

Remarks by Ron Ziegler at the White House News Conference

on Tuesday, October 24, 1972, at 12:05 p.m. EDT

"The President today is announcing the designation of James <sup>M</sup> Wilson, Jr., Foreign Service Officer Class 1, as the Deputy U. S. Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiation. That designation will become effective November 1. "



UPI-78

{MICRONESIA}

WASHINGTON--PRESIDENT NIXON TODAY DESIGNATED JAMES M. WILSON, JR., A STATE DEPARTMENT FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, AS THE U.S. DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, EFFECTIVE NOV. 1.

HE WILL SERVE AS PRINCIPAL DEPUTY TO AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS, THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DETERMINE THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE PACIFIC TRUST TERRITORIES, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED STATES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS.

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Pacific Dateline, Guam

10/25/72

# Nixon appoints new deputy representative for Mike status talks

By Peter J. Walsh  
Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON—President Nixon Tuesday named an experienced foreign service officer, James M. Wilson, Jr., U.S. deputy representative for Micronesian status negotiations.

The appointment, effective Nov. 1, follows the recess of the sixth round of Micronesian status talks in Honolulu. The recess reportedly came as a result of concern over the direction of the talks and the desire of the Micronesian congress that the alternative of independence be explored.

Previous talks had focused on reaching agreement on a "compact of free association," under which the islands would control their internal affairs but the U.S. would represent them in foreign affairs and have exclusive military rights.

Nixon's appointment of Wilson, who has wide experience representing the U.S. in negotiations on military matters, may also reflect U.S. concern over the status of its defense interests in the Trust Territory following a pull back from the Indochina theater.

In the event of a U.S. military withdrawal, Guam and the Trust Territory Islands are seen as the United States' military outpost in the Pacific.

Wilson, who will serve as the principal deputy of Ambassador Franklin Dwyer Williams, the President's personal representative for the status talks, replaces Arthur Hummel. Hummel, who was originally serving in Burma, was reassigned there in February and the post has been vacant since.

As deputy representative, Wilson will chair an inter-agency group working on Micronesia's status and will be in charge of preparing U.S. negotiating positions.

Wilson, 54, was born of American parents in Mokanshan, China. He served on the air staff in Washington from 1948-1950, was a member of the air base negotiating teams in North Africa and Europe in 1951 and 1952, was director of military facilities division office of the US special representative to Europe in 1953 and was Defense Adviser to American embassies in Paris and Bonn.

He was named a career foreign service officer in 1961, and most recently has served as a deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.