

March 22, 1966

*Fill and  
then throw  
away*

FOR MARVIN WATSON

John Carver says the Texas Congressman, who told the Saipan-Trust Territories delegation he would try to get them a White House appointment, was Dick White. Carver does not know how he got in the picture; White is on the Interior Committee and may have been visited by the delegation.

I told Carver to have his Interior protocol people get in touch with you.

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.

**Attachment** - Memo from HCM to Watson, March 21  
attaching Memo to HCM from Charles  
Johnson, March 18.

Note: on Watson's memo, he added note to President  
"Do you want to see this group?"  
The President indicated "yes" and "get name of  
Texas member."

*appt. set up Mar 24?*

Mar 22 - 3:10 pm

Mr McPherson:

Under Sec'y Carver called. He said Mrs Van Cleveland from his office called Watson but Watson told her he had not heard from you. I told Carver you had written a memo to Mr Watson -- this satisfied him.

I then called Watson's sec'y and she said yes they had rec'd your memo but don't know what to do about it. No decision has been made. She said if Carver calls back just tell him Watson has memo now and is working on it.

Ruth

March 21, 1966

**FOR MARVIN WATSON**

Delegates from the Trust Territories in the Pacific, in town for two weeks to see Interior, would like to present a gift to the President. They will grind no axes; it will be purely ceremonial.

I sent their request back to Interior, which seemed willing to accept the gift in the President's behalf; now they've had second thoughts, and recommend a brief meeting with the President.

I concur. We are trying to keep the good will of these people, trying to improve living conditions for them, and above all trying to keep somebody from taking the trust territory question to the UN as a "colonialism" issue. Five minutes with this group should be very helpful.

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.

Attachment - Memo for Mr McPherson, March 18, 1966  
from Charles E. Johnson

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March 18, 1966

1. Mr. H. C. McPherson, Jr.
2. Mr. Clifford Alexander

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 18, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. HARRY C. McPHERSON, JR.

Harry --

Interior has changed its mind about requesting an appointment for the Saipan delegation. Originally, as Udall told you in his March 9 note, they did not favor such an appointment, but two things have happened since then that have a bearing on the decision. First, in very recent days a number of news articles have given the Trust Territory new prominence, and it would be useful both within and outside the Trust Territory if the President were to indicate his awareness of the area. Secondly, the delegation has been told by a Congressman from Texas that if Interior is unable or unwilling to arrange an appointment, he will be glad to attempt to do so.

Interior raised the matter with me and I offered to reopen the question and to add my personal endorsement. In my opinion we are facing some rather serious issues with respect to the Trust Territory and will have to assiduously cultivate the native leadership to make sure that public opinion in the Territory supports the U. S. policy objectives.

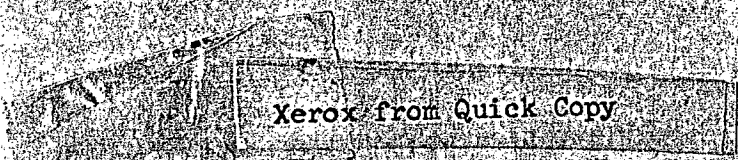
The Saipan delegation consists of four important local leaders:

Vicente D. Sablan  
Mayor of Saipan

Francisco T. Palacios  
Speaker, Saipan Municipal Legislature

Vicente N. Santos  
President, Mariana District Legislature

Olympio T. Borja  
Delegate, Congress of Micronesia



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They are accompanied by a non-Micronesian lawyer but he would not be included in the visit, which is to be wholly ceremonial. The four Saipanese will be instructed to refrain from discussing any of the substantive issues which have brought them to Washington. They are carrying a gift to the President from the people of the Marianas. The Interior Department would provide an escort officer for them and no more than 10 minutes would be required for the visit.

I strongly recommend an appointment be arranged if the President's calendar would permit it. The Saipanese expect to be in Washington until March 30, 1966

Charles E. Johnson

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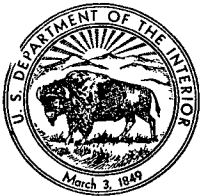
March 10, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR

Honorable John A. Carver, Jr.  
Under Secretary of the Interior

We will appreciate it if you or Assistant Secretary Anderson would receive the Saipan mayor's gift on behalf of the President.

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.  
Special Counsel to the President



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAR 9 1966

Memorandum for Mr. Harry G. McPherson, Jr.  
The White House

With respect to your inquiry concerning the imminent arrival of the Mayor of Saipan and his delegation and their expressed desire to call upon the President, I do not believe it will be necessary for the President to meet with them.

Preparations have been made to meet with them here in the Department both in the Office of Territories and at the Secretarial level. Similarly, we are making arrangements for them to meet with appropriate State Department officials.

Insofar as the gift to the President is concerned, either I or Assistant Secretary Anderson will be pleased to accept the gift on behalf of the President, and at the same time extend a welcome to the delegation as the President's designee.

Mayor Sablan's letter is returned for your further consideration.

(sgd) John A. Carver, Jr.  
Acting Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure



March 9, 1966

**MEMORANDUM FOR**

**Honorable John A. Carver, Jr.  
Under Secretary of the Interior**

**John:**

**Should the President see the mayor of Saipan  
and his delegation? I rather think not, myself.**

**Harry C. McPherson, Jr.  
Special Counsel to the President**

**Attachment - Ltr to Lee White, Mar 3, 1966, from Vicente D. Sablan,  
Mayor, Saipan, Mariana Islands  
re: people of Marianas are sending gift to President;  
hope to be able to present it March 14.**

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS

March 3, 1966

Mr. Leo C. White  
Special Counsel to the President  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

The Acting Speaker of the Saipan Municipal Legislature passed to me a copy of your letter of February 15th, concerning Resolution No. 10-3-66, passed by the Eighteenth Saipan Legislature on January 28, 1966.

We have received copies of H. R. 12857, introduced by Congresswoman Reid and H. R. 12866 introduced by Congressman Morton, to amend title 10 of the United States Code to allow citizens of the Trust Territory to be enlisted in the Armed Forces.

The people of the Mariana Islands District are extremely grateful for these bills, and a small delegation from the Marianas is coming to Washington on March 14th to fully support the passage of this measure to help stop the spread of communist aggression in Southeast Asia.

I will head the delegation with Mr. Vicente N. Santos, President of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, Mr. Olympio T. Borja, member of the House of Delegates, Congress of Micronesia, Mr. Francisco T. Palacios, Speaker of the Saipan Municipal Legislature, and Mr. William E. Nabors, Legislative Counsel to the District and Municipal Legislatures.

The people of the Marianas are sending a gift by us to President Johnson and we would very much appreciate an opportunity to give it to him during our visit to Washington.

The Office of Territories in the Department of the Interior is being asked to arrange conferences for us.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Vicente D. Sablan  
Mayor

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