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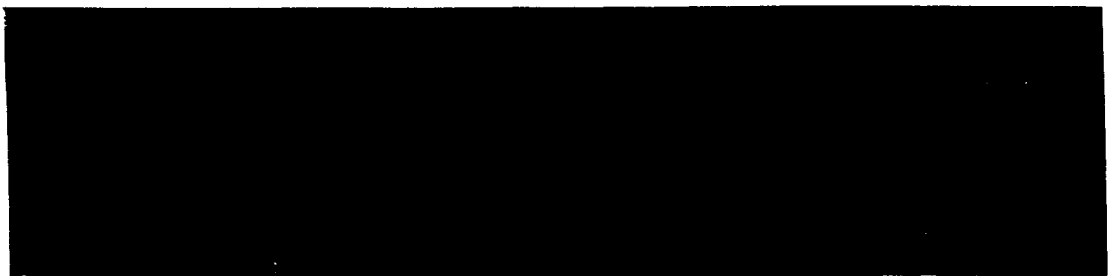
DRAFT MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT FROM USC CHAIRMAN

Subject: Micronesian Status Negotiations

I attach at Tab A Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams' memorandum of November 22, 1972, responding to Dr. Kissinger's November first request for a reassessment of the U.S. negotiating position on the Micronesian status question. I also attach, at Tabs B, C and D respectively, very substantial dissents from that memorandum received from the Departments of State, Defense, and Interior.

The thrust of Ambassador Williams' memorandum is:

1. We should resume negotiations with the Micronesians as early as possible and exert every effort to complete a Compact of Free Association. (Ambassador Williams had hoped to resume in December, but the Micronesians were unprepared.)



Partially Declassified/Released on 2/1/89
under provisions of E.O. 12356-
by F. Grubbs, National Security Council

