

JMWilson:5-6-74:kkc

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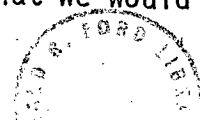
Dear Lazarus:

Over the past few days I have been giving considerable thought to our meeting last Monday morning at the airport. I am concerned in reviewing our conversation that because of the totally inadequate time available you may have gone away perhaps with some erroneous impressions that need to be corrected. The best time for me to try to do this would be when I get back here the end of next week, but meanwhile it may be useful to put a few of my thoughts on paper about how we can best continue to keep up the momentum started at Carmel and progress toward an early conclusion of these negotiations.

Let me begin by saying that I sincerely believe that so long as substantive problems still remain to be solved we can move faster by using informal sessions like Carmel to reach a meeting of the minds rather than scheduling more stereotyped formal rounds. This is particularly so now when there appear to be only a few real issues separating us from final agreement.

At the same time I hope I have made clear that in our thinking the informal nature of such sessions should by no means inhibit participation on your side beyond you and Ekpap. On the contrary, I would welcome any other JCFS members you might desire. To the extent I need special advice or counsel I will expect to bring in people on our side as well. Indeed, if you felt the presence of most of the committee would be helpful to you, they would be welcome. My concern is not so much with numbers as it is with the stultifying effect of set pieces and responses and long periods of intervening internal consultation, which seem to impede rather than foster progress.

It seems to me that we need to think of a formal round at this stage only as an official wind-up session. Hopefully it could conclude with the signature of a completed Compact, but this presupposes of course that we would have been



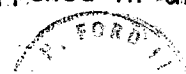
able to finish the land negotiations successfully. I am by no means cast in concrete on the need for signature at such a formal round (It could certainly be done later), but I do feel that at least one more Carmel-type meeting will be necessary before it will be useful to consider a full dress formal round.

I realize you are concerned with having something positive to give your Congress on the negotiations when they next convene and will certainly try to be just as helpful as possible in this regard. Dates for a special session should be determined soon I hope so that we can have a definite time frame in which to schedule our next meeting or meetings.

In this connection I believe in retrospect that I may have appeared too unyielding on the June 15 date. In fact, if it would be more useful to you, I would now be prepared to stay over here in early June or schedule something earlier than the 15th. It could also be later if that suits your purposes better, though I hope not too much later. We may also need to consider the possibility of another informal session after that, but I hope we can accomplish our task in one session stretched over as many days as necessary.

Also I appreciate and share your desire to have all of this wrapped up well before the Constitutional Convention gets underway. That of course includes putting the finished Compact through your Congress. Indeed I would like to see us complete our work before September if the land legislation and negotiations can be taken care of before then. A target date for signature of the Compact before the November elections at the latest would be highly desirable, and we are certainly prepared to devote every effort to working with you to make this possible.

I expect to be bak in Guam next Friday, May 10, and wonder if we can get together to discuss all of this further. I will also be interested in learning more of the JCFS reaction to the Carmel talks and what happened in the Palau



District Legislature on the land problem. I shall try to call you on Monday morning your time and meanwhile of course will avoid saying anything to the press about our future plans.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Haydn Williams

