

RE: 11 AM Meeting w/Pres. of Palau

From: Jeff Farrow [redacted]

RELEASE IN PART
B6

To: 'H' hdr22@clintonemail.com

CC: Jeff Farrow [redacted]

Subject: RE: 11 AM Meeting w/Pres. of Palau

Saw him Fri. He said you were inspiring & warm. Impressed you took notes. Best meeting of good ones w/Salazar, Chm. Bingman, McCain, Akaka, Chm. Rahall, etc.
Thanks for always caring about the islands.

B6

-----Original Message-----

From: "H"
To: "Jeff Farrow"
Sent: 3/15/2009 6:05 PM
Subject: Re: 11 AM Meeting w/Pres. of Palau

He is both sympathetic and impressive and I will try to make sure we help them. Thx again.

-----Original Message-----

From: "Jeffrey Farrow"

Date: Thu, 12 Mar 2009 09:13:56
To:
Subject: 11 AM Meeting w/Pres. of Palau

Would U informally tell him I've told U how beautiful Palau is? He asked me to join him today but DoS says that's not protocol. OK but I'm

embarrassed.

I care more about Palau than any islands associated w/the US than PR.
At
staff level, I led congressional fight that changed the Free Association
Compact Reagan & Bush 1 tried to force. In the WJC WH, we got it done.
Bush
2 ignored Palau, treating it more as purely independent than freely
associated.

Note Minister of State Sandra Pierantozzi is a former VP who ran for
president once. She is a longtime friend.

Jake may give you the below.

From: Jeffrey Farrow [mailto:
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2009 12:47 PM
To: 'sullivanjj@state.gov'; 'Mills, Cheryl D'

B6

I met yesterday with Palau's new President who HRC is to meet with
tomorrow
at 11. I'm writing to give HRC some perspective beyond what she may get
from EAP and to suggest points for her to make. I'll start with the
points.
I'd like to discuss questions.

* I'm delighted to meet you, President Toribiong
(Tohr-rib-e-yong), my
opposite number, Minister Pierantozzi (Peer-an-toe-zee), and the other
members of the delegation. I tried hard to get a better job than Sandra
was

elected to as vice-president . but we have pretty good jobs now, don't we,
Sandra?

* I'm proud that the Compact was entered into in my husband's administration.

* It's disappointing the Bush Administration didn't do what it should have to complete the Compact Review process this year.

* But now we have new administrations. I understand you will re-evaluate your predecessor's proposal. I'll look at our position too.

* I hope, however, we can complete the process soon, although I understand it will take some time. I promise high-level, understanding, and sympathetic attention. I will designate a representative shortly.

* The U.S. and Palau have a special bond formed by decades of territorial administration and I know our responsibilities.

* And I understand that free association is not pure independence and you want to continue a very close relationship.

* The President's Budget is largely completed but I will look into your FY10 request and will work with OMB and Congress on it. I also understand the problem of the trust fund created by the market and earlier expectations.

* I've been to Guam. I understand that Palau has some of the most beautiful islands in the world, the 'rainbow's end.'

* Thanks for coming. We'll work with you on the Review and in the years ahead seriously, fairly, and responsibly.

Now, some background. We took Palau from Japan in bloody WWII battles and administered it for the UN. It became a 'freely associated state' in 1994. HRC and I have discussed this status as one of Puerto Rico's options. In free association, nations share governing responsibilities. We have full security rights in strategic Palau, provide Pell Grants, and Postal Service, etc. At the staff level, I guided congressional changes that Palauan reformers sought to the Compact of Free Association which the Reagan and Bush 1 Administrations tried to force on the territory. It was a tough battle that included the suicide of the corrupt first president allied with Reagan and Bush. Minister of State Pierantozzi was a leading reformer. President Toribiong was in the group.