

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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Old Exec. Office Bldg.
Room 361
Washington, D.C.

16 November 1972

The Honorable Lazarus Salii
Chairman, Joint Committee
on Future Status
Congress of Micronesia
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Lazarus,

I want to take advantage of Mary Vance Trent's return to Saipan to extend congratulations to you again on your reelection to the Senate. Certainly your election is a victory for Micronesia and an endorsement of your chairmanship of the Joint Future Status Committee. I am sure that Tina and the girls were almost as pleased as we were.

In addition, as a follow on to our telephone conversations and your cables, I would like to profit from Mary's trip to elaborate a bit more on the land survey, on the assumption that it will still take place in the near future. We are prepared to move very quickly if you believe that it should take place before any further meetings of our two panels.

It is my intention for Bill Crowe to head the group. The following is its tentative composition (there may be some additions or deletions at the last minute):

Captain W. J. Crowe, Jr., USN	OMSN
Mr. Adrian de Graffenried	OMSN Adviser
Professor Felix Moos	OMSN Adviser
Captain G. M. Schuller, USN	Department of Defense (ISA)
Mr. Roy Markon	Department of Defense (Real Estate Adviser)
Two land engineers and necessary assistants	Department of Defense (Technical Advisers)

The survey group would be prepared to take up its work immediately upon arrival. To begin with, perhaps a few words are in order as to how I see the work of this group progressing. As you no doubt realize, the Department of Defense has certain

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criteria for selecting base land on which it would like options and we have tentatively identified some areas on Babelthuap as those most likely to meet these needs. However, there has been no real opportunity for defense personnel to look at the land and to sit down and talk with Palauan leaders or landholders. The U.S. survey group will want to visit the sites and, if possible, to do so in company with the local leaders and discuss possible boundaries and problems. We are sincerely interested in Palauan views and inputs and hope to take local desires into account in our planning. In essence, we are asking for local advice and help in settling on specific sites.

At the same time, I would anticipate that Bill Crowe and the members of his team can answer many of the questions which you and others may have regarding our land needs. It seems to me that it is in both of our interests to dispel any misunderstandings that may have arisen and I hope that our survey group can help in that regard. Perhaps you can assist in arranging meetings with interested individuals and groups.

If we decide to go ahead, Adrian de Graffenried would probably arrive a few days earlier in order to make preliminary arrangements for the U.S. team. It is my strong hope that you and Roman Tmetuchl will be in Palau during the stay of the survey group. I sincerely believe that you can facilitate its work and also make some important inputs into the deliberations of the group.

In any event I believe we will be well advised to move ahead on firming up our land needs and that this will be a positive step toward achieving our mutual objectives. I would be very grateful if you would help keep me abreast of your thinking and plans in this regard. Please feel free to contact me by cable or phone. I shall be back in San Francisco Saturday, here in Washington Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Please give my best to your family.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,

Franklin Haydn Williams
The President's Personal Representative
for Micronesian Status Negotiations

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