

July 24, 1968

Dr. Robert R. Robbins
Chairman
Department of Political Science
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Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Dear Robby:

You should be among the very first to know that there has recently been born an interdepartmental consultative committee on the Trust Territory. I hope that you will be willing to acknowledge paternity.

George and I are delighted that this has come to pass. It was accomplished bureaucratically by exchanges of letters at the Assistant Secretary level. The basic group consists of representatives from State, Defense, and the National Security Council, with me as Chairman, and with such other agency representatives as may be useful from time to time, depending upon the substance of the matters to be discussed. There is total agreement that paper work will be at a minimum, that we will meet forthwith when anyone has something to discuss (and that this will be at least once monthly), but that we will proceed without benefit of by-laws, guidelines, instructions from above, or any other trappings which might hinder useful conversation.

Our collective thanks to you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director

VanCleve:emw
7/24/68