



OFFICE OF TRANSITION STUDIES AND PLANNING
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January 4, 1977

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Howard P. Willens, Esq.
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Dear Howard:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1976. We are of course keeping a very close monitoring of news on "Microbugging" and so far nothing has developed locally or from abroad which indicated that MPSC is affected. Personally, I am keeping very low key about the whole thing, and our leaders are not being alarmed by the alleged offense committed against some Micronesians. The COM and others are certainly re-acting and it's to be expected. Steve thinks that he may be called to the hearings as he was one of OMSN staff. I hope that nothing will be uncovered by the hearing which will throw doubt on OMSN activities.

I certainly sympathize with the predicament that Ambassador Williams is in and especially consider unfair the sensationalism of the charges as covered by the press.

With respect to the idea of filing for a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, I would recommend holding off filing until the hearings are completed. We may find from the hearings that MPSC is not affected. However, if the hearings produce information to the contrary, then I feel that filing be carried out by your firm on behalf of the Marianas people. I hope that nothing serious on the part of OMSN negotiations with the Marianas will surface from the hearings as I fear that even a slight indication of "over-reaching" by OMSN will question MPSC's accomplishments and may affect our hope for an overwhelming ratification of the Constitution by our people.

There are indications that some people are not too happy with the Constitution to the degree that they will openly oppose it. Ben Manglona privately assured me that he has no intention now of opposing the Constitution. He said that he will encourage the people

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of Rota to support it. Joe Cruz has not been vocal lately, although his last press word was that he will oppose it. I have a feeling that he will turn around halfway through the political education program and support it instead.

Regarding the creation of an advisory committee for political education on the Constitution, I am enclosing a copy of the bill passed during the last NMIL session which essentially takes the place of the one you recommended to the NMIL delegation in the ConCon. For some reason, the Legislature decided to change the composition as well as the objective of the Commission. It will not be an advocate group, but rather an advisory and impartial group. I am more than disappointed over the Legislature's elimination of OTSP in the final bill as a participating member of the Commission. No sweat off my back, but I just don't appreciate the rotten political game that some people are playing. Anyway, my office will continue to render all the help it is mandated to do and I'll make myself personally involve somehow.

The printing of the Constitution is continuing (total to date 3300 copies) and it is now being disseminated. The Chamorro translation is progressing well; the Carolinian translation is taking more time.

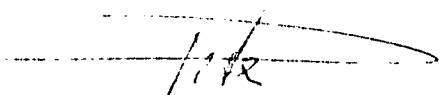
We'll be sending more copies of the Constitution to Eddie very shortly.

The tentative date for the referendum is early March and I hope the political education commission will organize quickly and get on with the important work.

Thanks for the copyright document on the briefing papers.

Best personal regards to you and family and to our many friends at WC&P.

Sincerely,


Pedro A. Tenorio
Director

Enclosure

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