

*File Marianas
Joint Drafting
Committee*

September 13, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE MARIANAS POLITICAL
STATUS COMMISSION FILE

Subject: Conversation with Herman Marcuse

Herman called me today to ask when we could get together concerning the remaining undrafted portions of the Status Agreement, Titles I, VIII, IX, and X. He told me that there was going to be a meeting this afternoon at OMSN to discuss the titles which had already been drafted, and which I had sent him last week. But he seemed anxious to work on the other titles. I told him that with respect to Titles IX (consultation) and X (Washington representative), I did not think we had sufficient guidance to do any drafting. Title VIII (land) ought to await resolution of certain issues by the land negotiating committee, I said. Herman focused particularly on Title I (political relationship), and asked why we couldn't go over it. I told him it raised some serious issues and that I thought a discussion at the Joint Drafting Committee would be appropriate before we did further drafting. In short, I took a hard line. I did say that I was available to meet at any time to go over technical problems with Titles II, III, IV, V, VI, VII and XI. Herman said he would call me first thing Monday morning on that.

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Herman mentioned in passing that members of the U.S. delegation had appeared before Senator Jackson's Committee yesterday and that the focus of attention had been Micronesia, not the Marianas. This confirms what Jim Bierne told me yesterday, namely, that the main concern the Committee had was the possibility of unilateral termination of the Compact of Free Association by the remainder of Micronesia.


Michael S. Helfer

cc: H. P. Willens ✓