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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 6/20 / 75

TO: *Pat Delaney.*
FROM: WARREN HENDRIKS

Comments:

*These came out
of Jim's Puerto
Rico file*



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

June 25, 1975

Honorable James M. Cannon
Assistant to the President for
Domestic Affairs
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Cannon:

At your request, I immediately made time available on the day of the call to see Mr. Halper from Connecticut in regard to the Puerto Rican situation. On that same occasion you made it clear that it was essential to have a meeting during the ensuing week to resolve this matter prior to the first meeting to discuss the Puerto Rican proposal, which takes place on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of July. This office has tried in vain to communicate with you without any success.

We are now faced with the arrival of the Puerto Rican Delegation sometime on the 8th or 9th of July. The American Delegation does not have the funds to allow travel expenses or accommodations for the members from the Mainland who live in Chicago and in Houston. This is a most deplorable and unbelievable situation to occur.

I have been advised today that Congressman Benitez wishes to have a reception for the entire Delegation at the Kennedy Center on July 9th. Obviously, we are in no position to reciprocate, even though we are the hosts; and I would remind you that it was suggested at the only meeting we have had on this matter that the meeting be held here and not in Puerto Rico.

I sincerely apologize for being curt, but I am totally frustrated over this project; and having spent six years in the United

7:30 meeting
Tuesday

Pat Delaney

Fry
Jui



Honorable James M. Cannon

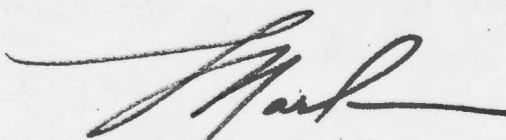
Page 2

June 25, 1975

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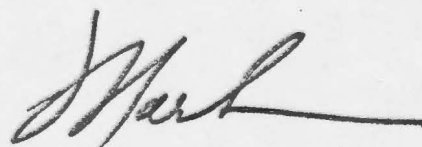
It is imperative that we conclude the budget matters on the Ad Hoc Committee no later than this weekend so that adequate preparations can be made for our meetings, which will commence on Wednesday evening, July 9th.

Very truly yours,



Marlow W. Cook
Chairman

*Jim - The budget and for
7/1 thru 9/30 is \$40,900.⁰⁰-*



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

June 25, 1975

Honorable James M. Cannon
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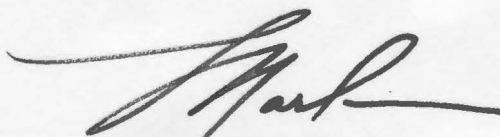


Honorable James M. Cannon
Page 2
June 25, 1975

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM LYNN

FROM:

JIM CANNON

SUBJECT:

Request for Funds from the
President's Unanticipated
Needs Appropriation

On September 27, 1973 under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, former President Nixon, along with the Governor of Puerto Rico, jointly appointed a second Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico. This group was charged to investigate "the extent to which the laws and administrative regulations of the United States should apply in Puerto Rico."

The Group's Charter designated eighteen months as the time needed to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Charter. Based on a September 27, 1973 starting date, the Advisory Group should have completed its work by March 31, 1975. However, the progress of the Group's deliberations did not make that possible.

As you are aware, before the final report can be submitted to the President and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, public hearings or meetings, as prescribed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, must be held. It was anticipated that two such hearings, one in Washington, D.C. and the other in Puerto Rico, would be held during this eighteen month period.

In addition to providing the Group's day to day operating expenses when the President's Emergency Fund was eliminated by the Congress for FY 75, the Domestic Council felt it could fund these hearings in FY 75 through its appropriated travel funds.



Unfortunately, a further delay occurred in April, 1975, when the Puerto Rican delegates to the Advisory Group drafted a document in secret without consultation with the mainland delegation to the Advisory Group. Through weeks of negotiation and diplomacy, the proposals have been sufficiently refined to be presented for public hearings which are now scheduled for early July during FY 76. This delay was not anticipated during the preparation of our FY 76 budget.

While the Domestic Council can continue to absorb the group's operating expenses until September 30th, I feel our next fiscal year's travel authorization will not accomodate the estimated \$10,000 for the two public hearings.

It is requested, therefore, that the support for these meetings be funded through the President's Unanticipated Needs Appropriation.



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

File

6/5/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information _____

Per your request _____

The response from the Department
of Commerce.

The response from American Law Di-
vision, Congressional Research
Service.



Antonia N. Galt
Administrative Ass't.

6/6



GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

JUN 3 1975

Honorable Marlow W. Cook
Co-Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico
1016 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Co-Chairman Cook:

This is in response to your letter of March 4, 1975 in which you ask this Department to analyze certain aspects of the legality and feasibility of the April 12, 1975 draft proposal ("Proposal") of the Puerto Rican members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico for a "Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States."

This response will focus on the questions of trade and tariff policies and the concept of a common market between the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. We defer comment on those provisions of the Proposal which fall within the particular expertise of other federal agencies, including any Constitutional questions raised by the nature of the proposed Compact.

Several of the provisions in Section 9 represent little or no change from existing law and would not be opposed by this Department. For example, General Headnote 2 to the Tariff Schedules of the United States (19 U.S.C. §1202) already provides that Puerto Rico will be considered part of the Customs Territory of the United States. With the exception of coffee, articles imported into Puerto Rico from foreign countries incur the same rate of duty as they would were they imported directly into the United States (48 U.S.C. §739). Articles coming into the United States from Puerto Rico and coming into Puerto Rico from the United States enter duty-free (48 U.S.C. §738).



Further, duties and taxes collected in Puerto Rico (less the cost of collection), plus other monies received in connection with Puerto Rican imports, are paid into the treasury of Puerto Rico (48 U.S.C. §740).

This Department, however, does have serious problems with several other provisions of Section 9. In particular Subsection 9(d) would permit Puerto Rico to negotiate independent trade and preferential tariff arrangements with third countries, if done "in a manner consistent with the international obligations of the United States and after prior consultation and coordination with the federal authorities concerned." Article XXIV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), to which the United States is a party, states in pertinent part that its provisions "shall apply to the metropolitan customs area of the contracting parties Each such customs territory shall, exclusively for the purposes of the territorial application of this Agreement, be treated as though it were a contracting party." As part of the customs territory of the United States, Puerto Rico has been included in the trade negotiations and agreements which the United States has undertaken and entered into after complex multilateral negotiations pursuant to the GATT. There is a very limited number of products for which the duty rate is not bound or presently the subject of negotiations, and for which Puerto Rico could therefore undertake independent negotiations without being "inconsistent with the international obligations of the United States."

A second problem arises from Subsection 9(f), which requires in part that the United States seek to have Puerto Rico accepted as "an associated developing state which the developed countries recognize as qualifying fully to participate in all benefits from any regional or worldwide



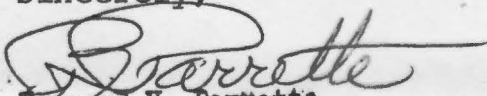
system of preferences for developing countries." For the United States to advocate this position it would have to be able to assure developed countries that only goods manufactured in Puerto Rico would in fact benefit from the preferences provided by them. Since under the Proposal goods would continue to flow between the mainland United States and Puerto Rico without restriction or tariff, the necessary assurance would be almost impossible for U.S. negotiators to provide.

Subsection 2(d) of the Proposal also contains provisions bearing on operations of this Department which we seriously question. This subsection states that the United States shall be responsible for the foreign political affairs and defense of Puerto Rico, but that, "Nothing herein shall preclude the right of [Puerto Rico] . . . from making agreements with other countries with respect to educational, cultural, health, sporting, professional, industrial, agricultural, financial, commercial, scientific, or technical relations." The carrying out of most such arrangements with foreign countries in these areas would require the cooperation and agreement of the United States. For instance, almost any industrial, agricultural, or commercial agreement affecting standards in or regulating these areas would at least imply a United States-Puerto Rican understanding because of the possible effects on the United States resulting from the common market and dual citizenship aspects of United States-Puerto Rican relationship. Financial arrangements would have to be agreed to by the U.S. Treasury so long as the dollar is maintained as a common currency. Consideration would also have to be given to requirements of the U.S. regulatory agencies and agencies such as the U.S. Patent Office (which it is assumed will continue to protect and service the patents of Puerto Ricans). In short, to merely state that the U.S. will handle foreign relations and defense matters and Puerto Rico will have freedom of action in other areas would seem to be unrealistic where almost any agreement would have political and/or economic implications for the United States.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to informally comment upon the Proposal, but reserves the right to comment further as the Proposal is refined and to formally respond to the final version.

