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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFUR, TG

SUBJECT: LETTER TO SALII AND SILK

PASS TO STATUS LMO FOR DELIVERY TO SENATOR LAZARUS SALII AND REPRESENTATIVE EKPAP SILK, CO-CHAIRMEN, JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FROM AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

DEAR LAZARUS AND EKPAP:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF MARCH 10 AND YOUR RENEWED PROPOSAL THAT WE SCHEDULE AN EARLY MEETING FOR AN INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND TO PLAN FOR LATER FORMAL TALKS TO TAKE PLACE SOON AFTER YOUR NEW JOINT STATUS COMMISSION HAS BEEN ORGANIZED. IF CONVENIENT WITH YOU BOTH I WOULD PROPOSE THAT WE HOLD OUR MEETING EITHER IN SAIPAN OR GUAM DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 19TH.

WE HAVE NOTED FROM A RECENT COM RELEASE THAT THE JCFS HAS MET IN YAP TO DISCUSS YOUR NEW STATUS COMMISSION AND TO TAKE A NEW LOOK AT SOME OF YOUR OWN BASIC POSITIONS. IN VIEW OF

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WHAT WE KNOW OF THE CHANGES IN YOUR POSITION, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS IN THE THROES OF THE SAME KIND OF FUNDAMENTAL REASSESSMENT OF ITS POLICIES AND THOSE COMMITMENTS WHICH IT TENTATIVELY AGREED TO IN THE OCTOBER 1974 DRAFT OF THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

WHILE OUR REVIEW HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED AS YET I AM ASKING THAT IN RESPONSE TO YOUR SHARING WITH US YOUR VIEWS ON THE COMPACT AND THE CONSTITUTION THAT THE COMPARATIVE LEGAL ANALYSIS OF THESE TWO DOCUMENTS PREPARED BY OUR LAWYERS BE DISCUSSED WITH YOUR WASHINGTON LEGAL COUNSEL, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I SHARE FULLY YOUR DESIRES FOR AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WOULD HOPE THAT OUR APRIL INFORMAL MEETING WILL CLEAR THE WAY FOR A FORMAL ROUND OF TALKS LATER THIS SPRING. SINCERELY YOURS, F. HAYDN WILLIAMS.

END OF TEXT

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