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COMMUNICATION FROM THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of
procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 212
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

6 March 1973

President
United Nations Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to the request of the Legislature, I am transmitting a copy of resolution No. ... 76-1973, "A resolution relative to advising the Congress of Micronesia that the people of the Marianas have an inherent right to negotiate separately with the United States of America", duly and regularly adopted by the Fourth Legislature during its February 1973 session.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Luis S. CAMACHO
Executive Secretary

FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 76-1973

INTRODUCED BY: HON. DANIEL T. MUNA, SAIPAN

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO ADVISING THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS HAVE AN INHERENT RIGHT TO
NEGOTIATE SEPARATELY WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, the Congress of Micronesia passed a joint resolution which expressed the sense of the Congress of Micronesia that it has exclusive authority to negotiate the future political status of all the districts of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, following the third round of talks in Koror, Palau that followed the meeting of the Congress of Micronesia in that district, the Honorable Franklin Haydn Williams accepted the request of the Marianas delegation to the Congress of Micronesia and agreed to enter into future political status negotiations with the Marianas; and

WHEREAS, the Mariana Islands District Legislature held a special session in May 1972 to establish the Marianas Future Political Status Commission, with the blessings of the Trust Territory Government, and reported the same to the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations who did not express any opposition to this action; and

WHEREAS, before the opening of the first round of negotiations by the Marianas Future Political Status Commission, the President of the United States of America, the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, gave the Honorable Franklin Haydn Williams, his personal representative to negotiate the status of Micronesia, the following message:

"Dear Ambassador Williams:

"You have my very best wishes as you begin discussions with the representatives of the Mariana Islands looking toward a close and permanent association between the Islands and the United States. I wish you every success in these talks.

"Please convey my warm greetings to the representatives and the people of the Mariana Islands. The United States, as a Pacific nation, is deeply concerned both for the stability of this vital area, and for the security and well-being of the Marianas people. In this spirit we are looking forward to a continuing mutually advantageous relationship with the Mariana Islands.

"Sincerely,
"(Signed) Richard M. NIXON

"Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams
The President's Personal Representative
for Micronesian Status Negotiations
HICOMTERPACIS
Saipan"

/...

WHEREAS, the people of the Mariana Islands District have not purported to tell the Congress of Micronesia what it should do, so they should keep out of the affairs of this district;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourth Mariana Islands District Legislature that the Congress of Micronesia be and hereby is respectfully memorialized and advised that the people of the Marianas have an inherent right to negotiate separately with the United States of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the President and Speaker of the Congress of Micronesia, the 1973 United Nations Visiting Mission team, the Honorable Franklin Haydn Williams, and the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the High Commissioner and the District Administrator.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, 28 FEBRUARY 1973.

(Signed) V. N. SANTOS
President

(Signed) Santiago B. MAGOFNA
Legislative Secretary
