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OLR (Mr. Schafer)

September 26, 1966

Resources and Civil Works Division
(R.H. Austin)

Proposed Interior letter on possible makeup of a \$32 million authorization for the Trust Territory (H.R. 17505 and S. 3504)

The House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs has reported H.R. 17505 out but has arranged a special hearing before floor action to look further into the makeup of a \$32 million program for 1967.

I have worked with Interior in the preparation of the attached draft. The second paragraph makes it clear that no commitment is made to fund the \$32 million authorization.

Recommend a no objection clearance of the letter to be sent over this afternoon by Interior, if it conforms to the attached draft as corrected.

Attachment

The actual letter has now arrived, changed as we requested. Recommend a NOB clearance. You may want to check this with Mr. Rommel for policy on the endorsement of an authorization which we do not intend to fund completely in 1967. It could cause trouble with the Congress. This kind of a detailed letter is necessary, however, if we are to get any legislation this session increasing the Trust Territory authorization. The original proposal was of course in an executive communication with an in accord clearance. The fiscal situation in the Territory is perilous. The increased authorization is essential.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES