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August 27, 1973

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Mr. Edward DLG. Pangelinan, Chairman
Marianas Political Status Commission
P.O. Box 825
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Ed:

I attended the first meetings last week of the two working groups referred to in the Joint Communique. Enclosed are copies of my letter to Mr. Chapman regarding the Committee on Legal/Political Issues, an accompanying memorandum regarding the same meeting, and a memorandum regarding the meeting of the Joint Working Group on Economics and Finance.

I will review these materials with Jim White when he comes to Washington later this week and we shall keep you posted regarding subsequent meetings of these working groups. I hope to hear from Jim Wilson either this week or next regarding the current thinking of the U.S. Delegation regarding the date for our next session of negotiations. Based upon some comments of Mr. Silver at our meeting last week, it appears as though the negotiations will not be resumed until late October or November. As you know from my earlier letters, I believe that this additional time is required to prepare adequately for the negotiations.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Howard P. Willens

cc: Mr. J. White

Enclosures

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