



HIGH COMMISSIONER
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

December 3, 1968

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The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

In behalf of my staff and the citizens of Micronesia, I thank you for your Christmas letter. Mrs. Norwood and I sincerely hope that you and Mrs. Johnson and all members of your fine family will be blessed with enrichment and renewed strength which all of us can find in the meaning and spirit of Christmas.

I would like to add a personal note at this time to say that I have felt singularly honored and privileged to have served as part of your Administration in this distant area of the Western Pacific. As your Administration draws to a close, you have my continuing gratitude and respect for your leadership of our country during some of the most difficult years in its history.

As a long-time resident of Hawaii, I am aware of your important role in the achievement of statehood for Hawaii and your subsequent participation in establishment of the East West Center. The programs and benefits of the Center are extending valued services and educational training to the people of Micronesia, as well as to the people of our Asian neighbors.

Despite the overshadowing implications of the Viet Nam conflict, I can think of no other Administration that has shown such an awareness of our nation's opportunities and responsibility to the peoples of the Pacific area. I feel fortunate to have had a small part in helping to build your record of service and achievement in this part of the world.

Faithfully yours,

William R. Norwood
High Commissioner