If you have any further questions in regard to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Bernard V. Parrette

DEPUTY General Counsel





The Library of Congress

Congressional Research Service

Washington, D.C. 20540

May 1, 1975

TO : Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico
Honorable Marlow Cook, Chairman
Attention: Peter J. Gallagher

FROM : American Law Division

SUBJECT: Discussion of Any Constitutional Problems in re Revision of
United States-Puerto Rico Compact

This will confirm an earlier discussion with regard to the presence of any constitutional problems that may be present in the draft of the Proposed Bill to Establish the Compact of Permanent Union Between Puerto Rico and the United States. Only sections about which constitutional problems may exist are noted.

Article 2. The form of the compact is couched in terms of delegation of and reservation of powers from Puerto Rico to the United States instead of the reverse way, which would recognize the reality of the situation. Nevertheless, this would seem to present no constitutional problem if that is the way Congress chooses to express itself. It should be noted, however, that this form of expression may have one point of legal significance. Generally, the rule is that when interpreting the delegation of powers the courts will hold that only those



matters clearly spelled out have been delegated; in other words, unless the delegating agency has clearly shown it intended to delegate a certain power it will be deemed not to have. Obviously, whether the United States or Puerto Rico is the delegating power here would be highly relevant should questions of the extent of delegation arise.

Article 11. This section gives Puerto Rico a delegate in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. While a delegate in the House is the usual mode of representation, we are not aware of any other territory or associated government being given a delegate in the Senate. No constitutional problem is raised, of course, by the mere provision of such representation but part b may well be constitutionally troublesome. It gives the delegates in each House the authority to "object to the inclusion of Puerto Rico in the provisions of particular bills following the provisions of Article 12 of this Compact,...." Article 12 provides in part b that new congressional provisions shall not be applicable to Puerto Rico over Puerto Rico's objection. Insofar as part b of Article 11 gives the Puerto Rican delegates a vote, a negative, in the House and Senate, and it would seem to do nothing else, it would contravene the constitutional scheme under which only Senators and Representatives from the States are empowered to vote. The principle has been recognized throughout our history in giving delegates no votes. To change that situation an amendment to the Constitution would be required; legislation would be unavailing.

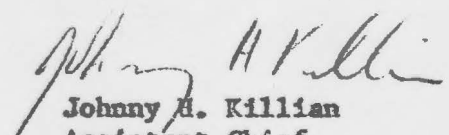


Article 12. The language here, previously referred to, would appear to be hortatory in the absence of the negative contained in Article 11. It is established that one Congress may not bind a later one and thus if Congress should agree to this provision only a continuing decision to honor it would constitute its enforcement. To create a binding guaranty, as Article 11 does, would give rise to constitutional problems. The language in part c purporting to create a judicial remedy would appear to fall afoul of the same principle. Congress may bind itself and so long as it continues to bind itself the restraint is valid; once it legislates in the future in a manner inconsistent with this restraint the legislative provision later in time governs and it is that law which the courts must enforce. This principle is as true under treaty concepts as under statutory enactments.

Article 14. This provision, and the parts of Article 13 relating to it, permits the Joint Commission created pursuant to the compact to recommend a discontinuance of a law's applicability to Puerto Rico and if the President of the United States and the Puerto Rican Government concur the recommendation is submitted to Congress to become effective within ninety days if neither House rejects. Since the Budget Act of 1920 and increasingly within recent years Congress has delegated to the Executive Branch certain lawmaking and rulemaking powers, with the exercises to become effective provided Congress or one House thereof



does not veto it. Many objections have been raised with regard to this form of lawmaking but it has been defended on the rationale that Congress may delegate some of its powers with authority in the recipient to fill in the details or to effectuate certain functions and with the power retained to override the Executive. Whatever the validity of this defense of the practice, and it has never been judicially reviewed, it would not seem applicable to proposals of the Joint Commission with three of its six members appointed by the Governor of Puerto Rico. There is first of all the problem of the delegation scheme, which the Proposed Bill has running from Puerto Rico to the United States. There is second the difference between lateral delegations between coequal branches of government and vertical delegations as between Congress and Puerto Rico. In short, it does not appear that the present rationale for the legislative veto is available in this situation.


Johnny H. Killian
Assistant Chief



THE SAN JUAN STAR — Monday, June 2, 1975

Latest P.R. Status Proposals Are Opposed

By ED KONSTANT
STAR Washington Correspondent

"citizens of the United States residing in the Free Associated
State of Puerto Rico."

pact, the department would not insist on maintaining existing
law with regard to Puerto Rican immigration."



Benitez hones down adhoc panel demands

A witness testifies before local half of advisory group.

by Ed Konstant

STAR Washington correspondent

expressed mostly in private, by a few of
the mainland members of the advisory group

lost his bid for re-election to the Senate
last year.

Proposal acceptable to Congress fashioned

AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

F.I.
4/29/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information X

Per your request _____

Enclosed is a letter which we
received yesterday from Dr. Ivan
H. Garcia and attached article by
Garry Hoyt on the status of Puerto
Rico.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "A. B. C.", written over the printed name of the Executive Director.

Executive Director

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT

919705

SAN JORGE ASSOCIATES

ESPECIALISTAS EN ANESTESIOLOGIA

IVAN H. GARCIA, M.D.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

G-G.P. O. BOX 1738
SAN JUAN, P.R. 00936

HOSPITAL SAN JORGE
(QUINTO PISO)
AVE. SAN JORGE NO. 258
SANTURCE, P.R. 00912
TELS: 723-8310 EXT. 34
722-5785

April 24, 1975.

Mr. Peter Gallagher
Executive Director
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico
1016 16th. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20016.

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter sent to you by the signer on June 18, 1974 which is self explanatory. This letter followed an interview which you granted to me, at Mr. Thomas S. Dumire's office on May 16, 1974. Enclosed please find copy of a speech delivered by Mr. Gary Hoyt, a San Juan Advertising executive, on April 13, 1975, at the San Juan Rotary Club.

Mr. Hoyt views are in accordance with my views and I submit them to you, for evaluation by the american counterpart of the Ad-Hoc Committee. At the end of page 3 of my June 18 letter, I submitted to you the following recommendations:

1. The Puerto Rican people deserve clear guidance from OUR American leaders in Congress as to what American citizenship is; what responsibilities American citizenship implies; and what are the responsibilities and duties of the Federal Government towards American citizens in Puerto Rico.
2. I believe that a clear statement should be forthcoming from the American counterpart that these principles which compose the concept of American Citizenship are NOT NEGOTIABLE in Ad-Hoc Committees or in any other permanent commission studying changes to Public Law 600 and Puerto Rican - Federal relations.
3. That the American counterpart adopts the firm policy that its recommendations will be based on what is good, fair and constitutional for all american citizens and not based on what the Puerto Rican counterpart believe that is GOOD, FAIR AND CONSTITUTIONAL FOR PUERTO RICANS.
4. I believe that any future conversations at the Ad Hoc Committee or at the Permanent Commission which you have proposed, should BE BASED UPON THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PUERTO RICAN COUNTERPART OF THE CONCEPT OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP and that all decisions must be good, fair and constitutional for ALL AMERICANS.
5. I believe that such statements should be made PUBLIC by the American counterpart of the Ad Hoc Committee in order to FULFILL ITS DUTY toward those LOYAL AMERICAN CITIZENS like myself who live in Puerto Rico.



Mr. Peter Gallagher

April 24, 1975

6. I believe that such statements should be part of a formal REPLY of the American counterpart to the answers given by the Puerto Rican members to the 28 questions made by the American members of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

"It is my opinion that if such a PUBLIC STATEMENT is made by the American counterpart of the Ad-Hoc Committee you will be acting in the best interest of all american citizens, including those in the mainland and in our island. Furthermore, this statements would mark a milestone in Puerto Rican history since it would serve as AN IMPLIED QUESTION AND WARNING to all Puerto Ricans, including Mr. Luis Muñoz Marin, as to whether they want to continue as loyal american citizens or not."

"If unfortunately, such a statement is made only in private and is not PUBLICLY made by the American Counterpart, Puerto Ricans will continue to be deceived by the Popular Democratic Party leadership and people in Puerto Rico will continue requesting from Congress for many more years amendments to Public Law 600, which are incompatible with the concept of american citizenship, and which therefore will be politely denied by the Ad Hoc and permanent committees of the future."

"I believe you have in your hands a wonderful opportunity to guide the Puerto Rican people and that such opportunity should be used to its maximum advantage. I sincerely hope that the American counterpart expresses itself PUBLICLY in a concise clear statement, on the concepts of american citizenship and the responsibilities and duties of Congress towards ALL american citizens, sometime this year, and/or as part of your final report expected to be completed around March 1975." (Quotation of my June 18 letter ends).

In his recent speech, Mr. Hoyt expresses the same views, but of course, in a different, but brilliant manner. I am quoting several sections of his speech which are most relevant:

(1) "The failure to properly ask, and honestly answer the basic question is at the heart of the growing political and economic disarray in Puerto Rico."

(2) "First off, one must largely discount what Puerto Rican politicians say in the United States when they are seeking federal funds, since this bears little or no resemblance to what they say in Puerto Rico when seeking election."

(3) "the tacit understanding here is that AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP IS AN UTILITY TO BE FREELY USED - but never to be freely admitted - AND LEAST OF ALL TO BE RESPECTED OR REVERED."

(4) "the faculty at the UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO CONTAINS THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF THE MOST VENOMOUS ANTIAMERICAN SENTIMENT on the island - and may be in the entire hemisphere." (Quotation ends).

MR. JAIME BENITEZ IN 1962 and thereafter, while CHANCELLOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO APPOINTED TO SEVERAL IMPORTANT TEACHING POSTS AT THE U.P.R. WELL KNOWN MARXISTS AND COMMUNISTS. The PRESENT RESIDENT COMMISSIONER OF PUERTO RICO IN WASHINGTON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SITUATION.

(5) "This is the framework of the complex dilemma now facing Puerto Rico - a dilemma that has been brought to new prominence by the present government's aggressive stumblings towards collectivism, and AWAY FROM THE UNITED STATES."

Mr. Peter Gallagher

April 24, 1975

Again the point here is not the debatable rightness or wrongness of their moves, but the fact that the people of Puerto Rico have SPECIFICALLY NOT BEEN CONSULTED ON THEM."

(6) "The fields of education and labor were rapidly infiltrated by Marxists and independentistas, who were thus soon able to exert influence far wider than their popular support. THEY PARTICULARLY THRIVED ON COMMONWEALTH'S UNWILLINGNESS TO CLEARLY DEFINE A COURSE FOR EITHER PUERTO RICAN OR AMERICAN PATRIOTISM."

(7) "PATRIOTISM can and does vary widely in style and degree from individual to individual, but IN ITS MOST ELEMENTARY FORM IT IS A MATTER OF SIMPLE IDENTIFICATION - I AM AN AMERICAN, or I am a Brazilian or a Russian or whatever;" (quotation ends); OR A PUERTO RICAN.

(8) "The only entity morally qualified to answer this question is the Puerto Rican people. THE ONLY ENTITY LEGALLY CAPABLE OF PROPERLY ASKING THAT QUESTION IS THE U.S. CONGRESS" !!!

(9) "THE QUESTION MUST COME FROM THE U.S. CONGRESS BECAUSE THAT IS THE ONLY WAY THE ISSUE WILL BE FRAMED IN TERMS SIMPLE ENOUGH TO REPRESENT A CLEAR CHOICE TO PUERTO RICO - AND A FAIR CHOICE TO THE U.S."

(10) "THE QUESTION MUST COME FROM THE U.S. CONGRESS BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONLY ENTITY CAPABLE OF IMPLEMENTING AN ORDERLY ANSWER."

(11) "let us immediately recognize the counter reality that the question of what is right for Puerto Rico CANNOT BE JUDGED SOLELY IN ECONOMIC TERMS. Because man does not live by bread alone. And that is, in fact, precisely the problem. For while the present relationship with the United States is long on economic ties, it is sadly short on emotional ties, which in the long run are more vital."

(12) "IT IS AMERICA'S NATIONALLY INGRAINED RESPECT FOR FREE CHOICE THAT SHOULD NOW REQUIRE THE UNITED STATES TO INITIATE - IN THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF ITS OWN INDEPENDENCE - THE CLEARLY FRAMED QUESTION. "SHOULD PUERTO RICO BECOME PART OF THE UNITED STATES." (Quotation ends). IN OTHER WORDS, DO YOU WANT TO BE AMERICAN CITIZEN OR NOT?

(13) "let us say to our good friends in Puerto Rico: COME JOIN US AND BE FULL AMERICANS; Or with equal warmth let us say: GO BE FULL PUERTO RICANS AND GOD BLESS YOU. And let us be generous enough to promise firm financial support, and firm friendship in either case."

(14) "Shakespeare said, "THERE IS NO LEGACY SO RICH AS HONESTY". As an American citizen deeply concerned with Puerto Rico, I call on the U.S. Congress to undertake the kind of SEARCHING INQUIRY THAT WILL INDUCE FULL HONESTY, AND GIVE THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO A CLEAR CHANCE TO RESOLVE THEIR DESTINY."

Mr. Hoyt words, in my opinion, describe the situation PERFECTLY. In the Spirit of '76, as a Puerto Rican born here in 1927, as an American Citizen, and as a Korean War Veteran, I plead to you to ask Mr. Luis Muñoz Marin and the Puerto Rican counterpart of the Ad Hoc Committee:

Do you want to be american citizens or not?

And I plead you to ask the same question to the Puerto Rican people in the most simplest terms. Muñoz Marin and the Puerto Rican members of the Committee have wasted precious hours trying to put forward a Commonwealth Culmination formula. I honestly believe that in ONE SINGLE HOUR !!! you can answer them in the most



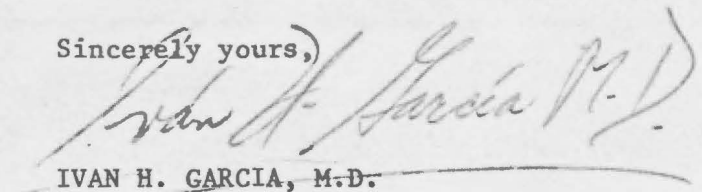
Mr. Peter Gallagher

April 24, 1975

simplest terms and enlighten them on what American Citizenship means and on HOW CONGRESS HAS THE DUTY TO SAFEGUARD THE BASIC VALUES OF AMERICANISM.

I think that such a PUBLIC QUESTION to Puerto Rico would be a milestone of our Bicentennial Independence Anniversary, and would reveal to ALL AMERICANS from Alaska to Florida, the real meaning of the Spirit of '76. I am pledged to that Spirit of '76. Let us all join forces and reveal the meaning of Americanism to all American Citizens, INCLUDING THOSE OF PUERTO RICO !!!

Sincerely yours,)


IVAN H. GARCIA, M.D.
1705 Geranio Street
Urbanizacion San Francisco
Río Piedras
Puerto Rico, 00927.

Enclosures:

- (1) Letter dated June 18, 1974.
- (2) Copy of Mr. Gary Hoyt speech on April 15, 1975 in San Juan, P.R.

IHG:cr.



April 20, 1975 25

'Should Puerto Rico become part of the U.S.?'

by Garry Hoyt

Editor's note: Garry Hoyt, a San Juan advertising executive, delivered this speech at Tuesday's meeting of the San Juan Rotary Club.

— and be accepted as American as anybody
— is entirely lost on most Puerto Ricans
who totally exclude Americans from "Their"



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
FROM: NORM ROSS
SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico

BACKGROUND

Nixon
When the Puerto Rican people voted for Commonwealth status in preference to Statehood in the plebiscite of 1967, they also chose to "perfect" Commonwealth through Advisory Groups, which are jointly appointed by the President and the Governor of Puerto Rico. ~~The~~ President appointed the first such Advisory Group jointly with former Governor Luis Ferre in 1970 to inquire into the question of the Presidential vote for Puerto Ricans. That Group reported back favorably in 1971, but no action has been taken, and the question is again being considered by a second Advisory Group initiated on September 27, 1973.

This second Advisory Group has been charged to investigate "the extent to which the laws and administrative regulations of the United States should apply in Puerto Rico." The Group has 14 members: 7 appointed by former President Nixon and 7 by Governor Hernandez-Colon. Marlow Cook is chairman of the United States delegation. The other members are Senators Buckley and Bennett Johnston; Congressmen Don Clausen and Foley; former Governor Richard Ogilvie; and Paul Howell, a Texas oil man.

John
The Domestic Council was instrumental in establishing the second Group. The Group's Charter designated 18 months as the time needed to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Charter. Based on a starting date of September 27, 1973, the Advisory Group should have completed its work on March 31, 1975. However, the progress of the Group's deliberations has not made this possible.

What is New Deadline?



Prior to June 30, 1974, the Advisory Group was financed from the funds provided by the President's Emergency Fund. This Fund was eliminated by Congress in the FY 1975 appropriation process. On July 1, 1974, the Domestic Council provided the necessary funds and personnel vacancies to enable the Group to continue their operations.

A final product of the Advisory Group's activities will be a report to the President and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. If the Governor accepts its recommendations, he will submit the report to a plebiscite in Puerto Rico. The result is certified to the President, who in turn transmits the report, election results and his recommendations to Congress.

