

August 27 1955
THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear Governor Adams:

Yesterday I returned Admiral Felix B. Stamps courtesy call. Quite to my surprise he had an honor guard lined up. The band played flourishes & ruffles, the Star Spangled Banner, and then there was a 19-gun salute. It rather constituted a notice observed by all in these parts. When I was in Washington, I was just as much surprised by General Samuel B. Shepherd, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, when he accorded me honors at a review.

I mention this today because the officials in this part of the Pacific and in the services are recognizing me at the same personal rank as my predecessors. I really hope now that I am not forced to correct their impressions. They all seem quite pleased to have it so.

Is there anything I can do further to aid in establishing the question in my favor?

I am sure the work in the Trust Territory is going to prove of outstanding international significance, and more so as the years go by, at any rate until things are settled in the Pacific. I believe it is a benefit to our country to have one in this work and with the increasing international contacts, who has the personal rank of Ambassador. We have nothing quite like it in the Atlantic. Our opportunities to step up our influence through this Trust Territory idea are growing. I believe the officials of both State and Interior agree as to the desirability of Ambassadorial rank for the post. Ambassadors Allison and Secretary McKay have so signified.

Yours sincerely,
Frank McKiff

