

OCT 20 1966

Hon. William R. Norwood  
High Commissioner of the Trust Territory  
of the Pacific Islands  
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Norwood:

You will have received by now a copy of Judge Furber's letter to me of October 8, mailed from Houston, concerning his Key West visit. I have passed a copy of his letter to the Peace Corps, which tells me that it will look into the matters he discusses.

Prior to his leaving Key West, Judge Furber telephoned me and stated that several of the Trukese were discontent because of the Social Security deductions being made from their pay checks. He asked that we look into the matter. I asked our lawyers here to learn what they could on the subject and they later reported that the Peace Corps was aware of the problem (as evidenced by a legal memorandum which had been prepared at the Peace Corps last August, a copy of which was recently sent to us). The memorandum stated, among other things, that the deductions need not be made if a waiver were obtained from the Secretary of State. Upon learning this, I asked our lawyers to establish whether the Peace Corps was seeking such waiver, and if it was not, I urged them to undertake to do so--this on the theory that we have a responsibility to protect the interests of the Micronesians wherever they may be.

I have recently learned that the Peace Corps is now engaged in seeking the waiver, so nothing further seems required of us. We are grateful to Judge Furber for calling this to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleave

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleave  
Director

cc: Judge Furber (Houston)

VanCleave:emv  
10/20/66