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Congress of the United States

Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN J. BRADY, JR.
 CHIEF OF STAFF

November 16, 1979

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

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you very much for the briefing you provided members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on November 14. As we indicated at the briefing, the Micronesian status negotiations are of special concern to us because of their foreign affairs implications and, without infringing upon certain areas of jurisdiction of the Interior Committee, we will continue to take a strong interest in the progress of the negotiations.

We share with you a strong desire to develop a relationship with the Micronesians that will serve both our mutual interests and our separate needs. In this regard, we would like to state our positions on several issues that must be resolved before we can achieve a satisfactory termination of the trusteeship.

First, we are encouraged by your assurance that U.S. security interests will be preserved under the proposed Compact of Free Association. However, we feel that such an assurance must be embodied unequivocally in any language that permits the Micronesian governments to bring environmental suits against the United States.

Second, in the interest of preserving Micronesian as well as American security, the agreement should insure that all types of U.S. military vessels have the right to transit Micronesian waters.

Third, the Micronesian governments should accept responsibility for preventing actions by their citizens which jeopardize U.S. security interests.

Fourth, without derogation of the rights of Micronesians to decide their economic priorities, the U.S. should retain the ability to monitor and audit all economic assistance given to the Micronesian governments.

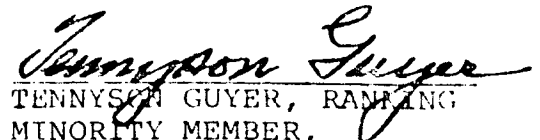
Finally, achieving the goal of termination by 1981 will be meaningless unless stable, fully functioning Micronesian governments have been established by that time. Every effort should be made to expedite the development of the new constitutional governments. The type of assistance we provide both before and after termination of the trusteeship should permit them to draw upon the expertise of a wide range of federal agencies.

Should you wish to discuss any of these points, please feel free to contact us. Again, we appreciate your cooperation with us in this matter and look forward to further consultation with you as the negotiations proceed.

Sincerely,



LESTER L. WOLFF, CHAIRMAN,
Subcommittee on Asian and
Pacific Affairs



TENNYSON GUYER, RANKING
MINORITY MEMBER,
Subcommittee on Asian and
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LLW:emb/ah

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