The mainland delegation to the Advisory Group has received a document entitled, "Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States," dated April 12, 1975. This document was drafted entirely by the Puerto Rican delegates to the Advisory Group in secrecy. No public hearings or meetings, as prescribed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, were held giving the Puerto Rican electorate an opportunity to make their views known.

The proposal contains several far-reaching provisions which would give Puerto Rico significantly greater autonomy, than enjoyed by the States, in the areas of Federal regulatory statutes and their accompanying administrative regulations. On the other side of the legislative fence, the proposal would establish Puerto Rico as an equal partner with the States in the distribution of social and economic aid.

Such a proposal if not significantly modified will be embarrassing to the President, the Congress and the American people. Exemption actual and proposed from Federal regulatory statutes and the accompanying administrative regulations are very appealing to any body politic and would surely receive an overwhelming affirmative vote from the Puerto Rican electorate. The same result can easily be predicted on the enlargement



of social and economic aid to a people whose per capita income is less than one-half the national average and where a considerable majority of the populace is eligible for welfare.

ISSUE

To diplomatically terminate the activities of the Advisory Group with an "acceptable" report.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The mainland delegation could state that the proceedings at which the Puerto Rican proposal was drafted were not in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Pro

- ° The report from the Puerto Rican delegation is far from being acceptable.
- ° Would allow ample opportunity for mainland input and could result in a finished product acceptable to the President and eventually to the Congress.
- ° Publicly justifiable in that no mainland delegates were consulted in the preparation of the report.

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- ° The Puerto Rican delegates would be highly embarrassed making it more difficult to retreat from the far-reaching positions they have taken.
- ° Would mean starting from the beginning and involving several meetings greatly extending the Group's existence.



2. The fully Advisory Group adopt the Puerto Rican document as a working paper.

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- ° Should result in the completion of the Advisory Group's work in the shortest period of time with an "acceptable" product.
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- ° The mainland delegates must take an unpopular and embarrassing stand and make a strong point that the draft proposed by the Puerto Rican delegates, in their judgment, will result in a finished product unacceptable to the President and the Congress.
- ° Funding for the continuation of the Group's activities must be located. This situation occurs with both alternatives. Tab A contains a proposed budget submitted by Marlow Cook.

RECOMMENDATION

Marlow Cook recommends Alternative 2. I concur with that recommendation.



BUDGET - PROPOSED

5/1/75 - 6/30/75

Personnel Compensation (including annual leave)	\$18,200
Personnel Benefits	600
Travel & Transportation	1,500
Reproduction	300
Supplies & Materials	100
Communications	150
Estimated Unpaid Bills on Hand 1/1/75 - 4/30/75	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>\$21,850</u>

BUDGET - PROPOSED

7/1/75 - 9/30/75

Personnel Compensation (including annual leave)	\$23,300
Personnel Benefits	2,000
Travel & Transportation *	10,000
Rent, Communications & Utilities	2,400
Printing & Reproduction	3,000
Supplies & Materials	<u>200</u>
	<u>\$40,900</u>

*One meeting in Puerto Rico and one in Washington, D.C.



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

April 15, 1975

Honorable James M. Cannon
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Affairs
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Jim:

You will find enclosed herein the final draft presentation by the Puerto Rican Delegation to the Full Committee of a proposed Compact of Permanent Union between the United States and Puerto Rico. It is vitally important that we have some input from your organization within the near future relative to this document.

A hoped-for final meeting of the Advisory Group will be held in Washington on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, May 8th, 9th, and 10th, pursuant to a notice placed in the Federal Register.

As background information, the Advisory Group is a joint selection by the President of the United States and the Governor of Puerto Rico, authorized under Public Law 600 adopted by the Congress in 1950, for the purpose of recommendations to the President and the Congress relative to any problems which may exist between the United States and Puerto Rico. The proposal to be discussed on May 8th, 9th and 10th is of major significance in regard to the future association of Puerto Rico and the Mainland. Thus, any input we could have from your shop would be very valuable.

I do wish to apologize for advising you that the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico comes under the jurisdiction of the Domestic Council, but then I am sure you have yet to find all the ramifications of your position. Hoping that this advice does not come as a shock, I remain,

Very truly yours,


Maxwell W. Cook
Chairman

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Very truly yours,


Marlow W. Cook
Chairman



The Internationalization Of Status



By JUAN M.
GARCIA
PASSALACQUA

(Garcia Passalacqua is a

THE SAN JUAN STAR — Wednesday, April 2, 19



LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

April 12, 1975

Hon. Marlow W. Cook
Shook, Hardy and Bacon
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Senator:

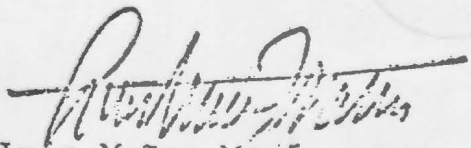
I enclose herewith a resolution and text of the proposed Compact of Permanent Union Between Puerto Rico and the United States, as approved today, April 12, 1975, by the Puerto Rican members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico.

While the text carries with it the consensus of the group, one or two members have at some points expressed reservations.

Our mutual friend Jaime Benítez who leaves tomorrow for Washington, will deliver this letter to you and to the other stateside members of the Group.

We are all looking forward to the forthcoming meeting.

With warmest personal regards,


Luis Muñoz Marín

LMM/clf

Enclosures

COMITE AD HOC SOBRE EL DESARROLLO
DEL ESTADO LIBRE ASOCIADO DE PUERTO RICO
Edificio Intendente Ramírez - Oficina 802
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00905

RESOLUTION

In accordance with the agreements adopted on June 1974 by the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, the Puerto Rican part of this Ad Hoc Advisory Group forwards to its United States colleagues, for the corresponding joint action, its proposal for a Compact of Permanent Union Between Puerto Rico and the United States, enclosed herewith. We recommend that the discussion of the proposed Compact constitute the first and principal item in the agenda of our forthcoming meetings to be held in Washington, D.C. on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th of May.

The Proposed Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States considers, although it does not purport to exhaust, two of the three charges included in our Charter of September 1973, to wit:

- 1) "In order to implement the express desires of the people of Puerto Rico freely made in the plebiscite of 1967, this Ad Hoc Advisory Group will be charged further to develop the maximum of self-government and self-determination within the framework of Commonwealth --a common defense, a common market, a common currency, and the indissoluble link of United States citizenship.
- 2) "The Advisory Group will inquire into and report and recommend on the extent to which the statutory laws and administrative regulations of the United States should apply in Puerto Rico."

The third and last charge refers to the following:

- 3) "As part of this Charter, the group must study alternate forms of participation in the federal decisions affecting the people of Puerto Rico, which the people of Puerto Rico ought to consider together with the presidential vote recommended by the first Ad Hoc Advisory Group."

Finally, the Charter states:

"In keeping with the plebiscite law, no change in the relationship recommended by the Group, together with the recommendations of the first Ad Hoc Advisory Group would be made unless previously approved by the people of Puerto Rico."

On the right to vote in Puerto Rico for candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, the Puerto Rican members of this Ad Hoc Advisory Group subscribe the recommendation of the previous Group to the effect that the electorate of Puerto Rico be consulted directly and separately on this form of participation.

While our proposed Compact of Permanent Union includes several provisions which provide alternate forms of participation, we do not intend to adjuge in it the issue of the presidential vote. A majority of us consider preferable not to delay the final approval of this Compact by the inclusion of provisions (such as a constitutional amendment) that go beyond the range of action of the Congress of the United States and the people of Puerto Rico.

Approved, Saturday, April 12, 1975.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
FROM: NORM ROSS
SUBJECT: Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico

BACKGROUND

MX 50
When the Puerto Rican people voted for Commonwealth status in preference to Statehood in the plebiscite of 1967, they also chose to "perfect" Commonwealth through Advisory Groups, which are jointly appointed by the President and the Governor of Puerto Rico. ~~The~~ President appointed the first such Advisory Group jointly with former Governor Luis Ferre in 1970 to inquire into the question of the Presidential vote for Puerto Ricans. That Group reported back favorably in 1971, but no action has been taken, and the question is again being considered by a second Advisory Group initiated on September 27, 1973.

This second Advisory Group has been charged to investigate "the extent to which the laws and administrative regulations of the United States should apply in Puerto Rico." The Group has 14 members: 7 appointed by former President Nixon and 7 by Governor Hernandez-Colon. Marlow Cook is chairman of the United States delegation. The other members are Senators Buckley and Bennett Johnston; Congressmen Don Clausen and Foley; former Governor Richard Ogilvie; and Paul Howell, a Texas oil man.

