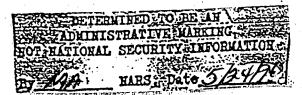
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF TERRITORIES TT - S&E WELFARE 3-2 PEACE CORPS

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ADMINISTRATIVE CONFIDENTIAL - BLUE ENVELOPE

FEB 13 1969

Hon. William R. Norwood High Commissioner Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Mr. Norwood:

I have your letterpf February 6 concerning the Peace Corps. For my own part, I accept your judgment that the Peace Corps presence in Micronesia should be either "terminated or phased out". I should suppose it ought to be the latter, and I am undertaking promptly to discuss the question with Peace Corps Assistant Director Russell Davis.

The matter is not only likely to arise during Appropriation Hearings. It will almost surely be discussed during the House Interior Committee briefing scheduled for March 6, of which we have recently advised you by radiogram, and at which we greatly hope you will be present. We hope, well before that time, to have an opportunity to bring this matter, among many others, to the attention of the Interior Secretarial level, and I would expect we could then obtain high level guidance. In any event, we shall do what we can to advise you on this subject before all of the March hearings.

Sincerely yours, (SEd.) Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve

> Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve Director

CC: Russell Davis

Van Cleve:emw 2/13/69