

Mr. W. Weiman Cralay, Jr.
Assistant Commissioner, Public Affairs
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

AUG 29 1967

Dear Mr. Cralay:

With respect to your letter of August 7, on the subject of our failures to keep you properly up-to-date on legislative matters, my chief response is: you're right; we try as best we can to do so, but too often fall short of the mark; and we'll try even harder, in light of your letter.

As I am sure you know, your letter is not the first we've had on this subject. I think we have talked with you about the mechanical difficulties, often silly but nonetheless real, which prevent our getting information out as soon as we ought. Additionally, we obviously don't have very many people in this office, and none of us yet has discovered the 25 hour day. I had, however, felt that our legislative-information services had vastly improved in recent months. This judgment I base on the fact that I've signed at least twice the volume of mail on this subject during this Congress as I have in prior ones. But that is not to say that we've sent enough.

Regrettably, I can't give you any assurance of immediate improvement, because recent departures from this office, and the fact that the vacancies are not yet filled and cannot be in the immediate weeks, means that each of us is tripling in brass, so to speak. But I certainly foresee that we will, well before the second session begins, be prepared to do better.

As for your particular problem concerning the Trust Territory Commission matter, the fault is wholly mine alone. I could offer numerous explanations as to my failure to write the several status report letters that I had constantly in mind (such as the fact of George Milner's absence in the Trust Territory for PFB work, my own involvement on this very question for most of the hours of each day, which precluded proper reporting to you, etc.), but none contradicts your point. And I certainly agree that we did not keep you properly advised. I know that my full report of July 27 to Mr. Herwood, with attachments, has reached you, for I've seen allusions to it in memoranda you've recently written. You may not have seen, or if you saw, may not have understood my rather cryptic radio of July 24, stating that the hearing had been postponed to July 26, that our position had been confirmed "at high but not highest levels", and that George

Wilner (who I erroneously thought was still in Saipan at that time) could detail that position to you. This was an odd way of communicating, but because the matter remained wholly classified, I could not be more explicit. I've never tried a really cryptographed radiogram to the Trust Territory, because the few we have received from the territories have taken literally days to unscramble.

In any event, you're right, and we'll embark forthwith on a much needed self-improvement program.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director

VanCleve:ems
8/25/67