



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

March 28, 1973

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Memorandum

To: Mr. John Holdridge, National Security Council Staff

From: J.M. Wilson, Jr., U.S. Deputy Representative for  
Micronesian Status Negotiations

You are probably getting a copy of this through regular channels. I gather it was originally intended that Rush send it to the Under Secretaries Committee, but Veljotes turned that idea down. Rush has therefore not seen this.

Actually it gives us no immediate problem. Haydn's instructions by definition come from the President, HAK or the USC. In any event we're always glad to have advice, and some of this is quite good. On the Security Council approval question, however, (Tab D) you may wish to note in particular the 1971 instructions to Haydn which read:

"To gain express Security Council approval of termination of the Trusteeship, it would probably be necessary to have granted the islands independence or to have offered a status approaching it in a UN-observed plebiscite. However, mere notification of the Council should suffice if a new political status receives approval of a substantial majority of the Micronesians."

I doubt that the era of good feeling with Russia and China has yet reached such strength that we can assume away this judgment. So unless the President specifically approves offering full independence to both the Marianas and the rest of Micronesia I would not wish to see new instructions to Haydn interpreted to mean that our failure to offer independence would "prejudice the U.S. ability and option to seek Security Council approval."

\* Though DoD of course would object violently to TABC

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Authority Interior Dept Guidelines

By HR NLF Date 9/22/99