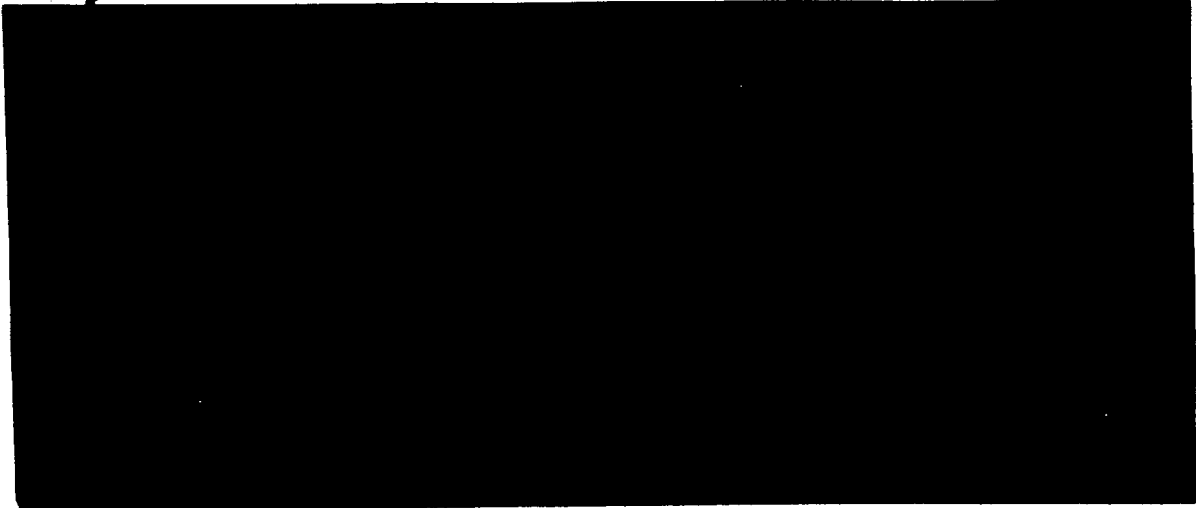
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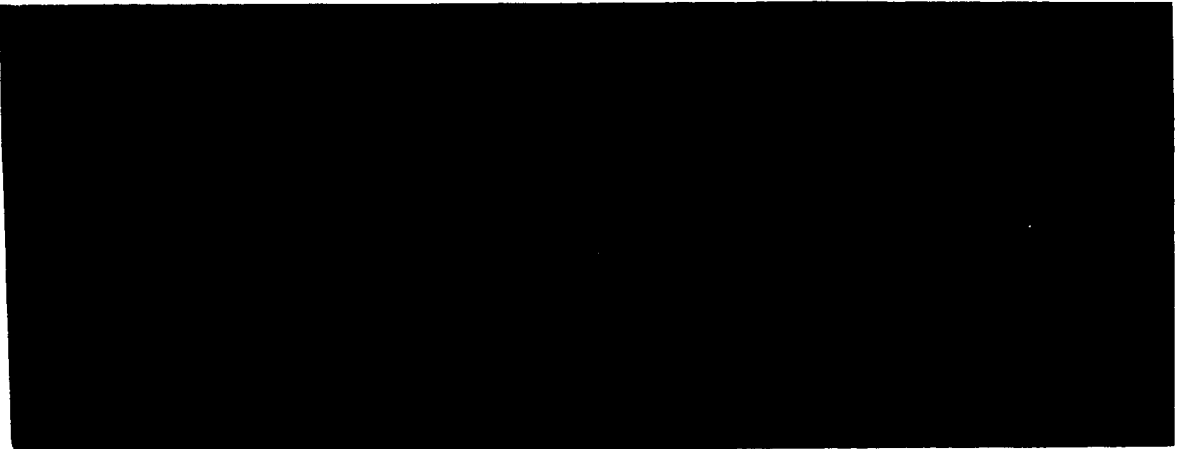
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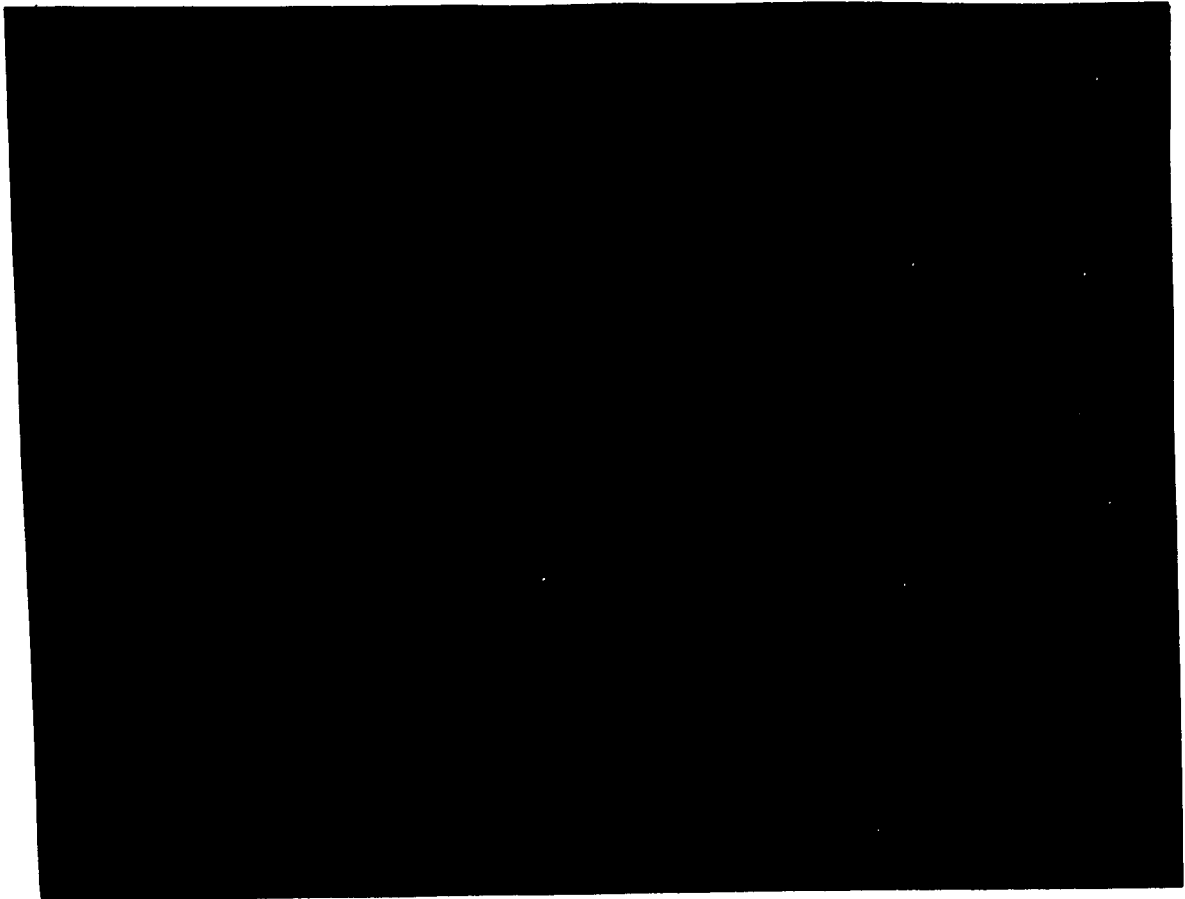


3. We should negotiate separately with the Marianas on permanent association, responding to their request of last April. The initial session with the Marianas in mid-December will be largely ceremonial and intended to draw out Marianan views on the future relationship. More definite proposals for the Marianas will need further study and will be presented subsequently by Ambassador Williams for your approval.



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3. Because it is important to conclude an early agreement with the Marianas, we should surface our own proposals as quickly as possible rather than simply probing for Marianan desire or expectations (which might inflate them in any case).

In its dissent, the Department of Defense:



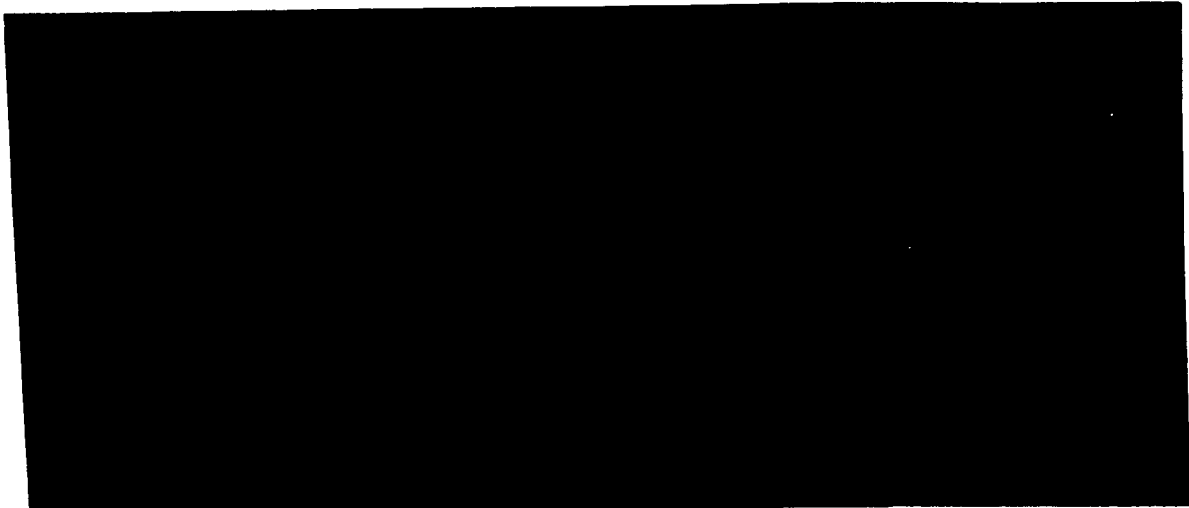
2. Makes clarification of the Micronesian

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negotiators' ability to guarantee meeting DOD minimum land requirements an additional precondition for resuming talks.

The Department of the Interior:



2. Recommends that we take no initiative to resume negotiations in any case, but consider responding to an invitation from the Micronesian side.

