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L.A.

November 8, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD WILLENS

Subject: Marianas Disasters

1. Adrian informs me that Eddy's challenge to Pete's election will be fought out in the Congress of Micronesia when it reassembles. If the Congress finds that the election should be voided, it will declare the seat vacant and call a special election. Until that election is held, a Senator will be appointed by the High Commissioner or the District Administrator (Adrian was not sure which).

2. ABC news last night ran a year-old tape of Tinian opposition to U.S. military plans. The tape emphasized the disruption which would be caused by the moving of the village. In what may be a related item, the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post carried brief news stories today concerning Tinian's petition to the United Nations to stop the United States from taking more than one-third of the island. (I speculate that that petition may have been drafted by Micronesian Legal Services in conjunction with its new representation of the Tinian Council.)

3. Demonstrating its usual abundant optimism, the United States delegation is planning to leave here Friday, the 29th, and arrive on Saipan on December 2. I pointed out to Adrian that this means that the negotiations could probably not start in earnest until the next day. He made no response.

4. Jim Leonard continues to be apoplectic: he is concerned now not only about the future of the negotiations, but also the \$45,000 he is out to Seldin and others. He requests an audience with you, hopefully today. I suggest that we call Jim White this afternoon at 5:30 our time, and invite Leonard here (he has said he is willing to come to our offices for this purpose). The call to White ought to provide us with information about the political situation, and we can touch on the status of a counter-offer.

5. The next meeting of the Joint Drafting Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, at 2:00 p.m. in Wilson's office.

Michael S. Helfer

If this is
OK please
call me
MSH