



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

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Dear Mr. Katzenbach:

We appreciate very much your letter of February 17, indicating your agreement that we should resolve as quickly as possible the question of the future political status of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. We are also glad to have your Department's discussion paper on this subject, which we received on March 29.

During the period since we sent to you and to the Bureau of the Budget our proposed legislation to establish a commission to bring together representatives of the Executive Branch, the Congress, and Micronesia, with the specific charge of studying various possible political alternatives, we have continued to give our proposal careful review. Coincidentally, the Bureau of the Budget as a part of the Programming, Planning and Budgeting System, asked us to analyze -- as an "issue paper" -- the alternatives. This has been done and I enclose a copy of that paper for your information.

We are prepared to meet on this subject at your earliest convenience. I shall telephone you in the next day or so to arrange our meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Charles F. Luce

Acting Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Nicholas deB. Katzenbach
Under Secretary
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Enclosure

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HARRY DELASHMUTT, CHIEF
BRANCH OF SECURITY, DOI
SIGNED:

Harry Delashmutt

Per 19.8 or TT

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