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Draft Agreement Almost Completed

By Joan King
Daily News Staff Writer

SAIPAN — All items but one in the agreement which will outline future status between the United States and Micronesia have been resolved, according to Sen. Lazarus Salii, chairman of the Congress of Micronesia's Joint Committee on Future Status.

The item still in debate deals with land lease options in Palau. Franklin Hayden Williams, U.S. Ambassador to

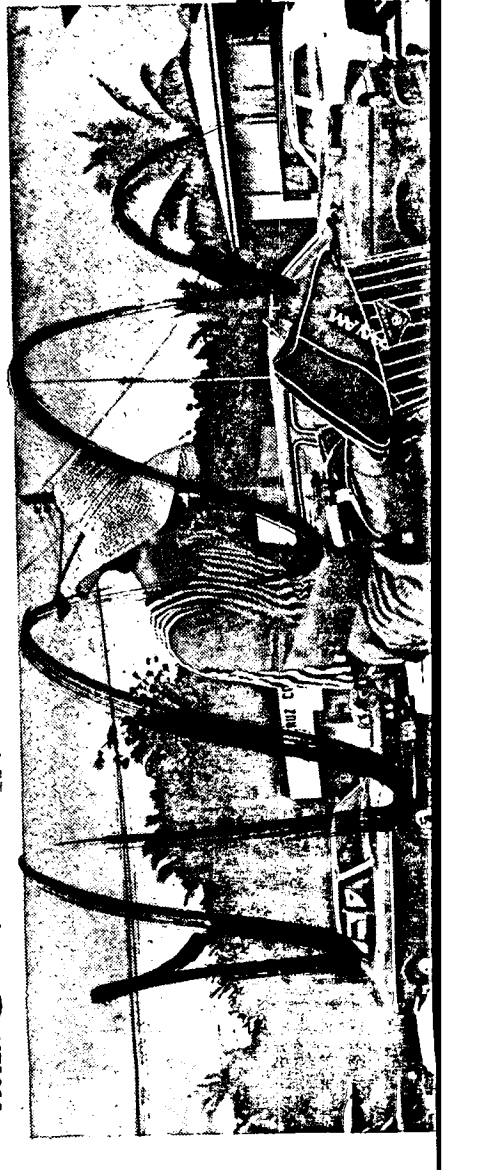
the status talks, is in Palau this week, according to the Micronesian News Service.

"If the negotiations on options in Palau progress during the fall we hope to be able to present a complete final draft to the Sixth Congress of

retention land and options to terminate the compact.

The U.S. wanted to maintain control of military retention land and other areas which might be designated for military use for 99 years after termination of the compact. Micronesia's position was that five years is sufficient. This is no longer an issue, according to Salii.

Recount Shows No Change



The series of preliminary talks which resulted in concurrence of the draft compact took place in Guam last week between the U.S. and Micronesian delegations. In addition to Salii, cochairman Ekpap Silk of the Marshalls, Senate President Nakayama of Truk, Sens. Amaklehlesi and Bailey Oltor of Ponape and counsel Paul Warnke participated.

The U.S. delegation included deputy representative James M. Wilson Jr.; Navy Capt. Richard Y. Scott, director of the Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations; Ronald Stowe, office of the legal adviser, Department of State; and Alf E. Bergesen, status liaison officer on Saipan.

Major stumbling blocks in previous negotiations were over issues of financing, military

being refused after a total of 249, 226. In the original count of 25 and the final November general election today.

Yesterday the count was 25 and when one too many signatures were discovered in Dededo precinct 18-B. No action was taken.

There were changes from the original count by Sen. Camacho yesterday. Camacho's recount is complete for 9, 5 ballots.

The Government had gathered more than he showed through the original count. That margin, if added to his original count, would give him a 69-vote lead over Sen. Calvo.

Precincts allied yesterday were Tamuning 17-E and Dededo 18-B. No action was taken.

Other areas in which agreement was reached are foreign affairs, applicability of U.S. laws in Micronesia and nationality and immigration between the two countries, Salii revealed.

Won't Pass Surplus Bill