

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

July 5, 1972

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. KISSINGER

FROM:

JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE

SUBJECT:

Handwritten: 9/20/72 PRES
7/5

Micronesian Status Negotiations:
Ambassador Williams' Report on
the April Negotiations

At Tab I is a memorandum from you to the President attaching Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams' report of June 12 to the President covering last April's negotiations, in the course of which he achieved agreement with the Micronesian representatives on the basic principles for our future political relationship with Micronesia. Also of significance, one of the six districts making up Micronesia, the Mariana Islands, which geographically include Guam in its archipelago, asked us for separate negotiations that would lead to a closer political union with us than will be the case for the other five.

The agreement on principles, which was embodied in a Joint Communique, allots control of foreign affairs and defense to us, while giving control of internal affairs to the Micronesians. (The structure and functioning of a Micronesian Government for this purpose is to be defined in a Constitution, the provisions of which are not to conflict with those of a Compact, which will define our relationship with Micronesia.) Unilateral termination of the Compact will be allowed after a period of years (we proposed 15 and the Micronesians said five), but our authority over defense matters and our land leases and options for defense purposes will survive any termination.

Negotiations on the Compact and related agreements are scheduled to begin this month.

I would suggest that we recommend to the President a letter of appreciation from him to Ambassador Williams, and have attached a draft, which has been coordinated with Ray Price's office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

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