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Public Affairs - Mr. Yoma

September 12, 1973

Status LNO - Mary Vance Trent

Attached Letter from Mrs. Antelise Porter of Ponape

REF: Your Memo of August 15

In answer to your request for suggestions in handling the letter from Mrs. Porter to the High Commissioner, I suggest it could be pointed out to her that steps are proceeding as quickly as possible for the payment of war claims and that there is no actual relationship between the Japanese gathering of war remains in Micronesia and the payment of these claims. In other words delaying the Japanese digging for bones until all claims are paid would not speed up the payment of claims (which is presumably Mrs. Porter's quite natural desires) and would interrupt what has been viewed as a humanitarian operation set up by due procedure between the Japanese and the U. S. Government.

Enclosure:

03-035869