

*J M W Claus*

OFFICE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS

Washington, D. C. 20240

October 17, 1973

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Memorandum of Conversation

Subject: U.S. Congressional Attitudes Towards Status Negotiations

Participants:

Rep. Donald H. Clausen  
Rep. Ralph Regula  
Thomas Dunmire

Ambassador Haydn Williams  
James M. Wilson, Jr.

Time and Place: Congressman Clausen's Office-Rayburn Building  
Washington, D. C. - October 17, 1973

Representative Clausen introduced Representative Regula explaining that in view of his own heavy responsibilities on other congressional sub-committees he would not be able to spend all the time he wished on Territorial matters and wanted Regula to serve as his stand-in on status matters as much as possible. Clausen asked the Ambassador to bring them up to date on what was going on in the negotiations and in particular to explain to Regula the U.S. military requirements.

Ambassador Williams did so starting with the Marshalls and working through Palau to - much later - the Marianas. The Congressmen's questions were principally factual in nature, but under Dunmire's initiative several questions were asked in particular regarding the need for a base outside of Guam and what the Micronesians expected in the way of payments - both direct and indirect.

Clausen said he had a problem with his Chairman (Burton) who too often tended to talk rather than listen, especially after several belts.

Regula stressed the importance of keeping in touch with developments in order to assure continuing Congressional support for the product of the negotiations. Ambassador Williams agreed and outlined present arrangements for close consultation. In answer to a direct question from Clausen he said a possibly difficult problem was the Chairman's

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proclivity for **inviting** in Micronesian Congressmen on the other negotiating team who then gave him a snow job. Clausen and Regula agreed this would not do, Regula saying the U.S. Congress had to treat this all in attorney-client relationship, with the U.S. Congress the client and Williams the attorney.

Regula asked for more maps and briefing material which Dunmire will provide. Williams and Wilson agreed afterwards that Wilson should make a special effort to brief Regula further in the near future.

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