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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 4, 1986

Dear Mr. Ilon:

The White House has forwarded to me your letter conveying the message from President Nakayama on the occasion of the approval of the Compact of Free Association.

As you know, the Compact delegates responsibility for government-to-government relations to the Secretary of State. Let me assure you that we look forward to the new relationship between our two nations which will begin upon the termination of the U.N. Trusteeship. The resident representative office, which we plan to open soon in Ponape, will become another important point of contact as we work together to define the practical details of "free association."

Sincerely,

Russell J. Surber
Country Director
for Pacific Island Affairs

The Honorable
Epel K. Ilon,
Representative,
Federated States of Micronesia,
706 G Street, S.E.,
Washington, D.C.