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August 15, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR MSH

RE: Marianas Political Status Commission

Just a brief note to memorialize our discussion of the possibility of seeking foundation funds for various purposes beneficial to the people of the Mariana Islands. As you will recall, we discussed the possibility of interesting an agricultural and fisheries expert team as a possible first program.

I've thought a little more about the idea, and think it would be useful to have certain preliminary meetings with foundation officials (e.g., Ford, Rockefeller) this fall to try to elicit some interest for a multi-foundation master program covering a number of major projects. I would be happy to work on such a proposal when I return from vacation and I do have a good friend who is of some influence in the Ford Foundation superstructure.

EO'H

01-10271

February 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

File  
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Subject: Ford Foundation

I spoke with Mr. Kelly on Monday, February 4, and learned the following:

- (1) He has a new position in charge of program-related investments and no longer is in the National Affairs Division.
- (2) He has circulated our materials generally throughout the Foundation and sadly reports nothing but negative responses. He reports that the Marianas project does raise jurisdictional problems within the Foundation, falling as it does somewhere between the National and International spheres of responsibility. He states that the International Division has no interest in the Marianas and they are making an effort currently to confine their programs to geographical areas in which they have a particular interest.

Mr. Kelly reports that the National Affairs Division refuses to consider any program which opens up the possibility that a new minority of Americans will have to be given special attention by the Foundation; in other words, they do not want to set any precedent which might give rise to requests from American-Chinese, Hawaiians or other groups for special treatment. Mr. Kelly also reports that the National Affairs people were not interested in the Marianas because of their current stage of economic development and the opportunities for a creative planning effort.

- (3) Mr. Kelly seemed honestly discouraged by the reactions which he had obtained from his colleagues but did not hold out any hope of getting the matter reexamined within the Foundation. He encouraged me to drop by and discuss the possibility of a program-related investment in the Marianas but seemed to feel that some of the same problems would undoubtedly be encountered in trying to promote even this kind of Foundation effort in the Marianas.

HPW

cc: Mr. Leonard  
Mr. Helfer

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