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RUHQ SAA

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ACTION: HICOMTERPACIS/SAIPAN
INFO: CINCPAC RUHQHQ A
SAIPAN FOR STATUS LNO

SUBJ: AMB WILLIAMS APPEARANCE BEFORE HOUSE INTERIOR SUB COMMITTEE

1. AMB WILLIAMS APPEARED MARCH 15 BEFORE BURTON SUB COMMITTEE OF HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE. FACTUAL PRESENTATION FOLLOWED CLOSELY EARLIER WILSON TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE SUB COMMITTEE, OF WHICH YOU HAVE COPY. HIGHLIGHTS OF OTHER REMARKS FOLLOW.

2. AFTER REVIEW OF PREVIOUS NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WITH JCFS WILLIAMS SAID: "AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE WASHINGTON TALKS LAST SUMMER, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, SENATOR LAZARUS SALII, SAID IN THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION 'OUR DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT VERY GRATIFYING PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD THE CREATION OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND THE U.S.' HE ADDED, 'AT ALL STAGES OF THE DRAFTING --- THE TENTATIVE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED THOROUGHLY AND APPROVED BY OUR FULL DELEGATION.'

SUBSEQUENTLY AT A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN PONAPE A MONTH LATER, SENATOR SALII RECOMMENDING ON BEHALF OF THE

DRAFTED BY: J.M. Wilson, Jr., INT/GMSN DRAFTING DATE: 3/19/73 TEL. EXT.: 1839143 APPROVED BY: J.M. WILSON, JR., DEPUTY

CLEARANCES: DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS

REVIEWED BY: [Signature] DATE: FEB. 25 1987

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE Classification
EMBASSY DENIED
DA or: FOI EXEMPTIONS _____



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ACTION:

JCFS APPROVAL OF THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE PARTIAL DRAFT COMPACT SAID THE PARTIAL DRAFT COMPACT REPRESENTS...AN AGREEMENT WHICH MEETS AND EXCEEDS ALL OF OUR MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, IF NOT OUR EVERY DESIRE. IT IS A COMPACT...WHICH WE CAN RECOMMEND TO THE CONGRESS AND ULTIMATELY TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

"THIS IS WHERE WE STOOD AT THE END OF LAST SUMMER. WE HAD MADE REACHING PROGRESS AS FAR AS REACHING AGREEMENTS WITH THE MICRONESIAN JCFS IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AREAS. OUR WORK, HOWEVER, WAS ONLY PARTIALLY FINISHED. REMAINING AGREEMENT HAD TO BE REACHED IN THE AREAS OF FINANCE, TRADE AND COMMERCE, NATIONALITY, TRANSITION AND TERMINATION. IN ADDITION FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO U.S. MILITARY LAND NEEDS IN THE PALAU DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR HAD TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE SIGNING THE COMPACT....."

"IN BRIEF MR. CHAIRMAN WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN REACHING AGREEMENTS WITH THE JCFS BUT AS YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMITTEE CAN SEE OUR WORK IS FAR FROM FINISHED."

3. ON THE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS AFTER DESCRIBING EVENTS LEADING UP TO DECEMBER MEETING: "THE FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONCENTRATE ON THREE MAJOR AREAS:

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ACTION:

1. THE FORM OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, I.E., WHETHER THE MARIANAS WILL HAVE SOME FORM OF MODIFIED COMMONWEALTH OR TERRITORIAL STATUS OR SOME OTHER, WHICH WILL BE PUT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS FOR ITS APPROVAL AND ALSO THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS;

2. THE LAND QUESTION: U.S. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS (PRIMARILY ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN) ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE DESIRE OF THE MARIANAS FOR RETURN OF ALL PUBLIC TRUST AND MILITARY RETENTION LANDS ON THE OTHER, TOGETHER WITH SOME SORT OF ARRANGEMENT - AS YET UNSPECIFIED- WHICH WILL PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE MARIANAS AGAINST THE FUTURE ALIENATION OF THEIR LAND; AND

3. FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS TO APPLY IN THE FUTURE, WHETHER THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR THROUGH SOME FORM OF GRANT IN AID OR BOTH."

4. CONCLUDING REMARKS AS FOLLOWS: "FIRST WHILE I HAVE REPORTED THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD REACHING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE JCFS I MUST ALSO REPORT THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS NEITHER APPROVED NOR REJECTED OUR JOINT AGREEMENTS AS REFLECTED IN THE PARTIAL DRAFT COMPACT. OPPOSITION TO THE TERMS HAS BEEN VOICED

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ACTION:

TO THE CONGRESS BY CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS ON MICRONESIA. SOME OPPONENTS WANT GREATER FUTURE MICRONESIAN CONTROL OVER FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE AND SOME OBJECT TO ANY FUTURE U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN MICRONESIA. OTHER OPPONENTS ALSO STRONGLY FAVOR HAVING MORE ALTERNATIVES TO FREE ASSOCIATION PUT TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IN THE SAME PLEBISCITE.