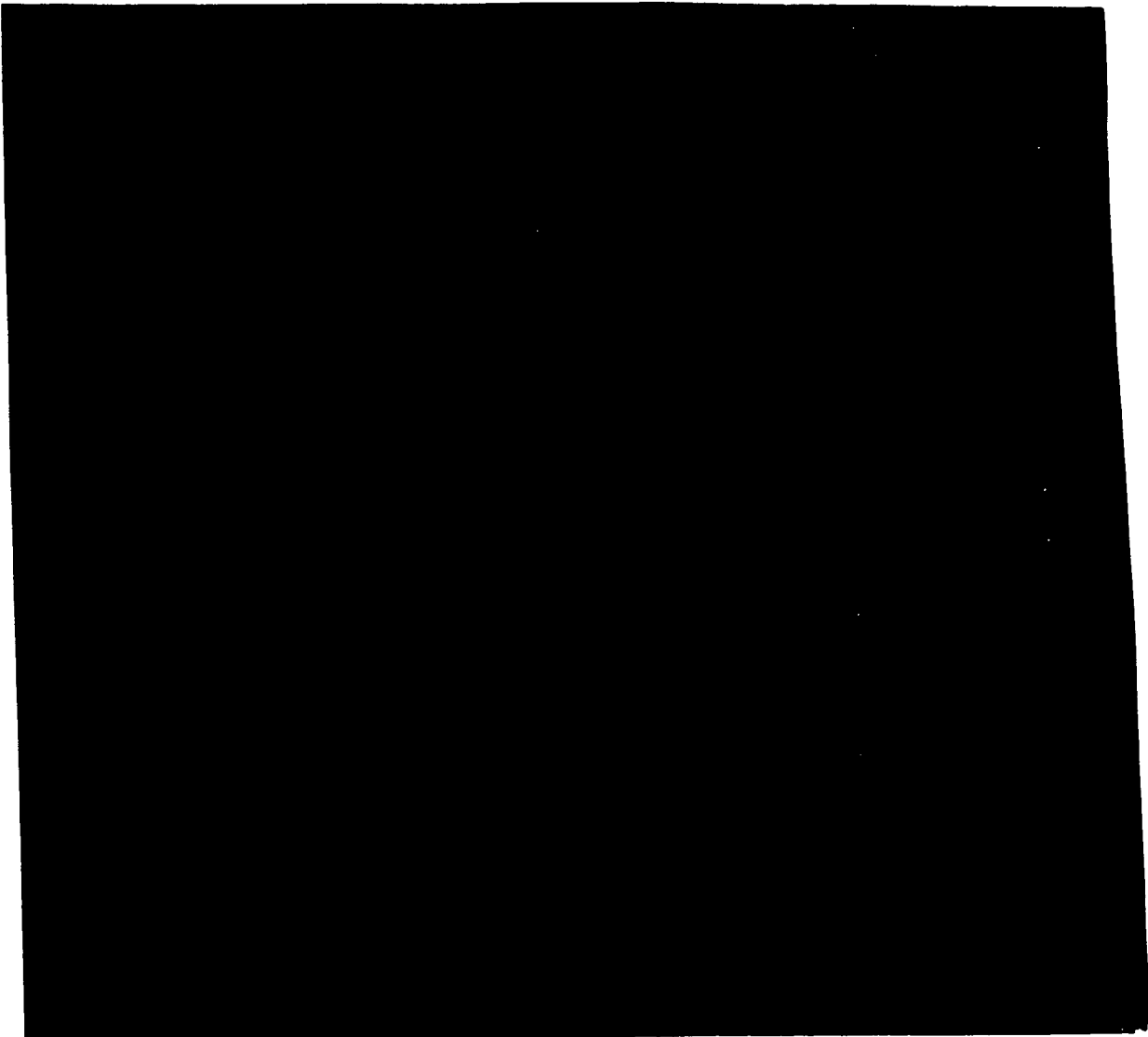


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In view of these serious disagreements, I have asked Ambassador Williams to have an Inter-Agency Group prepare and submit by January 30, 1973 the following studies:

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I hope to forward these studies to you in early February for your approval. In view of the fact that the Congress of Micronesia will begin a 50-day session on January 8, 1973, it does not seem possible to resume negotiations before March in any case.

S/PC:HJFeldman