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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

CARMEL TALKS ON MICRONESIAN STATUS

FIRST MEETING, MONDAY, 1 APRIL 1974 (3:30 P.M.)

PARTIC IPANTS

v.s.

MICRONESIA

Ambassador Williams Mr. Wilson

Senator Salii Congressman Silk

After welcoming Salii and Silk to Carmel and other pleasantries, Williams opened the informal talks with a discussion of organizational arrangements and then proceeded to review the events since last November leading up to this meeting. He noted the previous informal discussions in Saipan in December and January, contacts with Warnke in January, Wilson's three weeks in Saipan reviewing financial matters jointly with the JCFS & HICOM officials and the most recent discussion in Washington with DOTA, HICOM and his staff and Congress—man Setik on the budget and five year plan submission.

He reminded Salii of the earlier understanding that these would be designed to work out agreements quickly on all remaining issues if at all possible prior to scheduling a formal eighth round of status talks with the full JCFS. It was also understood that the talks would be informal and off the record in the sense there would be no proceedings and no press statements. Participants during actual negotiations on the Compact would be the principals and counsel with any others participating as needed as resource people in any larger meetings. Salii agreed and said he was calling Warnke later in the evening and expected him to be present on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday.

In terms of what might happen after these meetings it was understood that Salii and Silk would present and defend any agreements reached before the JCFS and that if these were accepted in turn then the Eighth Round would be scheduled.

If initial problems or disagreements developed these would be ironed out in private. If disagreements still remained both sides would have to consider where to go from there.

Williams said the most important items on the unfinished agenda from his point of view were the completion of the draft compact with particular emphasis on finance and termination, completion of the military land negotiations which would have to be accomplished before the U.S. could sign the compact and were firmly tied to the finance provisions and the sequence and timetable of events in the transition period leading up to the termination of the trusteeship including the development and adoption of a new constitution and the completion and approval of the compact of free association. We hoped these talks would follow the same pattern as llans and be conducted in the same spirit; that is, that there could be a full informal review of the entire agenda coming back as necessary to those points where there had been incomplete or no agreement. It was understood by all in any event that all parts of the Compact were considered tentative until finally approved and there would be no final commitment on either side til all titles were agreed to. Salii agreed.

Williams suggested a meeting the next morning at 10:00 o'clock where there could be a general exchange of views on what each side hoped to accomplish and where things were likely to go and what the realities were in the present situation on both sides. Salii agreed. In addition both sides could discuss any particular problems related to the overall situation or the status talks in general. He proposed meanwhile all members of both groups meet for cocktails.