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Fred K. Fof

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November 4, 1969

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Advisor to the President
of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Kissinger:

In February of this year, I submitted to your office a memorandum on Micronesia. The purpose of that memorandum was to bring to the attention of President Nixon the political environment which was developing in the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The importance of this area of the Western Pacific to the United States in the field of National Security and the great potential wealth which this large area of the Pacific could offer to this nation in the future years with the development of our oceanographic capabilities was stressed. I believe that President Nixon recognized the importance of this problem and set about, through the Secretary of Interior, to see that a permanent relationship would be established between the Islands of Micronesia and the United States.

On several occasions, I visited Washington and had meetings with Dick Moose and Lindsey Grant of your staff and Ed Kaiser and Ron Walker, Special Assistants to Secretary Hickel. I also consulted with Ed Johnston prior to his appointment as High Commissioner of Micronesia. I was asked by Ed Kaiser to go with him to Saipan in July to help arrange a meeting between leaders of Micronesia and President Nixon during the President's stop-over in Guam on July 24. Prior to this meeting, it was essential that certain legislation be passed by the Congress of Micronesia concerning the desires for a future political determination by the people of this area.

Again in August I was asked by Mr. Kaiser to return to Micronesia and meet with members of the Congress to insure that a representative delegation from this group would accept the invitation of the President and the Secretary of Interior to return to Washington and begin discussions of the political future of the Trust Territories.

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Around the first of October, the ten man delegation from Micronesia headed by Chairman Lazarus Salii and accompanied by the President of the Senate, Amata Kabua, and the Speaker of the House, Bethwel Henry, arrived in Washington.

After several weeks of meetings with the Department of Interior under the direction of Ed Kaiser and the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Land Management, the negotiations broke down and the Micronesians returned home. During this period of time, I visited Washington and had several discussions with the Micronesians, as well as Ed Kaiser, concerning the progress of the negotiations. It is my feeling that there was no progress and that the result of these talks was a backward step in accomplishing a permanent United States-Micronesian relationship.

This backward step has not put a permanent barrier between Micronesia and United States relationships, but it is essential that the United States understand as individuals the Micronesians involved in these negotiations and their commitments to their constituents. I have, at my own expense, made the trips to Saipan and Washington with one sincere desire that the United States-Micronesian association be accomplished as soon as possible. I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to visit with you personally and discuss future steps which could be taken by the United States in solving the problem of the political future of Micronesia. It is also essential that proper support of the President's policies in this area be generated in the Congress of the United States.

Respectfully yours,


Fred K. Fox