" SECOND IT IS NOT EASY TO DETERMINE WHAT THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA REALLY WANT. THERE ARE WIDE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS QUESTION WITHIN MICRONESIA. SOME WANT TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO, THE TRUSTEESHIP, FEELING THAT THEY ARE NOT AS YET READY TO DECIDE ON THEIR FUTURE. SOME WANT CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S. AND HAVE ASKED THAT THE COMMONWEALTH OFFER BE RECONSIDERED. SOME WANT A LOOSER RELATIONSHIP THAN FREE ASSOCIATION. SOME WANT A PERMANENT ASSOCIATION. SOME WANT ONLY A SHORT TERM ASSOCIATION ENROUTE TO STILL ANOTHER STATUS AND SOME WANT FULL INDEPENDENCE NOW. THESE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DISTRICTS AND WITHIN DISTRICTS ARE MIRRORED IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND EVEN WITHIN THE JCFS ITSELF. THIS SITUATION MAKES THE TALKS MORE DIFFICULT BOTH FOR THE MICRONESIAN

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ACTION:

DELEGATION AS WELL AS OURS.

THIRD, ANOTHER PROBLEM FACING MICRONESIA IS THE QUESTION OF UNITY. IN A POLITICAL SENSE THESE ISLANDS HAVE NEVER BEEN UNITED. IN FACT MORE THAN ONE MICRONESIAN LEADER HAS SAID THAT THE MAJOR FORCE FOR UNITY IN MICRONESIA TODAY IS THE U.S... ANOTHER HAS SAID THAT 'TODAY THERE IS NO MICRONESIA -IF THERE IS TO BE ONE TOMORROW WE WILL HAVE TO CREATE IT.' THE U.S. HAS SOUGHT TO FIND A COMMON SOLUTION FOR ALL OF MICRONESIA. WHILE IT HAS ACCEDDED TO THE FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS FOR GOOD REASONS, THE U.S. HOPES THAT THE OTHER FIVE DISTRICTS WILL BE ABLE TO FIND THE BASIS TO GO FORWARD IN UNION TOWARD A COMMON FUTURE.

"IN THIS REGARD THE U.S. SINCE KOROR HAS INVITED AND URGED THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE CONVENING OF A CONSITTUTIONAL CONVENTION. THE U.S. HAS REPEATED ITS INVITATION TO THE LEADERS AND PEOPLE TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF FRAMING ITS OWN FUTURE GOVERNMENTAL INSTITITIONS, ITS OWN LAW-MAKING PROCEDURES, ITS OWN CONCEPTS OF DIVISION OF POWERS, ITS OWN DESIGN FOR A FUTURE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS, ITS OWN LAWS WITH RESPECT TO LAND, ETC. ETC.

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ACTION:

THE LAST TWO SESSIONS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR INTERNAL REASONS HAVE FAILED TO PASS BILLS CREATING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THIS WE REGRET SINCE WE HAVE ADVISED THE JCFS THAT REGARDLESS OF THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S., THERE CAN BE NO TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT UNTIL A SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT TO THE PRESENT TTPI ADMINISTRATION IS IN PLACE BASED ON A CONSTITUTION APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

"FINALLY AND IN SUMMARY, MR. CHAIRMAN, THE OBJECTIVES OF THE U.S. IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO BE DIRECTED TOWARD A REASONABLE AND EQUITABLE SOLUTION, TOWARD A NEW POLITICAL STATUS FOR MICRONESIA AND A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. FREELY ENTERED INTO BY THE PEOPLES OF THE TTPI - A SOLUTION WHICH WILL BEST SERVE AND PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS AS WELL AS OURS.

"TOWARD THIS END I AM NOW IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION ABOUT THE NEXT STEPS AND THE CONTINUATION OF OUR JOINT EFFORT TO COMPLETE A DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION. SIMULTANEOUSLY WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE SEPARATE TALKS WITH THE MARIANAS FUTURE STATUS COMMITTEE LEADING TOWARD AN AGREEMENT

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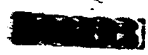
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✓ WHICH WILL SATISFY THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF THESE ISLANDS FOR A
CLOSE AND PERMANENT POLITICAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S..

5. HIGHLIGHTS OF QUESTION PERIOD WILL BE SENT WHEN TRANSCRIPT
RECEIVED; FULL TRANSCRIPT BY POUCH.



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