The Domestic Council was instrumental in establishing the second Group. The Group's Charter designated 18 months as the time needed to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Charter. Based on a starting date of September 27, 1973, the Advisory Group should have completed its work on March 31, 1975. However, the progress of the Group's deliberations has not made this possible.

What is New Headline?



Prior to June 30, 1974, the Advisory Group was financed from the funds provided by the President's Emergency Fund. This Fund was eliminated by Congress in the FY 1975 appropriation process. On July 1, 1974, the Domestic Council provided the necessary funds and personnel vacancies to enable the Group to continue their operations.

① A final product of the Advisory Group's activities will be a report to the President and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. If the Governor accepts its recommendations, he will submit the report to a plebiscite in Puerto Rico. The result is certified to the President, who in turn transmits the report, election results and his recommendations to Congress.

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The proposal contains several far-reaching provisions which would give Puerto Rico significantly greater autonomy, than enjoyed by the States, in the areas of Federal regulatory statutes and their accompanying administrative regulations. On the other side of the legislative fence, the proposal would establish Puerto Rico as an equal partner with the States in the distribution of social and economic aid.

Such a proposal if not significantly modified will be embarrassing to the President, the Congress and the American people. Exemption actual and proposed from Federal regulatory statutes and the accompanying administrative regulations are very appealing to any body politic and would surely receive an overwhelming affirmative vote from the Puerto Rican electorate. The same result can easily be predicted on the enlargement



of social and economic aid to a people whose per capita income is less than one-half the national average and where a considerable majority of the populace is eligible for welfare.

ISSUE

To diplomatically terminate the activities of the Advisory Group with an "acceptable" report.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The mainland delegation could state that the proceedings at which the Puerto Rican proposal was drafted were not in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Pro

- ° The report from the Puerto Rican delegation is far from being acceptable.
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- ° Funding for the continuation of the Group's activities must be located. This situation occurs with both alternatives. Tab A contains a proposed budget submitted by Marlow Cook.

RECOMMENDATION

Marlow Cook recommends Alternative 2. I concur with that recommendation.



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5/1/75 - 6/30/75

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(including annual leave)	
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Washington, DC 20036

April 15, 1975

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Maxwell W. Cook
Chairman



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Chairman



The Internationalization Of Status



By JUAN M.
GARCIA
PASSALACQUA

(Garcia Passalacqua is a

THE SAN JUAN STAR — Wednesday, April 2, 1

both agreed that it would center around a prompt

[REDACTED]



LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

April 12, 1975

Hon. Marlow W. Cook
Shook, Hardy and Bacon
1776 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Senator:

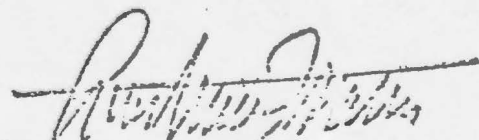
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We are all looking forward to the forthcoming meeting.

With warmest personal regards,


Luis Muñoz Marín

LMN/clf
Enclosures



COMITE AD HOC SOBRE EL DESARROLLO
DEL ESTADO LIBRE ASOCIADO DE PUERTO RICO
Edificio Intendente Ramirez - Oficina 802
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00905

RESOLUTION

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-more-



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Approved, Saturday, April 12, 1975.



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

5/2/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information X

Per your request



5-5

Patricia McGowan

Administrative Ass't.

AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

4/2
F.I.

May 1, 1975

The Honorable
Luis Munoz-Marin, Co-Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico
P.O. Box 367
St. Just, Puerto Rico 00705

Dear Don Luis:

Immediately upon receipt of the draft proposal of permanent union prepared by your delegation and dated April 12, 1975, I requested several federal agencies to study and comment thereon. Unfortunately, as of this date these agencies have been unable to complete their review and this has prevented the mainland delegates from obtaining sufficient briefing material to adequately assess the draft proposal.

I regret the urgency with which this communication has been made, however, the meetings scheduled for May 8, 9 and 10, 1975 must be postponed until the federal agencies have complied with my request and the mainland delegates have had an opportunity to study the proposal in light of the analyses received. I hope that this will meet with the understanding and approval of your delegation.

I have discussed the situation with Representatives Clausen and Foley and we agree that this is the only course to follow.

Earlier today Jaime Benitez and I agreed to meet early next week to discuss a mutually agreeable schedule to resume the deliberations of the full committee.

Best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Marlow W. Cook
Co-Chairman



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

4

5/5/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information X

Per your request _____



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "T. E. Ross", written in a cursive style.

Executive Director

TSF personal

April 24, 1975

My dear Mr. President:

I hereby tender my resignation as a member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico. I appreciated your selection of me as a member of the Group and I regret that my additional duties and responsibilities as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee necessitates my leaving this important post.

With high regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Foley
Member of Congress

The President
The White House

TSF:jr



April 30, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR

JIM CAVANAUGH

FROM:

NORM ROSS

SUBJECT:

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on
Puerto Rico

When the Puerto Rican people voted for Commonwealth status in preference to Statehood in the plebiscite of 1967, they also chose to "perfect" Commonwealth through Advisory Groups, which are jointly appointed by the President and the Governor of Puerto Rico. The President appointed the first such Advisory Group jointly with former Governor Luis Ferre in 1970 to inquire into the question of the Presidential vote for Puerto Ricans. That group reported back favorably in 1971, but no action has been taken and the question is again being considered by a second Advisory Group initiated on September 27, 1973.

This second Advisory Group has been charged to investigate "the extent to which the laws and administrative regulations of the United States should apply in Puerto Rico." The Group has 14 members: 7 appointed by former President Nixon and 7 by Governor Hernandez-Colon. Senator Cook is chairman of the United States delegation. The other members are Senators Buckley and Bennett Johnston; Congressmen Don Clausen and Poley, former Governor Richard Ogilvie, and Paul Howell, a Texas oil man.

The Domestic Council was instrumental in establishing the second Group. The Group's Charter designated 18 months as the time needed to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Charter. Based on a starting date of September 27, 1973, the Advisory Group should have completed its work on March 31, 1975. However, the progress of the Group's deliberations has not made this possible.



-2-

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The Advisory Group has a staff of three people. The Executive Director (GS-15), Administrative Officer (GS-13) and a Secretary (GS-9) provide staff support to the Group. I hope the Group can complete its work by June 30, 1975.

Please note the attached memo from Jim Cannon. I need to discuss this with you.

NEROSS/ee

cc: File Puerto Rico



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

5/6/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information_____

Per your request_____

The Department of State's comments
on the draft Compact of Permanent
Union.




Executive Director

5-7



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20520

May 2, 1975

Honorable Marlow W. Cook
Co-Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico
1016 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Senator Cook:

I am writing in further response to your letter of March 4, 1975, requesting the Department's comments on the proposed bill to establish a compact of permanent union between the United States and Puerto Rico, and to your request of May 17, 1974, for the Department's comments on Governor Hernandez Colon's proposals. The comments are based on the final draft approved by the Puerto Rican Delegation of the Ad Hoc Group on April 12 and sent to Secretary Kissinger by Mr. Gallagher on April 15.

We appreciate having this opportunity to comment on the draft and in contributing to the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group. It is especially important that the Commonwealth have meaningful and effective ways to participate in decision-making that impacts on Puerto Rico, and, in our view, the interchange made possible through your deliberations is appropriate and extremely helpful.

We have been following the discussions of the Advisory Group and have read closely the presentations made last year by Governor Hernandez Colon and other Commonwealth officials. We welcome the Governor's expression of interest in Puerto Rico becoming more involved in economic and cultural affairs of the Caribbean, especially because of the positive contributions that economic and technical exchanges can make to the region and to Puerto Rico.

The draft bill raises a variety of difficult and complex issues regarding the relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico, only a few of which are of direct interest to the Department of State. It is our understanding that other Government agencies have been given the opportunity to comment on sections of the bill which are of interest to them.



The State Department's interest is largely confined to four areas, membership in international organizations, agreements with countries other than the United States, trade, and immigration. Our comments in these four areas are given below.

Insofar as Puerto Rican membership in international organizations is concerned, the Department believes that this must be considered in light of Federal Government responsibility for the conduct of the foreign relations of the United States, both the mainland and Puerto Rico, a responsibility which would continue under the proposed draft compact. As the Ad Hoc Committee is aware, the Department is supporting the Puerto Rican initiative to seek membership in the Caribbean Development Bank, a regional development bank, the charter of which provides for membership by political entities other than independent states, as well as by independent states. Legislation specifically authorizing the Executive Branch to transmit the necessary documents to the Bank was enacted by the Congress late last year.

