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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PLANNING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

1. Letter from Gov. Bryant to The President

MAR 20 1967

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

On March 2, 1967, Typhoon Sally struck the islands of Koror and Babelthaup in the Palau District of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Early reports were fragmentary but they suggested a serious disaster.

The Office of Territories, Department of the Interior, notified us as soon as they had word of the typhoon. We then contacted other Federal agencies, the Military and the Red Cross to assure that immediate emergency needs were met. Food and medical supplies, as well as building supplies and equipment, were transported to the disaster areas.

We dispatched a Disaster Assistance Coordinator to the scene to survey damages and consult with Trust Territory officials. Our investigation revealed the need for supplemental Federal assistance for the recovery and rehabilitation of the islands affected. Total damages are reported in excess of \$5 million, and damage to public property exceeds \$1 1/2 million. There was major damage to the schools, dispensaries, and other public buildings. The publicly-owned utilities were heavily damaged. There were damages in every category of PL 875 assistance. The Trust Territory Government and local governing bodies do not have the resources for recovery.

High Commissioner William R. Norwood of the Trust Territory has requested a major disaster declaration under PL 81-875 for Koror and Babelthaup. Secretary of the Interior Udall has endorsed the High Commissioner's request.

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I recommend that you declare a major disaster for the areas affected by Typhoon Sally and that you authorize an initial allocation of \$750, 000 for disaster recovery work.

The necessary funds are available.

Respectfully,

Signed Farris Bryant

Farris Bryant
Director

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