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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

URGENT ACTION

December 12, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:

THOMAS J. BARNES

SUBJECT:

Summary of Your December 11 Meeting  
with Haydn Williams

Ambassador Williams brought up the following three issues:

-- The Senatorial delay in the vote on the Northern Marianas  
Covenant.

-- His December 10 letter (Tab A) to the President recommending  
a full U.S. policy review to update the Under Secretaries Committee  
Micronesian policy paper of November 14, 1973.

-- His desire that, within the next couple of months, someone  
take his place as the President's personal representative for Micro-  
nesian Status Negotiations.

On the first issue, you agreed to get the President involved, to ask  
Secretary Rumsfeld to attempt to influence Senator Percy, and to  
ask Secretary Kissinger to try to turn Senator Javits around. Senator  
Bartlett is also a key target. You felt that approaches to Senators  
Hart and Scott would be fruitless. You also agreed to signal White  
House interest in this problem to both State and Defense. [Williams  
gave his estimate of Senate voting in a December 5 letter (Tab B) to  
Max Friedersdorf.] Haste is essential because the markup in the  
Senate Arms Services Subcommittee is now scheduled for 1400  
Tuesday, December 16.

On the second issue, you agreed that we need a complete re-evaluation  
of Ambassador Williams' current negotiating instructions, and  
directed me to get started on that project, which I will ask Jay  
Taylor to initiate immediately.

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On the third issue, you agreed that Ambassador Williams' contribution was above and beyond any reasonable call of duty since he had stayed four years in a role that was supposed to take a few weekends. You said you would defer to him on the timing of the announcement of his departure, as well as on the date he would leave. Williams said that State was searching for a new Deputy who would have the possibility of succeeding him, but that the White House might want to take a strong role in the selection. He emphasized that his job was difficult bureaucratically and that other Departments and Agencies must understand that the power comes from the White House.

Necessary Actions:

- a. Brief the President on the problem. Ask for help with Senator Bartlett.
- b. Ask Secretary Rumsfeld to attempt to influence Senator Percy.
- c. Ask Secretary Kissinger to try to turn Senator Javits around.
- d. Discuss with the President a replacement for Williams.
- e. Ensure that the State selection of any Deputy for Williams has your full endorsement, or alternatively, designate someone yourself.

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