In the view of the Department, many regional and other international organizations that are concerned with social, economic, educational, scientific, technical, and cultural matters, whose charters provide for memberships by political entities other than independent states, seem generally suitable for consideration for Puerto Rican membership. In our view, membership by Puerto Rico in such international organizations should be determined on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the Department of State and, where appropriate, with the concurrence of the Congress. We do not rule out that the latter could be accomplished through the enactment of general legislation authorizing Puerto Rican membership in international organizations under specified terms and conditions.

The Department also recognizes that in certain instances it may be necessary or desirable to conclude specific agreements affecting Puerto Rico's relationship with other countries in educational, cultural, health, sporting, professional, industrial, agricultural, financial, commercial, scientific, or technical relations. We believe such agreements or arrangements should either be concluded by the United States on behalf of, and with appropriate consideration of the



interests of Puerto Rico, or by Puerto Rico with the prior concurrence of the Department, and the Congress where appropriate.

We would not think it appropriate that Puerto Rico enter into a trade or other agreement with a foreign country without authorization by the Federal Government, as was the case in one instance in 1971. We gather there is no desire to follow such a practice. We are presently working with the Government of Puerto Rico to resolve problems created by certain Puerto Rican actions in the foreign trade policy area and that have adversely affected the foreign trade relations of the United States. Certain types of agreements, especially those in the trade, financial, commercial, economic, or industrial fields, will clearly involve the interests of the rest of the United States as well as those of Puerto Rico per se. Others, such as those in the educational, cultural, and sporting fields, may well be of little direct importance to the Federal Government. It may be difficult to establish a single rule applicable in all cases. We believe, however, that it should be possible to set up standard procedures to be followed whenever the Commonwealth desires agreements on specific subjects so that Executive and Congressional interests can be ensured, while interests of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are accommodated and enhanced to the greatest extent possible. We are prepared to meet with Puerto Rican officials and interested members of the Congress to seek to develop mutually satisfactory arrangements in this regard.

In the area of trade, we note that the proposed compact purports to maintain the present customs union between Puerto Rico and the United States, while at the same time enabling the Government of Puerto Rico to independently raise and lower duties on goods imported into Puerto Rico. It is assumed that these proposed arrangements will also be addressed by the Department of Commerce, the Department of Treasury, and the Office of the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations. We note that they would appear to maintain the significant advantage Puerto Rico now enjoys in the U.S. market, while increasing somewhat the advantages of Puerto Rican industry over industry in the 50 states. Moreover, they would give the Federal Government less control over Puerto Rico's trade than at present while maintaining Federal Government responsibility for any



actions taken by Puerto Rico that might adversely affect foreign countries. In any event, we would want to assure that Puerto Rico's exercise of its authority under these sections would be in a manner consistent with the international obligations of the United States.

As indicated above, we believe that international agreements pertaining to Puerto Rican trade should be concluded by the Federal Government. To a certain extent this problem could be dealt with by improving the arrangements through which Puerto Rico has the opportunity to express its views to the Federal Government in the formulation of trade policy that affects the Commonwealth. Its views merit full consideration.

Governor Hernandez Colon's testimony to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group in April 1974 mentioned Puerto Rico's efforts to send trade missions to other countries. These visits have been welcomed by our Embassies and Consulates and are supported by the Departments of State and Commerce. They clearly serve our best interests and merit our support.

The Department sees no objection in principle to a commitment by the United States to use its best efforts to have Puerto Rico accepted as an associated developing state so that it may enjoy generalized tariff preferences provided to developing countries by the European Economic Community, Japan, and other developed countries other than the United States. We note, however, that other countries are unlikely to grant such preferences unless they can be assured that goods from the rest of the United States are not diverted through and exported as products of Puerto Rico.

With respect to immigration, the Department in principle has no objection to the establishment of what is, in effect, a separate immigration system for Puerto Rico. However, the establishment of such a separate system will require careful planning so that it will be compatible both with the desire of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as expressed in the draft compact and with the Immigration and Nationality Act. Legislative modification of the Act will, of



course, be required, specifically the definition of the United States in Section 101(a)(38). Members of the Department's legal staff and Visa Office are prepared to provide a more detailed analysis of the steps necessary to implement such a change at the appropriate time.

In closing, I would like to assure you of the Department's continuing interest in the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group and of our willingness to discuss these and other appropriate matters with you and the Advisory Group, the Congress, and representatives of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Monroe Leigh

Monroe Leigh
The Legal Adviser



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

7

5/9/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

F.B.

For your information _____

Per your request _____

The response from the Labor
Department and Ambassador
John Scali.



Pete Gallagher
Executive Director

5-12



THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

6 May 1975

Mr. Marlow W. Cook
Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group
on Puerto Rico
1016 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Marlow:

I very much appreciate your letter of April 15 asking for my reaction to the draft compact prepared by the Puerto Rican members of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico.

As you know, at the United Nations I have devoted a considerable amount of time and energy to refuting the Cuban-inspired canard that Puerto Rico is nothing more than a colony of the United States. I firmly believe that the people of Puerto Rico, as a result of the negotiations and plebiscite in 1952, have freely entered into the present commonwealth relationship with the United States. I also believe that whenever the Puerto Rican people, speaking through their freely elected representatives, request a readjustment of this relationship, the United States will respond positively and in a manner consistent with the ideals of the United States and Puerto Rican Constitutions. I therefore welcomed the decision of President Nixon to establish the Ad Hoc Advisory Group in order to reexamine the current relationship and welcome the careful review you are giving to the Puerto Rican proposals.



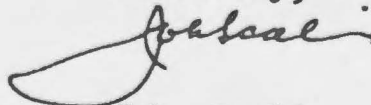
Mr. Marlow W. Cook
Page 2
6 May 1975

The Department of State, I understand, is commenting in detail on the specific provisions of the draft compact of permanent union as proposed by the Puerto Rican side. Since virtually all of these proposals involve complicated questions of law, which do not relate directly to our participation in the United Nations, I do not believe that it would be advisable for me to express an opinion on them.

So far as the question of Puerto Rican participation in international organizations is concerned, I believe further sympathetic consideration should be given to such participation, under both the existing and the proposed arrangements. It seems to me that Puerto Rico should have the opportunity, as appropriate, to participate in those organizations concerned with economic and social problems whose Charters provide for membership by political entities other than independent states. The precise manner for securing such participation by Puerto Rico is essentially a matter of detail which I am certain should provide no obstacle.

In conclusion, I do hope that the above comments will not be interpreted as an expression of opinion on Puerto Rico's political status. I want to reemphasize what I have stated for the record on many occasions at the United Nations -- I believe that the Puerto Rican people must make the ultimate determination of their own political status, whether it be commonwealth, free association, independence, statehood or some combination thereof.

Sincerely,



John Scali

Best regards to all -



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

MAY 6 1975

Mr. Marlow W. Cook :
Co-Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on
Puerto Rico
1016 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Cook:

This is in reply to your request for my comments on the proposed bill "To Establish the Compact of Permanent Union Between Puerto Rico and the United States."

I am in general agreement with the underlying purpose of the proposed compact which, if adopted, would establish a permanent relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States. However, I have serious reservations concerning several of the provisions and their effect upon rights of workers in Puerto Rico.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Sections 4(a) and 6(b) of the proposed compact would have an effect upon the Federal unemployment insurance system of which Puerto Rico is a part. The Puerto Rican unemployment insurance law is an approved law under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act and meets the requirements of Title III of the Social Security Act. Puerto Rico qualifies in the same manner as a state for purposes of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system. It pays Federal-State extended benefits and is reimbursed 50 percent of the cost of such benefits by the Federal Government. In addition, Puerto Rico is eligible for Federal supplemental benefits payable under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act of 1974 and advance payment of benefits under Title III of the Social Security Act. Puerto Rico has, in fact, applied for an advance of \$10 million to pay benefits in April 1975.

It is not clear whether the proposed compact would prevent the continuation of Puerto Rican participation in the :



Federal-State unemployment insurance system. The UI program is supported by a Federal tax payable by employers under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. Section 4(a) of the proposed compact which makes internal revenues laws of the United States inapplicable to Puerto Rico is qualified by section 6(b). Section 6(b) would preserve the application of grant and loan programs "*, * *, to the citizens of the United States residing in the Free Associated State of Puerto Rico." The Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the keystone of state participation in the UI system, is not limited to a state or its citizens. It applies broadly to employers and employees in the United States, irrespective of whether they are citizens. Further, section 3304(a)(9)(A) of the Act specifically precludes a state from denying unemployment benefits to an otherwise eligible individual solely because he is residing in or filing his claim in another state or Canada. Accordingly, Puerto Rico might fail to qualify for Federal benefits.

