

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

9 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

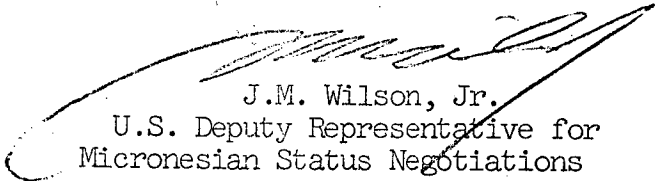
Mr. Richard Fairbanks, The White House

Subj: Micronesia-Resolution on Political Status from Congress of
Micronesia

Reference the attached referral, letter from the Clerk of the Senate of the Congress of Micronesia (COM) forwarding to the President a joint resolution from the COM opposing separate negotiations with any of the Districts of Micronesia, in this case the Marianas, it is our view that it would be unwise to dignify this with an official response from the White House.

Given the fact that such a resolution lacks any legal force and, in effect, runs directly counter to the U.S. Government's decision of last year to negotiate separately with the leaders of the Marianas District it would in our view be a mistake to even acknowledge receipt of this correspondence. Moreover, the proper channel for all formal actions by the COM is through the U.S. High Commissioner and, if appropriate, to the Secretary of the Interior.

A formal reply from the President or any member of his staff is in this instance therefore neither needed nor advised.


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

