

file - Status

OSN

Amb Williams
EA/RA

3/28/73

Dear Editor:

Your editorial of March 19 referred to a statement made by Ambassador Williams that "It is not easy to determine what the people of Micronesia really want." This statement, while it is quite true as far as the Ambassador and other non-Micronesians are concerned, is significant for quite a different reason. It is very revealing of the attitude of Ambassador Williams and the U.S. Delegation with respect to the Micronesian status talks. In spite of the fact that the Micronesian Delegation negotiates on behalf of the Congress of Micronesia, which in turns represents the people, the Ambassador is still looking for "what the people want." He will never find out.

This attitude on part of

Ambassador Williams has been known to the Joint Committee on Future Status for sometime. He has always wanted to go behind the Joint Committee, directly to the people where he knows he will find various shades of opinions regarding the status issue.

Certainly Ambassador Williams will have great deal of difficulties finding out what is the consensus of opinion in Micronesia. The position of the Joint Committee and of the Congress of Micronesia is not unknown to Ambassador Williams, as a matter of record.

The sooner the Ambassador starts to negotiate in good faith with the authorized representative of the Congress, instead of delaying to find out "what the people really want," the sooner he can get some results.

If the Ambassador wants an opinion poll to determine the desire of the Micronesians, the Micronesian negotiators can also ask for an opinion poll in the United States on what the U.S. should do or not do in Micronesia. But this would be absurd. It is just as absurd for Williams to delay the talks to determine what each and every single Micronesian wants.

Sincerely yours,
/s/ Carl Heine
Staff Director
Joint Committee on
Future Status

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