



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

AS-PM
01

JUL 7 1970

Dear Mr. President:

I extend warm greetings to you today on this, the opening of the Third Regular Session of the Third Congress of Micronesia. This summer could well be called the summer of direction, for at no time in the history of Micronesia has there been a greater opportunity for its citizens to guide the future.

A year ago I announced an action program, designed to increase Micronesian involvement in your own affairs and to accelerate the pace of development in the Trust Territory. Today I call not only for increased involvement on your part but also increased guidance and direction from you in determining the course of the future.

We have made great strides in bringing more Micronesians into high-ranking positions in the government. We have launched a long-needed land survey and registration system. We have greatly accelerated the public works program. Most important, we have worked together to develop these areas. The programs are your programs. The priorities are your priorities. This year the Trust Territory will have the largest budget in its history. The needs of the people of Micronesia are basic to this budget, as expressed by the Congress.

Much work is still to be done. The Congress of Micronesia will increase its vital role in the budgetary process, as well as continue to guide Micronesia toward the best possible resolution of its future political status.

03-027429

This is truly a summer of direction for this Congress, for the time has arrived when the citizens of Micronesia will draw the blueprint and lay the foundation for the decades to come. Your leadership in continuing to build the solid framework of self-government is vital. Your fellow Micronesians look to you and we look to you to lead the way. We all respect the responsibility that is yours. I am confident the Congress has the vision necessary to meet the challenge.

I will appreciate it if you will convey these greetings and comments to your Congressional colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior

Honorable Amata Kabua
President of the Senate
Congress of Micronesia
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

cc:

Sec. File

Sec. RF

AS/PLM

State Dept.

Defense Dept.

FRadewagen:TLWhittington:omm:7/6/70

Identical ltr. to Speaker of the House, Congress of Micronesia

027430