

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF TERRITORIES

Washington 25, D. C.

December 18, 1959

Mr. Secretary:

This is a reminder of your talk with Bishop Kennally in Truk with respect to his request for more favorable shipping rates for goods destined for his mission activities.

In his presentation of the problem, Bishop Kennally brought out that shipping charges were a constant drain on the limited funds available to his mission. He estimated these charges at about \$50,000 per year. You told the Bishop that it would be most difficult to single out any one type of activity and grant to it reduced shipping charges. You suggested that perhaps you would be able to help by bringing to the attention of several business friends the good work being performed by the mission, and thereby obtain help from these sources in the way of personal contributions or gifts. You cited the case of Father Costigan who received a tractor from the CBS president.

A copy of the letter you wrote the Bishop upon your return is attached.

Attachment

Your Excellency:

It was indeed thoughtful of you to write me your letter of October 26.

One of the highlights of my trip to the Trust Territory was the visit at Tunnuk, and particularly the enjoyable program arranged by the Sisters and children of St. Cocelia's school. Mrs. Seaton talked of the performance by the children for many days afterwards.

From my meeting with you and Fathers Rivley and Nicholson I certainly left with a better understanding of the work your Mission is doing, and of the many problems which confront you daily. As I promised you, we will look into the situation with respect to your Spanish Sisters, and the matter of obtaining assistance for you from private sources in the states.

Please accept, for myself and Mrs. Seaton, our deepest appreciation for your generous hospitality.

Sincorely yours,

Secretary of the Interior

The Most Reverend Vincent I. Kennally, S.J. Vicar Apostolic Catholic Mission Truk, Caroline Islands Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

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