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October 22, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD P. WILLENS

On October 21 I saw Assistant Secretary of Defense Robert Ellsworth about the Marianas question. With him were Rear Admiral Thomas Bigley and Captain Edward Whelan. Ellsworth said that in the DOD his office followed this negotiation as well as Deputy Secretary Clements. He said that he was glad to have my views but made no further comment.

I also saw Acting Legal Advisor George Aldrich in the State Department. He seemed to have a better awareness of what the problem for the government was saying that the U.S. was going to have enough difficulty in this matter in the UN without having any appearance of having been unfair in the matter of compensation for property retained. He said that he would be back in contact with me after having had a chance to study the matter.



Gerard E. Smith

cc: Michael Helfer

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