## Commission on Future Political Status and Transition

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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July 24, 1980

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Dear Mr. Ambassador:

In the months since the Kona round of negotiations our Commission, in conjunction with the leadership of the Federated States of Micronesia, has pursued a dual course. First, as we indicated we would following Kona, we have brought the document that emerged from those negotiations to the attention of a broad group of leaders at various levels of government within the Federated States of Micronesia.

The reaction to this draft as a rather specific format for our future relationship of Free Association has been positive, and has buttressed our desire to complete these negotiations with a conviction that this could indeed be achieved before the end of this year.

The key to that possibility, however, lies in the success of our second area of concentration since Kona, that is, to find a solution to fundamental deficiencies of the Compact draft in the financial area. These are, as our state leaderships have confirmed, inadequate grant funding for operations and for infrastructure development, and the lack of protection against the effects of inflation.

As you know, we have bent maximum efforts since January to exhaust every possible source of funding in the pre-termination period for purposes that could possibly ease the remaining compact deficiences. This has been an exhausting process which, only within recent weeks, seems to have produced at least limited success. Ambassador Peter R. Rosenblatt July 24, 1980 page 2

In addition, I received your notification from Guam regarding the prospect of involving the Civic Action Teams in some of our development projects. We wish to pursue your invitation to discuss this proposal in detail.

These developments by themselves would prompt us to seek direct discussions with you at an early date. However, in addition, we are now aware that a variety of new suggestions are being made by other parties within and without the negotiating circle affecting fundamental compact provisions having to do with the scope and term of our relationship. We could not now express an opinion as to these reports, but they seem to suggest that further negotiating rounds are now in order, and that at least in part, it appears they should be multilateral in nature.

We continue to maintain the hope that our next meetings could be the last, and accordingly, we call upon you in reacting to this letter to take account of the practical necessity that any new positions to be put forward, either multilaterally or bilaterally, must be placed before our Commission sufficiently in advance and in sufficient details so as to avoid inconclusive results.

Our Counsel in Washington will be available to work with you in the coming weeks. We will await your response.

Sincerely yours,

Chairman

xc: James T. Stovall, III, Esq.

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