



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

APR 28 1966

Memorandum

To: Charles Johnson  
The White House

As you know we have been meeting with representatives of the Peace Corps concerning a possible project in the Trust Territory and are hopeful a workable project can be developed. We are concerned, however, about two elements of the proposal.

First, the timing. We feel that an announcement of the Peace Corps project, when one becomes appropriate, should be made no earlier than an announcement about the submission of the Trust Territory authorization bill to the Congress. We would not want to see any possible adverse Congressional reaction leading to a reduction in the proposed program which we feel is needed in the territory.

A second consideration, which I hesitate to mention, is a caution against promising specific numbers which may in practice prove to be more than can be produced. If 500 volunteers were to be announced and only 400 were to be subsequently assigned to the territory, the Micronesians would probably be more disappointed over the loss of the 100 than the gain of the 400. Conversely, if no specific numbers are announced, any volunteer assignments will undoubtedly be greeted with gratitude. We wish to be certain we do not inadvertently oversell the project.

(sgd) John

John A. Carver  
Under Secretary

D 2/11

433395