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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PLANNING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

DEC 11 1967

Honorable William R. Norwood<sup>x</sup>  
High Commissioner of the Trust  
Territory of the Pacific Islands  
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Dear Commissioner Norwood:

This responds to your request of November 28 for a major disaster declaration under Public Law 81-875 because of typhoon damages in the Trust Territory.

We have given your request careful review and consideration. On the basis of our investigation, I am unable to recommend a Presidential declaration of a major disaster. The damages are not of such severity and magnitude as to warrant a major disaster declaration.

Our information indicates that emergency needs are being met. There has been assistance from the military and the Red Cross with food, clothing and medical supplies. The Department of Agriculture has furnished surplus foods and will continue to do so as long as necessary.

Recovery assistance in this case will have to come from local sources or from funds budgeted for the administration of the Trust Territory. PL 875 is to be invoked only in those disasters where there are unusually heavy damages and costs. It is intended to supplement rather than substitute for other authorities and funds. We believe that PL 875 assistance in this instance would be substitutive in nature.

I regret that I must advise you that I cannot recommend PL 875 assistance in this instance.

Sincerely,

Price Daniel  
Price Daniel  
Director

CONCURRENCE: *[Signature]*

DEC 13 1967

RECEIVED  
DEC 14 1967  
CENTRAL FILES

*Original returned to dir, OEP - 12/14/67.*