



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

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ED  
LA 2

MAR 2 1968

Mr. Aloysius <sup>X</sup> Piniy  
4200 Tresler Ave., Apt. C  
North Highlands, California 95660

Dear Mr. Piniy:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of March 25, 1968.

The Congress of Micronesia did adopt a resolution, as you mentioned, requesting the President to appoint a commission to study the political alternatives which might be available to the people of the Trust Territory. Last August the President submitted such a proposal to the United States Congress, believing that participation by members of the Congress would be useful and helpful. That legislation has not been acted upon, but we are hopeful that it will still receive favorable consideration.

We have also favored granting free entry into the United States to the people of the Trust Territory. This is not directly related to the political status question, but we do agree with you that it would be of great assistance to the Trust Territory people who seek higher education and additional employment opportunities.

We greatly appreciate receiving your letter and having your views on these two important matters.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve  
Director

cc: Chas. Johnson (w/incoming)  
WRNorwood (w/incoming)

Nothing else sent to  
Central Files as of 6/22/68  
LB

Sacramento, California  
March 25, 1968

President L.B. Johnson  
Washington D.C.

5-1  
Dear Mr. President:

I am a citizen of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and a resident of the island of Yap, about 450 miles west of Guam.

Last year the Congress of Micronesia passed a resolution asking the President of the United States to decide their status and give them the privilege of free entry with accompanying rights to work or go to schools without restriction by the Immigration. In reply you said a Presidential Committee would be sent sometime in 1969 to study this matter.

Because of limited economic resources and small income in the Trust Territory, it is almost impossible for one to further his education abroad with scarce income from home. My father is a chief in his municipality, and secretary of the Island Council with a salary of about 40 dollars a month. He has a family of seven. An income like this is enough for living on the islands, but you can not help someone else abroad.

Hence, if free entry privilege is given to Trust Territory citizens, more young people would be able to work in the United States and pay their way through schools. Also they would have the privilege to enter, go to college part time, and be able to work, which, as foreign students, they could not do.

Our government is doing its part in providing scholarships for those who are qualified, but there are still some who could go to schools if opportunity were provided.

I am sure your committee will see that such privilege granted us by the United States is essential for our future. It is obvious now that Trust Territory will not remain in its primitive life as it has been several decades ago. But, of course, if it had not been for your government's help, we would not be developing this way today.

Respectfully yours,

Aloysius Piniy  
4200 Tresler Ave. Apt. C  
North Highlands, California  
95660

copy:  
United Nations