

THE ASIA FOUNDATION

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OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT

May 19, 1972

Senator Lazarus Salii  
Chairman, Joint Committee  
on Future Status  
Congress of Micronesia

Dear Lazarus:

I received today a message from John Dorrance conveying your thoughts on the next phase of our negotiations and proposing that we meet in Washington in the last week in June or the first week in July. I know that you need an early answer in order to make necessary arrangements on your end.

The dates you suggest frankly pose a number of problems for us involving as they do the availability of key members of my delegation both immediately before and during the period you are suggesting. I believe I had mentioned to you that any time after mid-July would be preferable from our point of view. This is still our position but with the scheduling of the Special Session of your Congress for August 16, I can understand your desire to move our next meeting dates as far forward as possible.

One possibility would be to meet between the dates of July 17 and July 29 for two solid weeks of negotiations and sub-negotiations. This would then give you approximately 2 ½ weeks before the convening of your Special Session.

Another possibility would be to move the opening date of the talks to Wednesday, July 12. While this would press me somewhat because of a prior commitment to be in San Francisco on July 7, 8, 9 and 10, I could get to Washington on the evening of the 11th in time to open the talks on the morning of the 12th. This alternative would give us 5 more days for the talks, or if they could be concluded in a two-week period, five more days between the conclusion of the Washington meeting and the convening of your Congress.

It might also be possible, if the talks were to open on the 12th or the 17th, for your delegation to arrive in Washington several days in advance for the purpose of holding your

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Senator Lazarus Salii

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own meetings as well as for informal preliminary consultations with members of my team. Perhaps in this manner we could expedite the business at hand once the formal sessions begin. If you have any ideas how this might be accomplished, I would be glad to hear from you.

Also, after we have settled on the dates, I believe it would be desirable for us to consider how we wish to structure the meeting itself. I would be interested in your suggestions as to how we can best organize the agenda in order to make maximum use of the time that will be available to us. I will be giving additional thought to this question while looking forward to your views on the matter.

I hope that your trip to New Guinea and your stopovers enroute and on your return went well. Bill Crowe and I certainly enjoyed our visits to the Districts after leaving Saipan. They were too rushed but we were glad that we had the opportunity and we were most appreciative of the many courtesies we received along the way.

Please give my best wishes to Tina and the children, and I look forward to your early reply to the two alternatives I have suggested. Once again, our thanks for the wonderful hospitality which you and the Joint Committee showed us all during the Koror talks.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



Hayden Williams

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