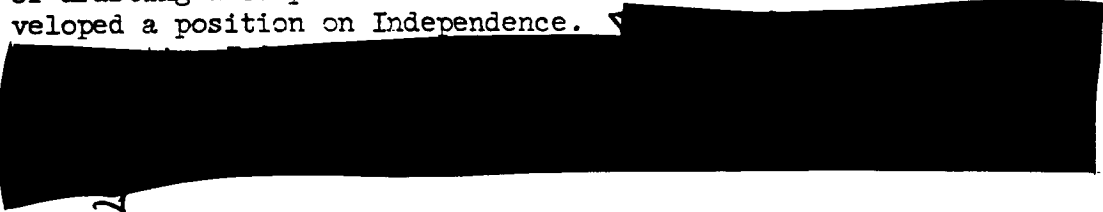  to address the question of Independence.

(O- 432287

Doc 212

-- Ambassador Williams is in the process of reporting to the President that he does not recommend proceeding further with the negotiations of drafting a Compact for Free Association until the USG has developed a position on Independence. ▆

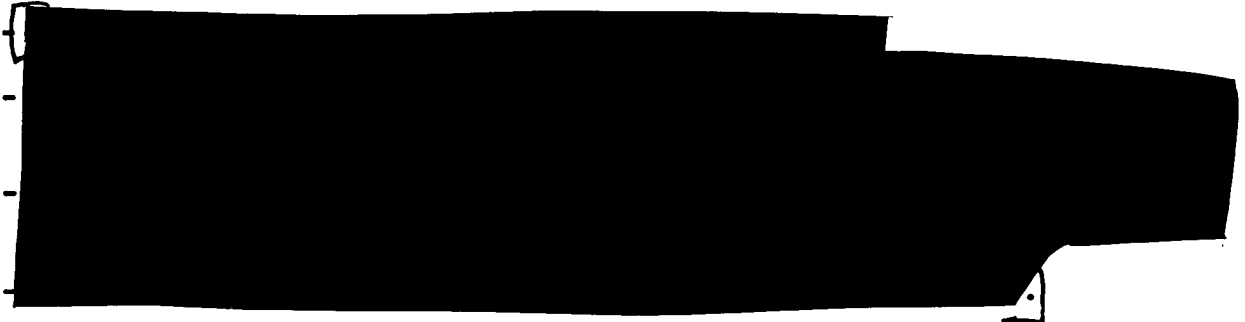████████████████████████████████████████████████

- The majority of his delegation believe the draft compact of Free Association should be completed by another round of negotiations prior to the opening session of the Congress of Micronesia in January 1973.

   -- Senator Salii and Mr. Warnke have also advised him that speed is of the essence in arriving at a completed compact.

- Separate negotiations with the Marianas are tentatively set for the second week in December 1972.

   -- Two actions are required with respect to the Marianas before negotiation.

      1. Separate the Marianas from the other Districts by administrative action. (Revise the current Secretarial Order)

      2. The Marianas legislature must take the initiative and inform the Joint Future Status Committee and the Congress of Micronesia that they do not desire them to represent the Marianas in the future.

   -- The second requirement is "on track" and the first is being investigated now by Interior.

- Defense will be called upon to assist in providing a politically-oriented land survey team, under the sponsorship and leadership of Ambassador Williams' Office, to go to Palau in late November or early December to help defuse antagonisms there.

- A complete review and re-assessment of the situation by the Under Secretaries Committee is in order.

- We must decide if we have enough time to accomplish everything before January.

10-432288

Deputy Secretary of Defense Rush and others made the following points:

- There is no objection to the appointment of Mr. Wilson.

- Legally, we have the right to maintain the status quo.

- ████████████████████████████████████████████████████

- This is a security matter.

- A re-assessment by the Under Secretaries Committee is considered the correct approach.

- ████████████████████████████████████████████████████

Memorandum of Conversation                    Approved by: *Kenneth Rush*
Prepared by:
Capt G. J. Schuller, USN                      Date: *Oct. 24, 1972*
OASD/ISA/EAPR

Distribution:
DepSecDef
Interior (Ambassador Williams)
CJCS
Sec Nav
ASD (ISA)
Ass't to CJCS (VAdm Weinel)
DASD (ISA)

10-432289