



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

## PACIFIC TRAINING OFFICE

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OFFICE OF  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT

August 2, 1977

Mr. Jimmy Carter, President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. President:

This is to express our support of your position to have the Micronesian educational system overhauled prior to the construction of a new college for Micronesia. Please have a copy of the report prepared by Douglas Harlan sent to us as soon as is practical.

You were reported in the Pacific Daily News, August 1, 1977 as accepting the recommendation that the college "be a part of an education common market for all districts ... regardless of the kind of future status each district might have." Should this goal be sought, one may wish to consider offering core instruction in the multi-languages of the territory in a way similar to the simultaneous data translations that occur at the United Nations. This might be helpful especially given the recommendation that the college have the responsibility of developing a territory-wide educational extension program in teacher training, civil service training, and adult education. Presentation of information in English exclusively has served historically, perhaps, to inhibit and retard the formal education of Micronesian pupils and students.

To the extent that the college "would not be a typical American college" it may be presumptuous and inconsistent to suggest a program design of four years. It may be more appropriate and relevant to design a course of study that may be completed in one, three, or four and half years or an agreed upon term of months or weeks. The concept of "semesters" may be equally inapplicable given the absence of the dramatic weather and planting/harvesting demands that influenced the development of academic time parameters for European and American educational systems.

4, 1977

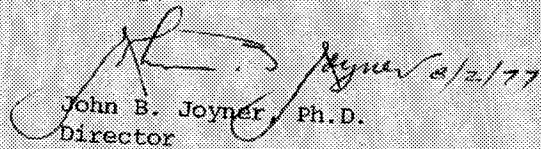
Jimmy Carter, President

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It appears immaculately appropriate that the recommendation that describes the college's chief officer be expanded from "a distinguished American educator with proven academic credentials ..." to include the consideration of educators from other national and ethnic extractions. Few of us have a "handle" on Micronesian educational needs that even begins to approach the area of relevancy as does the Micronesian even though many of us have the academic credentials, administrative ability, "dedication, creative mind, clear sense of purpose and ability to lead and inspire others."

Again, we support your position. Thank you for allowing us to visit with you through this letter.

Gently,

 8/2/77

John B. Joyner, Ph.D.  
Director