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November 7, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR MESSRS. HELFER, LAPIN AND MODE

Subject: U.S. Policy on Public Lands

I would like to sit down with the three of you either late this week or early next week to discuss the U.S. position on public lands. Specifically, I am interested in the following:

- (1) We will need a draft position paper for the client to consider on this subject. Presumably such a position paper would raise questions regarding any ambiguities in this policy statement and reflect the tentative position of the client regarding the receipt and administration of the public lands under the U.S. approach.
- (2) Based upon my initial reading, it looks as though a substantial amount of work may need to be done to enable the Marianas District Legislature to pass the necessary laws to enable the lands to be returned promptly. Is it realistic to think of this work being accomplished in time for the February session of the District Legislature?
- (3) To the extent possible, I would like our proposal for a public corporation tied into this recent statement of U.S. policy. Will the public corporation as we envision it have the capability to implement the various limitations and safeguards set forth in the U.S. statement of policy?

HPW

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