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January 16, 1974

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Mr. Howard P. Willens
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
Farragut Building
900 - 17th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

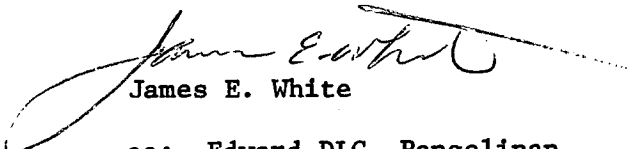
Dear Howard:

I have worked on this document through several of the negotiations; however, the Trust Territory started getting very closed mouthed on the subject about a week ago, indicating that further discussions were to be of an in-house nature. Consequently, I was not privy to the last several meetings between the Attorney General's office and Emmett Rice. They were not going to release this final draft to me until I made indications of the non-cooperative spirit between the Trust Territory and the Marianas delegation. This somehow broke the "log jam" and here is the result.

There appears to be a decided attempt on the part of the Trust Territory Government to maintain as much centralized control as possible, and consequently they are not desirous of placing within this legislation any necessary amendments to any code sections that would tend to reduce the power of the Trust Territory. My suggestion was a companion bill making the amendments necessary for all the other code sections, but I did not press the issue as I knew you would be going over this legislation and could in all probability have a much more cooperative spirit with Jim Berg and Adrian.

Additionally, I understand that Chapman will be working on this from Interior. Good luck! I would like to get your inputs as soon as possible as I have a good rapport with Kaleb, and possibly we could make necessary amendments if you are unsuccessful in getting this draft amplified or changed where necessary.

Sincerely,


James E. White

cc: Edward DLG. Pangelinan

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