

MAY 19 1976

10/5



Department of State

TELEGRAM

File

UNCLASSIFIED 9863

PAGE 01 STATE 122423

73
ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY OMSN:FHWILLIAMS:KKC
APPROVED BY OMSN:MVTRENT

073465

P 182324Z MAY 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO HICOMTERPACIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 122423

E.O. 116521 NA - TAGS: PFOR, TO

SUBJECT: LETTER TO SPEAKER OF PALAU LEGISLATURE
FOR STATUS LNO FROM AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING LETTER TO SPEAKER SILMAI OF PALAU
LEGISLATURE AND INFORM SENATORS SALII AND TMETUHL OF
CONTENTS:

"DEAR SPEAKER SILMAI:

I HAVE RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE PALAU LEGIS-
LATURE MAY HAVE ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PALAU
POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION TO ENTER INTO SEPARATE NEGOTI-
ATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR A FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS
SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA (COMMONWEALTH).

ALTHOUGH APPRECIATIVE OF THE SENTIMENT FOR CLOSE ASSOCIA-
TION WITH THE U.S., I MUST ONCE AGAIN BRING TO THE PALAU
DISTRICT LEGISLATURE'S ATTENTION THAT IT IS THE HOPE OF THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT MICRONESIAN UNITY--THE UNITY
OF THE MARSHALLS AND THE CAROLINES--BE PRESERVED AND THAT
THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION CAREFULLY NEGOTIATED
OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS IS A SUITABLE INSTRUMENT FOR THAT
PURPOSE.

UNCLASSIFIED

03 027171



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 122423

PALAUAN LEADERSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THIS OBJECTIVE IS NEEDED NOW AND IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. INFORMAL TALKS LEADING TO FORMAL TALKS ARE NOW UNDERWAY WHICH COULD GIVE PALAU AN ENTIRELY NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE STATUS QUESTION. CLEARLY PALAU SHOULD NOT TAKE ANY PRECIPITOUS ACTION WITHOUT FURTHER EXPLORATION OF ALL ALTERNATIVES.

I HOPE THAT SEPARATE STATUS SENTIMENT HAS NOT BEEN PROMPTED BY THE BELIEF THAT COMMONWEALTH STATUS IS THE ONLY FORM OF FUTURE STATUS WHICH WOULD INDUCE MAJOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN PROJECTED PORT PACIFIC PROJECT BECAUSE OF THE PROMISED CLOSE AND SECURE FUTURE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PALAU AND THE U.S. THIS IS NOT THE CASE. FREE ASSOCIATION ALSO CALLS FOR A CLOSE AND ENDURING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. AND A CONTINUING U.S. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF THE AREA. IT SEEMS TO US THAT FREE ASSOCIATION AND A UNITED AND POLITICALLY STABLE MICRONESIA WOULD ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT FOR PALAU IN THE FUTURE.

I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THOSE IN PALAU WHO ARE CONCERNED, AS WELL AS ALL PROSPECTIVE FOREIGN INVESTORS, BE MADE AWARE OF THE VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT ON THIS MATTER AND ITS DESIRE THAT ALL CONCERNED SUPPORT THE USG'S POLICY REGARDING THE UNITY OF THE CAROLINES AND THE MARSHALLS.

WITH BEST REGARDS TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE. AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS.

KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED