

*pls Mariana*

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

1666 K STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

CABLE ADDRESS: WICRING WASH., D. C.

INTERNATIONAL TELEX: 440-239

TELEX: 89-2402

TELEPHONE 202 872-6000

EUROPEAN OFFICE

5, CHEAPSIDE

LONDON, EC2V 6AA, ENGLAND

TELEPHONE 01-236-2401

TELEX: 851 883242

CABLE ADDRESS: WICRING LONDON

RICHARD A. ALLEN  
PETER D. BEWLEY  
STEWART A. BLOCP  
LACKLAND H. BLOOM, JR  
MICHAEL L. BURACK  
RICHARD W. CASS  
WILHELMINA REUBEN COOKE  
MICHELE B. CORASH  
MARY CAROLYN COX  
PATRICIA D. DOUGLASS  
S. ALLEN EARLY, III  
JAMES R. FARRAND  
NANCY C. GARRISON  
NEAL M. GOLDBERG  
CORNELIUS J. GOLDEN, JR.  
FRANCES M. GREEN  
ROBERT C. HACKER  
EDWARD T. HAND  
ALLEN H. HARRISON, JR  
JOHN H. HARWOOD II  
MICHAEL S. HELFER  
A. STEPHEN HUT, JR.  
C. LORING JETTON, JR.  
DAVID R. JOHNSON

NEIL J. KING  
WILLIAM J. KOLASAKY, JR.  
WILLIAM T. LAKE  
ELWYN C. LEE  
CARY B. LERMAN  
ROBERT B. MCCAW  
MARY A. McREYNOLDS  
A. DOUGLAS MELAMED  
LOWELL B. MILLER  
ROBERT R. MORRIS  
WILLIAM J. PERLSTEIN  
PHILLIP L. RADOFF  
RENÉ TOWNSEND ROBINSON  
JOHN ROUNSAVILLE, JR.  
MICHAEL S. SCHOOLER  
GAIL F. SCHULZ  
KAREN KOSER SCHWARTZ  
THEODORE S. SIMS  
DOUGLAS G. THOMPSON, JR.  
JAY P. URWITZ  
CAROL DRESCHER WEISMAN  
ALAN S. WEITZ  
ROBERT G. WILSON  
WALTER T. WINSLOW, JR.  
ROGER M. WITTEN

RICHARD H. WILMER (1892-1976)

LLOYD N. CUTLER  
JOHN H. PICKERING  
MANUEL F. COHEN  
HUGH R. H. SMITH  
LOUIS F. OBERDORFER  
J. ROGER WOLLENBERG  
CHARLES C. GLOVER, III  
MARSHALL HORNBLOWER  
HENRY T. RATHBUN  
REUBEN CLARK  
SAMUEL J. LANAHAN  
WILLIAM R. PERLIK  
SAMUEL A. STERN  
ARNOLD M. LERMAN  
ROBERT P. STRANAHAN, JR.  
MAX O. TRUITT, JR.  
JOEL ROSENBLUM  
HOWARD P. WILLENS  
ANDREW T. A. MACDONALD  
ROBERT A. HAMMOND, III  
DANIEL K. MATERS  
TIMOTHY B. DYK

DAVID R. ANDERSON  
J. RODERICK HELLER, III  
ARTHUR F. MATHEWS  
JAMES S. CAMPBELL  
DENNIS M. FLANNERY  
DANIEL MARCUS  
JAMES ROBERTSON  
RAYMOND C. CLEVINGER, III  
LOUIS R. COHEN  
MICHAEL R. KLEIN  
STEPHEN A. WEISSWASSER  
TIMOTHY N. BLACK  
SALLY KATZEN  
F. DAVID LAKE, JR.  
PAUL J. MODE, JR.  
STEPHEN F. BLACK  
C. BOYDEN GRAY  
RONALD J. GREENE  
JAY F. LAPIN  
DEANNE C. SIEMER  
GARY D. WILSON

EZEKIEL G. STODDARD  
GERARD C. SMITH  
COUNSEL

December 27, 1976

*01/7*

Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio, Director  
Office of Transition Studies  
and Planning  
P. O. Box 42  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Pete:

I understand that you and Steve are aware of the allegations that agencies of the United States Government engaged in wiretapping or electronic surveillance of some aspects of the status negotiations between representatives of the United States and Micronesia. I am enclosing for your information a recent newspaper article indicating that the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence plans to hold hearings on this subject in early January.

Since the first disclosure, I have been attempting to ascertain whether any such wiretapping or surveillance relates to the negotiations between the Marianas Political Status Commission and the United States delegation headed by F. Haydn Williams. Needless to say, my efforts so far have been to no avail and we are giving consideration within the law firm to the filing of a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Jim Leonard and several of my partners feel very strongly that such a request should be filed. Any views you have on this subject would be most appreciated.

Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio  
December 27, 1976  
Page Two

I have now had two conversations with Haydn Williams on this subject, the most recent being in person last week. Haydn reports that he is in communication with the National Security Council on this subject and that he may be asked to testify on the subject during the January hearings. He is very upset about the allegations and the way in which his statements on the subject were "distorted" by the author of the initial Washington Post story. He has repeatedly assured me of the following two facts:

(1) At no time was he aware of any wiretapping or surveillance by United States agencies of any deliberations among representatives of Micronesia or the Marianas; and

(2) At no time did he acquire any confidential information regarding the internal discussions of the Marianas Political Status Commission.

He has made the same representation to Eddie and I told him that I would communicate his statements on this subject to you. He is concerned, as indeed I am, by the possibility that the agreement between the Northern Marianas and the United States will be contaminated by the suggestion that there was "overreaching" by the United States which resulted in less than a fair bargain between the two parties. He believes, of course, that the negotiations were fair and the end result can be supported by both parties as in their mutual interests.

I have no present suggestion as to what use, if any, to make of these assertions by Haydn Williams. I expect that it would be desirable to keep quiet generally on this subject until the conclusion of the Senate hearings. It may be possible to discover through these hearings whether any improper surveillance did occur which impacted the Marianas negotiations. We will be covering these hearings and will let you know what develops.

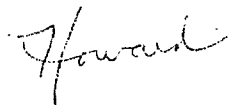
For this reason and my natural curiosity, we are obviously anxious to hear anything you can tell us regarding the fate of the Constitution. We would like to be kept

Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio  
December 27, 1976  
Page Three

informed of any legislative or other steps which have been taken to undertake the necessary political education program.

Belated holiday greetings to you, Steve, and your respective families from all of your friends here at the firm.

Sincerely,



Howard P. Willens

Enclosure

17583