

File 16D 01/2

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November 4, 1974

Dear Jack:

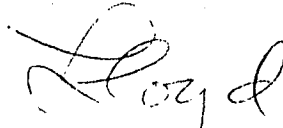
Enclosed is the letter and memorandum I mentioned to you Saturday concerning the unwillingness of the United States Government to pay just compensation for the 18,000 acres of land that will be reserved for U. S. military use under the Draft Status Agreement between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States.

As you will see, the claim is based on an agreement the United States made with itself during the trusteeship period, which the United States now construes as granting it perpetual use of the land for a payment of \$40 per acre, approximately 2% of its present fair value.

We think that this position violates both the terms of the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement and the basic fiduciary duties of the Trustee, and that it is not even required by a fair reading of the agreements the United States made with itself as Trustee in 1956. We believe it would be appropriate for the

matter to be studied and fully ventilated by the Subcommittee on Territorial and Insular Affairs. Should you agree, we would be most grateful if you could call the matter to Chairman Burton's attention.

Sincerely,



Lloyd N. Cutler

Congressman Jonathan B. Bingham
Suite 133
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Enclosures