The remainder of section 6(b) and section 6(c) and (d) are unclear as to whether the Free Associated State would assume full responsibility for collecting revenues to support programs such as unemployment insurance. No decision has been made at this time as to what system of contributory payments will be initiated and when it will be initiated. It seems clear, however, that Puerto Rico is unable at the present time to support an unemployment insurance program without Federal assistance. It would be a tragic mistake to discontinue the flow of benefits to workers in Puerto Rico because of the failure of Puerto Rico to qualify under the Act.

WORKER ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

Section 9 of the proposed compact would continue the free flow of goods to and from the United States and Puerto Rico. Section (c), however, would require customs duties and other similar taxes to be paid into the Treasury of Puerto Rico. While we would defer to the Treasury Department with respect to substantive comments on this section, we note that this would provide Puerto Rico with preferential treatment with regard to such tax collections not available to the states at large. Of importance to the Department of Labor is section (d) which might preclude workers in Puerto Rico from receiving worker adjustment assistance under the Trade Act of 1974.



Section 9(d) would authorize Puerto Rico to impose, increase, reduce or eliminate tariffs on finished products, semi-finished, agricultural or raw materials imported directly from foreign countries or transhipped through the United States. The Trade Act of 1974 specifies that in order for a group of workers to be eligible for adjustment assistance, the increase of imports must contribute importantly to the required adverse effect of the workers and their employers. While this section of the Trade Act does not refer specifically to tariff changes, the legislative history of the Act indicates that such assistance was deemed necessary to offset the adverse effects on workers that might result from the exercise of the trade negotiating authority provided in the Act. If Puerto Rico is empowered to raise or lower tariffs unilaterally, the rights of adversely affected employees under the Trade Act would be nullified.

ENTRY OF ALIENS INTO PUERTO RICO

Section 10(a) of the proposed compact would enable the Government of Puerto Rico to limit the number of aliens or to increase the quota of resident aliens who may be admitted to Puerto Rico with the concurrence of the President and the Government. I assume that since this is a separate section in the compact, any program affecting aliens such as the Department of Labor's alien certification responsibility would be considered under the immigration and naturalization laws rather than the general labor statutes. With this understanding, I defer to the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization for substantive comments on this section. I would hope, however, that this section would not be used to import lower paid workers into Puerto Rico so as to deprive citizens of employment.

THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT AND RELATED ACTS

Section 17(a) of the proposed compact would effectively revise the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act to Puerto Rico. It provides that the minimum wage in Puerto Rico should be equivalent to the minimum wage in



the United States as soon as economically possible, but reserves to Puerto Rico the authority to set the minimum wage and hours of work standards except for shipping and aviation and certain other enterprises. In the most recent amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Congress set a schedule for the eventual achievement of parity of minimum wage rates in Puerto Rico with those in the states. The amendments also extended the applicable mainland rates for employees of restaurants and hotels, food service employees of retail or service establishments and employees of the Federal Government to such employees in Puerto Rico. As a result of industry committee actions since the enactment of the 1974 amendments, a large number of workers in industries in Puerto Rico are reaping the benefit of minimum wages close to those for state-side workers. While we recognize the unique economic and employment situation existing in many industries in Puerto Rico, we would nonetheless, be opposed to provisions which would adversely effect workers in the Commonwealth.

It is not clear as to the meaning of those "enterprises whose products or services are sold or rendered substantially in the United States" which would be subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act. If this category is intended to cover the so-called "run-away shop," then it should be made clear that this will include industries which, in one or more of their operations, compete substantially with their counterparts in the states. For example, the clothing industry sells over 50 percent of its output in Puerto Rico, but at the same time, because of wage and tax advantages, has virtually cornered the market in military hats and caps.

The proposed language dealing with minimum wages and maximum hours does not specifically refer to child labor, age discrimination and equal pay and thus may not relieve Puerto Rico employers from compliance with these requirements. In fact, giving Puerto Rico "exclusive jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to labor-management relations" may not be broad enough to exclude Puerto Rico from the provisions of Title VII, ADEA and equal pay. However, if this provision was interpreted to exclude these categories from FLSA or other coverage, then there would be no protection for persons affected by the various acts at present unless and until Puerto Rico enacted comparable laws. This also should not preclude the application of existing Federal



laws. The Department of Labor has fought for these issues for many years and, particularly in the case of child labor, would be opposed to any provisions which would abrogate these rights.

SERVICE CONTRACT, PUBLIC CONTRACTS, CONTRACT WORK HOURS AND RELATED ACTS

The Service Contract Act, Walsh-Healey and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act do not apply to contracts issued by the Government of Puerto Rico or its agencies. However, contracts issued by the United States to be performed in Puerto Rico for work on service contracts would be affected by section 17(a) of the compact. To eliminate this protection while not preserving the FLSA minimum otherwise specified in SCA could result in a disastrous lowering of wages for some workers. Similarly, wage determinations under Walsh-Healey are not applicable to Puerto Rico, but are governed by FLSA or by a minimum established by industry committees. This protection for workers will be lost with the adoption of the compact as now written.

Although the Davis-Bacon Act is not applicable to Puerto Rico, many of its related statutes, such as the National Housing Act, 12 U.S.C. 1715(c) contain labor standards that apply directly to Puerto Rico. The labor standards in these related acts are aimed primarily at preventing economic disruption of the economy of a locality by insuring that local contracting firms are not subjected to unfair competition from outside the locality and pay wages which are substandard for the locality in which the Federal public works are to be constructed. The very difficulties that Congress sought to remedy in 1931 with its enactment of the Davis-Bacon Act could occur in Puerto Rico.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT

Section 17(c) of the compact would reserve to Puerto Rico exclusive jurisdiction over matters related to occupational safety and health. For Puerto Rico to exclude itself from coverage under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 without having an equally effective program in its place would constitute a grave disservice



to its workers. Section 18 of the Act provides a viable means under which Puerto Rico could administer its own program and obtain financial assistance from the Federal Government. Section 18 provides that a state would have jurisdiction under its own law for any occupational and safety issue in which no standard is in effect under section 6 of the Act. A state can assume responsibility for the development and enforcement of occupational safety and health standards where a Federal standard has been promulgated under section 6. Grants are made to the states under section 23(g) for the purpose of assisting it in administering and enforcing programs for occupational safety and health contained in state plans approved by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to section 18. Thus, if the Act applied to Puerto Rico, it would have the benefit of the Federal expertise developed by OSHA and NIOSH and, in addition, could receive 50 percent funding for the implementation of its program from the United States.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Section 2 of the proposed compact recognizes the jurisdiction and authority of the United States to conduct foreign affairs. However, section 2(e) proposes that Puerto Rico shall belong to international organizations and make unilateral non-political agreements with other countries.

The Department of State is charged with the conduct of foreign affairs on behalf of the United States, including participation in international organizations. By agreement with the State Department, the Department of Labor participates in the formulation of policy with respect to the International Labor Organization. The ILO is an international organization which would be included in the proposal to permit independent membership by Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico's present inability to participate in international organizations relates to its status as neither an independent nation nor a territory, (some international organizations permit territories to be admitted to membership). ILO, however, has not adopted a system of "associate" membership for states which cannot be admitted to full membership. In the past, some political entities achieved full membership in ILO before achieving full sovereignty, but one of the requirements is that the entity must have



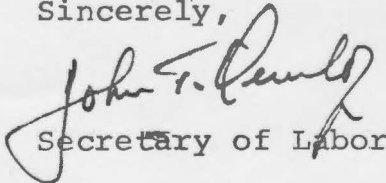
autonomy in labor matters. At the present time, Puerto Rico does not have such autonomy. Even under the compact as it is proposed, Puerto Rico would not have autonomy over all aspects of labor matters related to Puerto Rico and thus would probably be excluded from membership in ILO. While there are many areas in which international organizations operate in which it would be mutually advantageous to Puerto Rico and the United States for Puerto Rico to participate, we would be opposed to such participation without the approval of the Executive Branch or the Congress.

CONCLUSION

There are many other aspects of the proposed compact to which we would pose objections or request clarifications. Some of our objections are in areas not directly related to labor laws and I would defer to those agencies which have a primary interest in the subject matter.

I am most concerned, however, with the impact on workers in Puerto Rico if the Federal labor laws are abrogated. I feel that the compact as it now stands is ambivalent as to the position which Puerto Rico wishes to maintain in this regard. It is my opinion that working men and women will suffer irreparable harm should they be deprived of the protection of Federal labor laws. Because of the many deficiencies which I see in the compact in this respect, I cannot endorse it in its present form.

Sincerely,


Secretary of Labor



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

5/14/75

TO: Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.

For your information _____

Per your request _____

A copy of the response from
the Department of Justice
which we received today.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. R. ...", written over the printed name of the Executive Director.

