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Saipon, Mariana Islands

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November 1, 1974

Captain Richard Y. Scott, USN  
Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations  
Room 3356  
Department of Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dick:

Reference is made to the reporting cable on the Williams-Pangelinan conversation in Honolulu October 26 and 27, CINCPAC 282202Z of October 1974.

Paragraph 5 of that report refers inter alia to Pangelinan's and Santos' being "informed of DepHiCom August letter to DistAd offering funds" to assist in moving forward the Tinian homestead program. The only communication with which I am familiar which appears to meet this definition is an August 30 instruction from Peter Coleman to Frank Ada providing for earmarking of certain funds already made available for the identification and mapping of TI public lands for surveying agricultural homesteads of the Mariana Islands, if requested. Is this the "offer of funds" referred to in CINCPAC 282202Z? I believe I sent you a copy of Coleman's letter under cover of a DS-4 (transmittal slip) on August 30; an additional copy is enclosed. I just wanted to make sure that this is the offer to which reference was made in the Honolulu talks.

Maynard Neas told me this morning that Asia Mapping Service has now plotted the southern boundary of the area on Tinian which the U.S. wishes to obtain. This boundary is now being transposed to a map of the whole island by the Marianas District land office. When that map is ready, Maynard plans to ask OMSN, or me on OMSN's behalf, to certify that the map correctly delineates the area of U.S. military requirements. I assume Emmett Rice is familiar with this process; in any case I won't proceed without further consultation with you.

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ON JUL 10 1985 UNDER PRO-  
VISIONS OF E.O. 12356 BY  
XNCS D.R. DOLAN, USN  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OMSN

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Although I have not seen Eddie since his return, Jim White described his reaction to the Honolulu talks as "buoyant." Jim said the Marianas counter-offer (para 7 of the reporting table), which he said should more accurately be described as an "offer," will probably not be ready until just prior to the December meeting. (Jim was not aware of the proposal for a November 18 meeting.) The offer, which I gather is being prepared by the MFSC's Washington consultant(s) but will no doubt have to be reviewed by the full MFSC, will be for a long-term lease for a certain number of dollars; Jim implied that the figure will be in the neighborhood of the figure their delegation cited as the fair market value. All this is fyi; I assume this problem was discussed at Honolulu and more precisely defined. It seems to me that on these two issues, mode of acquisition and price, we remain far apart. No doubt the principal negotiators have some ideas about solutions, but I don't have an inkling what these might comprise.

On the Marianas version of the last Joint Land Committee report, Jim told me Pete and Joe had not and at least tentatively favored Jim's original draft as initially revised by our people. They plan to write to the Ambassador or Jim Wilson about this but not, I gather, until after the election.

All the best.

Sincerely,

Alf E. Bergesen  
Status Liaison Officer

Enclosure:

DepHiCom-DistAd Aug. 30, 1974

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District Administrator, Mariana Islands

Deputy High Commissioner

Surveying Agricultural Homesteads

A conference between your District Land Management Officer, Mr. Ellis Young, and officials of Lands and Surveys Division, on August 29, 1974, resulted in Lands and Surveys agreeing that funds available for the identification and mapping of public lands of the Trust Territory may be utilized to survey agricultural homesteads of the Mariana Islands District if requested by your office.

It will be necessary for you and your staff to work up an outline of the work you want accomplished, together with priorities. Lands and Surveys can survey and map the perimeters of areas designated for village lots and homesteads but do not feel they can do the subdivision of the area because of the necessity of determining roads, power and water lines and other public use lands.

Please call on the Chief of Lands and Surveys for further information on this program. We believe some surveying assistance on agricultural homesteads, may be provided within two weeks.

Peter T. Coleman

cc: District Land Management Officer, Marianas

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