

Staff EXECUTIVE
ST 51

December 20, 1976

Dear Senator:

This is to acknowledge receipt and thank you for your December 15 letter to the President regarding reports of alleged surveillance in connection with negotiations on Micronesia.

You may be certain that your letter will be called to the attention of the President and his appropriate advisers without delay.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

William F. Kendall
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc: w/incl to Gen. Scowcroft for appropriate handling
w/incl to Jack Marsh, FYI

WTK:JEB:ms

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CENTRAL FILES

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HARRY F. BYRD, JR.
VIRGINIA

12-16

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 15, 1976 m

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HAND DELIVERED
RECEP. AND SECURITY UNIT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

My dear Mr. President:

I am writing with regard to press reports concerning alleged electronic surveillance of conversations in which representatives of Micronesia discussed their negotiating strategy for talks with the United States.

M/F
These reports, which have not been contradicted, indicate that such surveillance was conducted over a period of several years, and that the State Department made use of the clandestinely obtained information in conducting the negotiations.

I see no logic or justification for this conduct. If it could be approved under any circumstances, it certainly cannot be justified in negotiations with people who had been placed in a trusteeship relation to the United States.

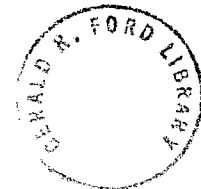
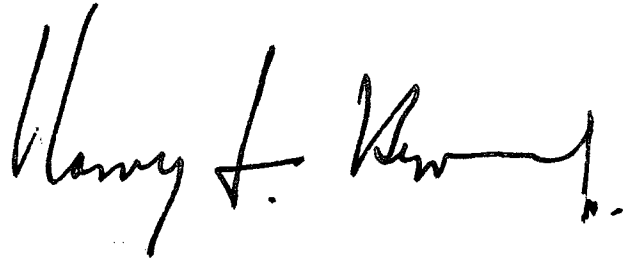
By no stretch of the imagination could the Micronesians be considered a threat to the United States.

I urge that the use of electronic surveillance in connection with the Micronesian negotiations be promptly terminated.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.



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