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Dec. 12

Howard:

Before Phil takes off Thurs. for Guam/Saipan, I'd like to get his approval of a letter to be sent to agencies and depts re effective date of Section 502.

Eddie gave me a list of programs (approx 170) that he has identified as those for which the No. Marianas would be eligible come Jan. 9, along with some questions he wanted answered by the different agencies and departments. The report he sent to me lists 17 agencies and depts so I thought the letter should go to them: Agriculture, Commerce, ~~HEW~~, HSP, Interior, Justice, Labor, DOT, Civil Service Commission, Community Services Administration, ERDA, EPA, GSA, National Foundation on Arts and Humanities, Postal Service, SBA, VA. I also thought that we ought to send along with each letter the appropriately xeroxed pages from report showing the programs administered by that particular dept/agency.

Why don't you look over letter and call me with any comments, changes, additions, etc. by Tuesday so that I call telecopy it out to Phil in SF and get it okayed.

Thanks.

*Pat Krause*  
*225-9297*

*Talbot to PK*  
*m 12/13*  
*w/ suggestions*  
*↙*

Draft - to be sent to heads of Departments/Agencies - 17 (2)

December 14, 1977

*the necessity of  
without any further  
Congressional  
action*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

On October 24, 1977, President Carter signed and issued Presidential Proclamation 4534, which approved the Constitution for the Northern Mariana Islands and which provided that on January 9, 1978, when the Constitution goes into effect, certain sections of the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas (P.L. 94-241) also become effective.

Included among these sections is Section 502 of Article V, the exact language of which I am enclosing with this letter. I'm bringing this to your personal attention because under this section, the Northern Marianas will be eligible on January 9 for various federal programs, not as part of the Trust Territory, but as a direct recipient. And it is therefore vitally important that the Northern Marianas' incoming government be provided with assistance in meeting any administrative requirements connected with the programs that will be available to them. (See enclosed list of programs, administered by your department/agency, for which the Northern Marianas will be eligible come Jan. 9. Please note that there are additional programs, not listed, for which they will qualify. These include new programs enacted by this Congress and not listed here. An additional listing will be compiled by the Marianas' Washington Liaison Office early in 1978 and forwarded to you when it has been completed.)

*if I  
revisit  
it is*

Additionally, given the new status of the Northern Marianas, there are a number of questions that need to be addressed:

1. In terms of 1978 formula set-aside grants, can the Northern Marianas expect the continuation of grants made to them from the Trust Territory allocation for fiscal 1978 despite its new political status?
2. The Northern Marianas is currently receiving money from discretionary or competitive grants which were awarded to the Trust Territory with the understanding that the Northern Marianas be included. Will the grants in this category be affected by the new political status?
3. And finally, looking ahead to fiscal 1979, could you indicate what amount the Northern Marianas might expect as an independent grantee from the programs whose allocations are made on the set-aside formula basis? Will the amount be the same as that which the Northern Marianas has been receiving under the Trust Territory allocation, or will it be different?

*if there  
are any  
ans in  
this  
listing,  
please  
inform  
me.*

I'm sure you understand that resolution of these issues is very important for planning purposes for the new Northern Marianas government.

Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

PB  
Chmn, etc.

*2nd*