

February 27, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE MARIANAS CONGRESSIONAL
RELATIONS FILE

Subject: Meeting (?) with Congressman Lujan

Although I had an appointment scheduled, I was unable to do more than shake hands with Congressman Lujan today. He had two committee meetings scheduled for the morning, followed by a luncheon appointment and after I waited for approximately 45 minutes, I decided that the most useful thing to do would be to discuss the Marianas situation briefly with his Aide, Mr. Jack Crandall. Mr. Crandall and I had a very amicable conversation of approximately 30 minutes, most of which consisted of Mr. Crandall revealing his antipathy to Federal bureaucrats, his cynicism about the Congress, and his skepticism that anyone in Congress would seriously focus on the problems of the Marianas status negotiations unless they were physically transported to Saipan. Among other suggestions, he indicated that a trip sponsored by the Commission to the Marianas of all the administrative assistants to all the Members of Congress would probably be a most useful step we could take for our client toward the successful conclusion of the Status Agreement currently being negotiated.

In addition to acquiescing generally to Mr. Crandall's idiosyncrasies, I learned of the following regarding Congressman Lujan and his possible reactions to any Status Agreement which emerged from our negotiations:

1. Congressman Lujan feels that the first job of government is "protection," which I gather means that he is generally in support of providing the necessary funds for our national security. At the same time, however, he (or at least Mr. Crandall) is skeptical of the Pentagon and have had numerous instances where they have been unable to secure assistance from the Department of Defense. In spite of his Republican Party label and his predisposition, therefore, Mr. Crandall assured me that Congressman Lujan (and other Republican members of the Subcommittee) would not be ready to embrace enthusiastically our Status Agreement because of the military's desire to have a substantial base on Tinian.
2. According to Mr. Crandall, Congressman Lujan is a reasonably reflective person who will try to look at the Status Agreement on its merits. I raised with Mr. Crandall the prospect that certain aspects of the proposed relationship might be superior to those presently in effect in Guam or the Virgin Islands, but he opined that Congressman Lujan would not be too disturbed by this

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if the provisions could be defended on their merits. He gave me a few examples where the Congressman had revealed a readiness to look at new solutions to old problems.

3. According to Mr. Crandall, Congressman Lujan would be generally disposed in favor of a coherent planning program and has taken a particular interest in the Land Use Bill currently before Congress.
4. Congressman Lujan can be expected to be reasonably sympathetic to the desires of the Marianas people to become part of the United States. According to his Aide, the Congressman is not a patronizing man and will understand that both parties to the negotiations are trying to arrive at the most satisfactory agreement in light of their own interests. I assured Mr. Crandall that all we wanted from the Members of Congress was an open mind and an opportunity to defend the provisions of the Status Agreement on their merit.
5. Mr. Crandall was very discouraging with respect to our ability to secure even a few moments of serious attention from Members of Congress on this subject until the matter is actually before them for approval and the 1974 elections have been held. Mr. Crandall reported that Congressman Lujan and he spent about 10% of their time on legislative matters, as distinguished from campaigning for re-election, and that he could not remember any instance during their five years in Congress where they considered any legislative problems relating to the territories.
6. Mr. Crandall mentioned that the membership of the Subcommittee was constantly fluctuating. This was another reason why he suggested that some of our educational efforts on the Hill might be, if not premature, not as productive as we might hope.

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