The Washington Post

ASAHI BUILDING 6-7 GINZA 6-CHOME CHUO-KU, TOKYO, JAPAN TELEPHONE: 573-2838/9

DON OBERDORFER NORTHEAST ASIA BUREAU

Nov. 12, 1973

Dear Howard:

I am giving some thought to going to Micronesia again sometime some soon—perhaps tied in with the marianas some status conference which is to begin on Dec. 6. I'd like to know you advance guess on a couple things—l. how long do you think this will last, two or three days, a week or what? 2. will anything specific come out of this round, or only a "to be continued" sort of thing? This is not for publication but my planning.

I presume you're coming out. Are you bringing Susan and planning to try to me get to Tokyo again???

All the best,

Mr. Howard Willens

November 20, 1973

Mr. Don Oberdorfer
The Washington Post
Asahi Building
6-7 Ginza 6 Chome
Chuo-Ku
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Don:

In answer to your questions, I expect that the Marianas status negotiations will last for approxmately two weeks, they had better not extend further because I have return reservations on December 20.

Second, I expect that many specific agreements will emerge from the session but I am not sure whether such agreements will be arrived at in the areas which might be of the greatest interest to the public, namely, the extent and terms on which land is made available to the United States for military purposes on Tinian. There is considerable pressure on both deflections, however, to keep these negotiations moving and it is possible, therefore, that my client may have to bitetthis particular bullet earlier than might be his preference.

I will be traveling alone this time since Susan is busy at American University and at home. Although you are not quite an appropriate substitute, I look forward to seeing you in Saipan in any event.

Very sincerely,