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November 3, 1975

The Honorable Franklin Haydn Williams
Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations
Department of the Interior
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Room 3356
Washington, D. C. 20240

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Dear Ambassador Williams:

In reviewing our files recently, I noted that we had received no response from you to our previous communications. I am sure you agree that it would be valuable to keep a dialogue going, and we would, therefore, welcome your thoughts on the matters raised therein.

We had suggested that there were several particular matters which obviated the need for further discussions between us. With the passage of recent months, a fresh look seems in order, as much progress has been made toward the resolution of these matters. The results of the referendum, of course, are complete and have been analyzed by the Joint Committee. The Constitutional Convention will shortly have completed its work, and its impact on the future of the negotiations can be assessed. The situation with regard to the separation of the Marianas is nearing resolution as well. The roadblock to UNDP preparation of the comprehensive economic development plan has likewise been removed. Too, we sense a growing impatience on the part of the Congress and the people because of the lack of progress over the past year.

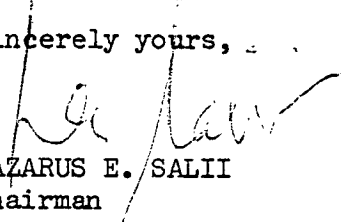
In light of these matters, I believe that the time is ripe to reevaluate our future course in the negotiations. We, therefore, suggest that informal discussions between the Heads of Delegations be held, and believe that Honolulu in December would be optimal from our standpoint. We would not intend to go into great detail on the specifics of the Compact, but would see considerable value in exploring the above considerations, as well as the possibilities of breaking our deadlock on Title IV.

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If this is agreeable to you, please contact me as soon as possible. We can work out the finer details at a later date, but we do look forward to hearing from you at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,


LAZARUS E. SALII
Chairman

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