

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

CABLE ADDRESS HICOTT SAIPAN

September 11, 1973

Mr. Barry Carter Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering Farragut Building 900 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Carter:

Thank you for your letter of August 31 expressing an interest in the Micronesian News Service. MNS, as its name implies, is a service to other media, rather than to individuals. As a general rule we do not supply the service except to newspapers, radio and television stations, magazines and other forms of communication which might be able to further disseminate the stories we carry. The service is also supplied to certain U.S. Government agencies.

We have, however, made an exception to this general rule when it comes to consultants to the Congress of Micronesia's Joint Committee on Future Status, and are willing to do the same for Mr. Willens as an official consultant to the Marianas Political Status Commission. Accordingly, I will place your firm on the list to receive MNS dispatches, by air mail, beginning with the Monday, September 10 release. You should receive these within four to five days of their release date. There is no charge for this service, which will continue so long as Mr. Willens remains a consultant to the commission.

You might be able to receive the dispatches more quickly, however, by contacting the office of Ambassador Haydn Williams in San Francisco. As a U.S. Government official concerned with Micronesia the Ambassador receives MNS on an overnight basis by wire through a military installation in San Francisco. Perhaps an arrangement could be made whereby a copy of this dispatch could be made available to your office. Should such an arrangement prove feasible please let me know.

For your information, the Micronesian News Service releases a single dispatch five days a week, holidays excepted. An average of five to six stories is carried each day, with the primary outlet being the six, government-operated radio stations in the Trust Territory, one in each district. Through an arrangement with the Congress of Micronesia all official news releases of the Congress are also carried in full by MNS.

If this office can be of any further assistance to you, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Jon A. Anderson

Bureau Chief

Micronesian News Service