

OFFICE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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March 14, 1974

To: Ambassador F. Haydn Williams, The President's Personal Representative  
for Micronesian Status Negotiations

Thru: Captain Richard Y. Scott, Director, Office for Micronesian Status  
Negotiations

From: Barry Ballow, Public Affairs Advisor

Subj: Press Contacts in Honolulu

Your upcoming visit to Honolulu will no doubt be of interest to the Hawaiian press, most particularly to John Griffin, of the Honolulu Advertiser. Griffin has been following the progress of the status talks for some time and has produced about the only editorial commentary on the subject. His articles have generally been objective and have often given sympathetic treatment to our side of the story.

Griffin has asked to see you anytime you are in Honolulu - your time and schedule permitting - and will most likely be anxious to talk to you during next week's visit. Assuming this interest, I would like to recommend that you agree to meet with Griffin and give him a rundown on the current status of our negotiations with the JCFS and MPSC at the end of your sessions with Pangelinan. Such a meeting could go a long way toward reinforcing the positive relationship that we have had with Griffin and the Advertiser.

If you accept this recommendation, I would like to contact Griffin before you leave and advise him of your availability for an interview and confirm his interest. I think it would also be a good idea to let Bud Smyser, Editor of the Star-Bulletin know of your plans, although his interest in Micronesia doesn't appear as strong as Griffin's, his paper has also run some good editorial pieces (see attached).

Looking ahead a little, if the anticipated interview produces a good editorial, we could try getting a friendly member of Congress to insert it in the Congressional Record.

ATTACHMENT: Star-Bulletin Editorial

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