

Micr. Law Coll



Trial Division

Appellate Division

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

January 19, 1971  
Serial: 11

Mr. Larry Johnson  
Director  
Peace Corps/Micronesia  
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I write to confirm my oral request that an additional Peace Corps Volunteer Attorney be assigned to Ponape District. It is my hope that the new man assume those duties presently performed by Fredrick L. Ramp, and that Mr. Ramp be then transferred to the Judiciary, with specific responsibility for carrying on the legal training program that he, together with Phil Evans, Public Defender, has initiated for judicial and court related personnel.

I understand that Mr. Ramp has provided you a general outline of the program. In my view it represents a sound approach to the problem of providing much needed legal training, specifically structured for the Micronesian community. Accordingly, I have assured Mr. Ramp, Mr. Evans and the students now enrolled, of financial support by the Judiciary.

At this time there are no Micronesians engaged in the practice of law, and no member of the Micronesian judiciary, who has had the benefit of formal legal training. Such training as any have received has been haphazard at best, and is ill suited to fit them for the legal complexities of an evolving society.

Eventually, of course, the legal needs of Micronesia will be met by lawyers and judges who are formally trained in the profession, either here or abroad. Hopefully, the school in Ponape will grow into an institution capable of providing just such training.

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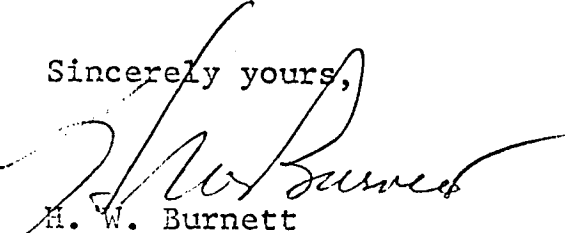
I intend, as soon as a suitable person becomes available, to employ a training supervisor to assist in maintaining a continuing program of legal education. If our school development efforts are successful, the time may come when the judiciary can "retire" from active participation.

Mr. Ramp has done, and is doing, an excellent job. He is handicapped, however, by the other demands on his time, from the District Legislature and the Congress of Micronesia. Assignment of another Volunteer to take over these duties, leaving him free to devote full time to program development and instruction, would give an immeasurable boost to the cause of legal education in Micronesia.

Our need has become even more critical at this time, with the news of the sudden death of Mr. Evans in Ponape this morning.

Any consideration you can give this request will be sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



H. W. Burnett  
Chief Justice

cc: High Commissioner  
Distad Ponape  
Peace Corps, Ponape