

Lazarus Salii Chairman

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JUND 0 1370

MICRONESIAN POLITICAL STATUS DELEGATION

Capitol Hill

Saipan

Mariana Islands 96950

June 25, 1970

Honorable Harrison Loesch Office of the Secretary Department of the Interior Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Harrison:

Word has reached us from the Hill that the Senate and House Interior Committees may have been somewhat disturbed over the fact that they were not included in the May talks on Saipan. If there is anything to this, I would appreciate any suggestions from you as to what steps, if any, should be taken to maintain good relations with the Committees and the Congress in general. At the conclusion of the Washington discussions, our Delegation extended an invitation to the entire group on the United States side to come to Saipan. When no representatives of the Committees showed up in Saipan in May, our Delegation assumed that this was entirely on their own volition; we also assumed that the departments and the Committees had an understanding or agreement on this and therefore our Delegation did not raise any questions on it.

As you are aware, our Delegation had been directed to discuss the issues with the United States Congress as well as the Executive Departments. Since arrangements for the talks had been handled through the Department of the Interior, we had assumed that your Department would coordinate matters with all interested parties in the United States Government.

Please let me know what you may have heard on this matter at your end, and give me your thoughts concerning this matter, so that I may be prepared to respond to any questions which might arise from members of the Congress of Micronesic.

With best regards.

cc: Rep. Ekpap Silk Co-chairman Lazarus E. Salii Chairman

Sincerely yours,

63-027433