

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS  
CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950  
"MICRONESIA"

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Sen. Lazarus Salli, Chairman  
Rep. Ekpap Silk, Co-Chairman

February 22, 1973

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Sen. Ambilos Iehsi  
Sen. John Mangefel  
Rep. Herman Q. Guerrero

The Honorable Franklin Haydn Williams  
The President's Personal Representative  
on Micronesian Status Negotiations  
Office for Micronesian Status Negotiation  
Old Exec. Office Building  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ambassador Williams:

By now, I am sure that you are familiar with the position taken by the people of Palau with relation to the question of the United States Delegation's proposal for options for military land in Palau. That position is that the people of Palau will consider the question only after all so-called "public land" in Palau District has been returned to the traditional chiefs, in trust for the people.

If your delegation is unable to agree to this condition prior to the start of the next round of talks, we will assume that you are either unable to do so or no longer desire the options previously requested. In that event, it is our intention to continue the negotiations on the basis that no land in Palau District will be made available to the United States. If, however, you agree to this condition, we will be prepared to discuss its implementation and the eventual sending of a land survey team to Palau.

It is our Delegation's position that, since previous rounds of negotiations have been devoted to areas of primary interest to the United States, the next round must be devoted to those in which Micronesia has a primary interest. These areas are finance, transition, and termination. In each of these, our delegation has submitted a position paper to which your delegation has not responded. We have

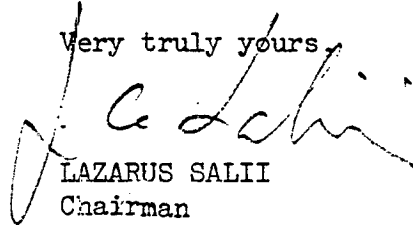
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Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams  
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given our proposals, and expect your counterproposals in return. Accordingly we are regretfully unable to resume negotiations until we receive your assurances that your Delegation will present United States proposals on these important issues at such negotiations

I look forward to receiving your early reply.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lazarus Salii".

LAZARUS SALII  
Chairman

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