

THE ASIA FOUNDATION

550 KEARNY STREET

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT

December 1, 1972

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

Dear Lazarus:

I have just learned through an MNS release that your trip to Palau was called off and that under all of the prevailing circumstances there you have concluded as I have that our earlier tentative plans for a mid-December Seventh Round meeting are no longer feasible.

Given your understandable desire to move ahead with the task of completing the joint draft compact, I regret that a combination of time considerations, election results there, and other developments preclude our proceeding along the lines of your suggestions in your November 15 letter. I share your disappointment but even with the best of will in the world, I do not see how we could have overcome the practical obstacles and the unexpected difficulties and complications which you have discussed with me and which you referred to in your statement to the MNS.

However, I do look forward to meeting with you and discussing the next phase of our negotiations. I hope that the recount of the votes in the Marshalls will soon be known and if Ekpap's reelection is confirmed that it will be possible for him to join us for our December meeting. I would appreciate hearing whether Guam would be a convenient place to meet and whether we could agree on December 11th.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Haydn Williams
Personal Representative of the President
for Micronesian Status Negotiations

cc: OSN

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