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CHAIRMAN

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 12, 1974

FILE 30

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Honorable James R. Schlesinger  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Currently, the United States is engaged in political status talks with representatives of the Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, while simultaneously negotiating for the use of lands for military purposes on the Island of Tinian, Marianas.

The aim of the American negotiators is to acquire adequate lands for military bases. They have stated that Micronesians must agree to the taking of nearly 2/3 of Tinian, as a price for Commonwealth status with the United States. The people of Tinian believe that no more than 1/3 of their island should be taken for military purposes and that they should decide which lands may be used for military purposes. They also believe they should receive direct compensation in the form of rental over a fixed period of time. The enclosed letter from the Honorable Felipe C. Mendiola, Mayor of Tinian, and "Tinian Proclamation" dated August 19, 1974, attest to this feeling among the people involved.

I request that as one with an interest in these negotiations that you accept the principles set forth in the Tinian Proclamation. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

PATSY T. MINK  
Member of Congress

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Enclosure

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