



Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library



220870

Office of the President 8500712
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

13 November 1984

The Most Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

Mrs. Kabua and I extend to you and Mrs. Reagan our warmest regards, and our heartfelt congratulations on your landslide re-election victory. It is quite an accomplishment to be blessed with such a strong vote of confidence from the citizens of your great nation. As during the past four years, please know that your administration will also continue to have the confidence and support of myself and the other leaders of the Marshall Islands.

During our respective first terms as president, our administrations have accomplished what 11 years of previous negotiations had been unable to do -- reach a written accord on the future relationship between our two countries. Completion of this accord, the Compact of Free Association, has itself been a most satisfying achievement. One to which both of us have devoted our personal attention, and one which we both strongly support.

It is, however, an achievement which has yet to be fulfilled in fact. As you know, the people of the Marshall Islands voted heavily in favor of the Compact of Free Association 14 months ago. These same people, two months later, voted heavily to return our pro-Compact leadership to office.

While we understand the political process which has thus far prevented your Congress from approving the Compact and the status for which it provides, and while we remain most appreciative of your administration's efforts in seeking expeditious approval of the Compact, we observe that continued delay in approval and implementation of the Compact prevents the people of the Marshall Islands from realizing their legitimate aspirations for greater self-determination.



Knowing that you personally support our efforts in this regard, we trust that the support of your administration for the Compact will not waiver and that legislation to approve the Compact will be given the prompt and direct attention which it deserves.

Should there be a lame-duck session of Congress later this year, I cannot think of a nicer holiday gift for my people than the announcement that the Compact has been approved.

Best personal regards.

Most respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amata Kabua".

Amata Kabua
President

cc: The Honorable Ambassador Fred M. Zeder



Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

EF

406436
2130
ST051
FG006-12

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your very thoughtful letter of August 26. I am grateful that you have shared with me the concerns and aspirations of the Marshallese people regarding termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, and implementation of the Compact of Free Association.

The United States has deep respect for the sovereign act of self-determination made by the Marshallese people in approving the Compact of Free Association and every confidence in their ability, acting through their constitution, to govern themselves. And we are gratified that the Marshallese people have honored the United States by seeking to maintain close ties with us after the Trusteeship is terminated.

I know that the process of negotiations, and of consideration by our Congress has been a long and difficult one, requiring much patience and understanding by all concerned. However, I am hopeful that in the very near future we will formally begin the new relationship of free association between our two nations. In the meantime I have asked my representatives to meet with you and develop mutually satisfactory arrangements for the earliest possible implementation of the Compact in conjunction with Trusteeship termination and for any necessary special interim arrangements.

NSB 8606835

40643655

You have my best wishes as you work with my representatives toward these goals and my pledge of cooperation as we embark on our new government-to-government relationship.

Sincerely

Ronald Reagan ^A

The Honorable Amata Kabua
President of the Marshall Islands
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960