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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

November 1, 1979

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058576

The Honorable Stuart E. Eizenstat  
Assistant to the President  
Domestic Affairs and Policy  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Eizenstat:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter Congressmen Clausen, Lagomarsino and I today sent to Ambassador Peter Rosenblatt, who is in charge of the Micronesian status negotiations for the United States.

The matter is of such importance that we thought it wise to bring it to your attention.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



PHILLIP BURTON, Chairman  
Subcommittee on National Parks  
and Insular Affairs

PB:jl

Enclosure

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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STUDY AND REVIEW

November 1, 1979

Ambassador Peter R. Rosenblatt  
Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Since you have repeatedly ignored our advice and admonitions concerning the Micronesian future political status negotiations, we are compelled to reiterate our objections more forcefully. We note the modest improvement in the latest draft compact - albeit inadequate - however, our position remains unaltered from that expressed to you last June.

Once again, we enjoin you to delay conclusion of the political status negotiations until after next year's Presidential election. In the interim, as we advised you at the June meeting, you should concentrate upon reaching accord on the ancillary agreements to the compact, which are less political and more technical in nature. To secure an initialed compact, which, in turn, would be submitted early in 1980 to the respective Micronesian governments and the people for approval under terms of the compact, is unacceptable for a number of reasons.

Such a procedure, if successful, would only create significant opposition in the next Congress, including those responsible for managing the joint resolution. The 97th Congress should not be handed a fait accompli; or in other words, the political composition of both the executive and legislative branches resulting from the 1980 November elections must be taken into account and the desires of those newly elected officials considered before any final document is submitted to the Micronesian people.

Ambassador Peter R. Rosenblatt  
November 1, 1979  
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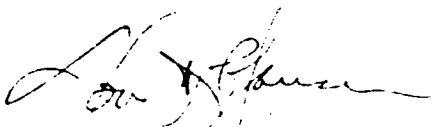
Additionally, it should be stressed that the Micronesians are not adversaries of the United States. The executive branch of the U.S. government should be working with the Micronesians to help them to determine what they will need in the years ahead and how best to secure these goals. It should not be treating them like hostile people as, it seems to us, has been the case in the current negotiations.

We are not obstructionists; the sooner Micronesians determine their own destinies, the better. But your current negotiating schedule seems irresponsible, running the risks of Presidential chagrin and Congressional disapproval of the compact. It also fails to consider such factors in Micronesia as the changing political situation in Palau and the fact that until the newly elected leaders take control around January 1, negotiations between Palau and the U.S. should not and cannot responsibly be resumed.

We hope that you will reconsider your responsibilities and, in the future, demonstrate a greater awareness of political exigencies in Washington as well as Micronesia. If you do not desist from your present course of action (duly notifying us in writing by December 1, 1979, that such is the case), we have no recourse but to hold public hearings, wherein the proceedings surrounding the political status negotiations can be divulged.

Copies of this correspondence have been forwarded to the appropriate officials of the USG.

Sincerely,



DON H. CLAUSEN  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on Interior  
and Insular Affairs



PHILLIP BURTON  
Chair  
Subcommittee on  
National Parks and  
Insular Affairs



ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO  
Ranking Minority Member  
Subcommittee on  
Pacific Affairs

PB:why

cc: The President  
The Vice President  
The Honorable Zbigniew Brzezinski, Assistant to the  
President - National Security Affairs  
The Honorable Stuart E. Eizenstat, Assistant to the  
President - Domestic Affairs and Policy  
The Honorable Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Harold Brown, Secretary of Defense  
The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of the Interior