Executive Director

5-15-

Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

May 12, 1975

Mr. Marlow W. Cook
Co-Chairman, Ad Hoc Advisory
Group on Puerto Rico
1016 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. ^{Marlow}Cook:

This is in response to your March 4, 1975, letter to the Attorney General requesting this Department to review the proposed Compact of Permanent Union Between Puerto Rico and the United States with regard to its constitutionality and its feasibility under the laws administered by this Department.

The proposed Compact would, without altering the fundamental nature of Puerto Rico's Commonwealth status, provide substantially increased autonomy to the island government and its people. This increased autonomy is effected primarily by Article 3 of the proposed Compact, vesting legal title to all land and waters within Puerto Rico in the Free Associated State, and by Article 12, relating to the applicability of federal laws. Such autonomy may be granted Puerto Rico because Congress under the Constitution (Article IV, § 3) has plenary power over the territories of the United States and Puerto Rico remains a territory as that word is used in the Constitution. Cf. Detres v. Lions Building Corp., 234 F.2d 596 (7th Cir. 1956). In this light, it is possible for Congress to bind future Congresses with respect to Puerto Rico by means of a "compact". This may be viewed either as the vesting of certain rights, see, e.g., Downes v. Bidwell, 182 U.S. 244, 261-71 (1901), or as the granting of a certain measure of independence which once granted cannot be retrieved. Thus, specifically, Article 21 of the proposed Compact, requiring mutual agreement for amendment of the Compact, would, in our belief, be constitutional. Indeed, its explicit statement would appear to be an improvement over the



situation under the present Compact where there is some question as to the ability of Congress unilaterally to change its provisions. The binding effect of the proposed Compact, it should be emphasized, extends to all its provisions, including the revenue provisions, and therefore extreme care should be taken in analyzing each provision and assessing its potential for unwanted effects resulting from unanticipated changes in other laws.

The only article which clearly appears to run afoul of the Constitution is Article 11, dealing with representation of Puerto Rico in Congress. Representation in Congress is limited by the Constitution to the States (Article 1, §§ 2-3), and thus it would require a constitutional amendment to allow Puerto Rico such representation.

Article 10, dealing with entry of aliens into Puerto Rico, raises many of the same questions which this Department considered in its letter to you of December 23, 1974, opposing certain changes in the immigration laws with respect to Puerto Rico. The Department would continue to oppose the change in the immigration laws suggested by Article 10 separate from the proposed Compact. That is, the Department believes that existing law affords Puerto Rico sufficient protection consonant with the rights to be afforded resident aliens. Nevertheless, if a substantial change were to be effected generally in the autonomy of Puerto Rico through a new Compact, the Department would not insist on maintaining existing law with regard to Puerto Rican immigration and would not necessarily oppose increased autonomy for Puerto Rico respecting immigration consistent with its generally increased autonomy. Nevertheless, a limitation on the number of permanent resident aliens who might be admitted to Puerto Rico pursuant to the proposed Article 10 continues to raise the issue of unequal treatment of such aliens, which as to the States has been declared unconstitutional, see Graham v. Richardson, 403 U.S. 365 (1971), and which might be extended to the United States through the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, see Hampton v. Mow Sun Wong, 500 F.2d 1031 (9th Cir. 1974), cert. granted, 417 U.S. 944 (1974). There



already exists in the immigration law, however, a special provision regarding the migration of aliens between Puerto Rico and the continental United States, see 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(7), which at least is a precedent for a provision limiting access of aliens to Puerto Rico. The constitutionality of such a limitation might be reinforced by the fact that Congress could excise Puerto Rico completely from the immigration and naturalization laws of the United States, leaving Puerto Rico to enact its own immigration and naturalization laws; if such a greater power is allowed, the lesser power of allowing Puerto Rico in certain instances to limit the entry of aliens might seem both reasonable and constitutional.

Article 15, dealing with judicial review, provides that the courts of the United States and of Puerto Rico shall have concurrent jurisdiction over questions arising under the Compact. It is further provided that actions instituted in Puerto Rican courts may not be removed to a federal court solely on the ground that issues under the Compact are involved. We find no legal or policy objection to such provisions, although we note that the latter provision in effect exempts questions arising solely under the Compact from the general removal provision, 28 U.S.C. § 1441 as made applicable to Puerto Rico by 48 U.S.C. § 864. Section c of Article 15 and subsection 4 of section c of Article 2 both deal with Supreme Court review of matters affecting Puerto Rico. These two provisions, however, as drafted, do not appear to be entirely consistent. Therefore, it is suggested that they be replaced by the language included at Attachment A, which, it is believed, does not alter the substance or intent of the proposed provisions.

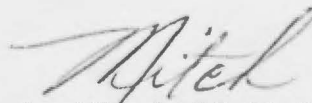
Article 16--United States District Court--does not essentially change existing law other than to change the official language of the court from English to Spanish. By permitting the court, in the interest of justice, to allow court proceedings to be conducted in languages other than Spanish, the provision permits sufficient flexibility to make this change nonobjectionable.



Generally speaking, the Department of Justice would counsel against inclusion of section c of Article 2 as it is presently drafted. First, all of the points in section c are covered specifically in further articles. Second, it is questionable whether the people of Puerto Rico have, under the existing Compact, sufficient autonomous sovereignty "to delegate to the United States the power and attributes specified in this Compact" and "to reserve all other powers and attributes of their political life. . . ." Because this Department believes that this section adds nothing to what is already contained in the proposed Compact, and because this section raises both legal and political questions, it would appear advisable to delete it.

The above discussion represents the Department's position as to the constitutionality of the proposed Compact and as to the advisability of those provisions in the Compact which relate directly to the Department of Justice. It should not be considered as an approval of the advisability of any of the general concepts underlying the proposal.

Sincerely,



A. Mitchell McConnell, Jr.
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Legislative Affairs

Attachment A



Attachment A

Article 2 - Jurisdiction and Authority of the Free
Associated State of Puerto Rico.

c.4 - To recognize the Supreme Court as the final judge of the meaning and application of the Constitution and laws of the United States as well as of this Compact, including the decision whether the laws of Puerto Rico conform to this Compact and the Constitution and laws of the United States.

Article 15 - Judicial Review.

c. Final judgments and decrees entered by the highest court of the Free Associated State in which decision could be had may be reviewed by the Supreme Court in like manner as final judgments and decrees rendered by the highest court of a State in which decision could be had.



AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

May 30, 1975

Honorable Luis Munoz Marin
Co-Chairman
Ad Hoc Advisory Group
on Puerto Rico
P.O. Box 367
St. Just, Puerto Rico 00750

Dear Don Luis:

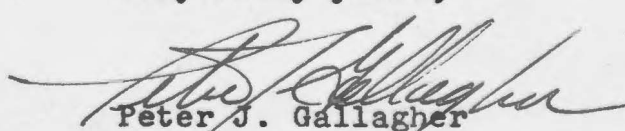
I have conveyed our conversation of earlier today to Senator Cook. He agrees that publishing notice in the federal register would be in the best interest of a speedy resolution of the objectives of the Advisory Group. We concluded that the announcement of a series of meeting dates might best overcome our problems including that of required public notice.

The combination of public notice and the Congressional Independence Day recess which ends July 7, 1975, delays the initial dates in the series to Thursday, Friday and Saturday July 10, 11 and 12, 1975. We have announced meetings for each succeeding weekend thereafter in the event postponement becomes necessary.

I enclose a copy of the notice which will appear in the Federal Register early next week.

Best regards, I am

Very truly yours,


Peter J. Gallagher
Executive Director

cc: Honorable Marlow W. Cook
Honorable Jaime Benitez
Honorable Hiram R. Cancio
Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr. ✓

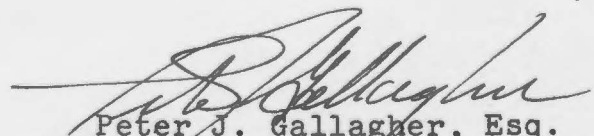


AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO

Notice of Meeting

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico will hold a public meeting at 9:30 am to 12 noon and from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm as follows, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 10, 11 and 12, 1975 in Room 2010 of the New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Additional meeting dates are hereby set for July 17, 18 and 19, 1975; July 24, 25, and 26, 1975 and July 31, August 1 and 2, 1975. Locations of the latter meetings will be determined by the Co-Chairmen and notice given herein at the earliest possible date. Any further questions concerning meeting dates and locations should be directed to the undersigned at 1016 16th Street, N.W., Room 400, Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 382 1771.

The purpose of the meeting(s) will be to jointly review and discuss the draft "Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States" as presented by the Puerto Rican delegation to the Advisory Group.


Peter J. Gallagher, Esq.
Executive Director



[yes - Adv's Comm
estab by Domestic Council]

Possibility July 1
Entire Admin
unanticipated Needs

allocation -
unanticipated
PR groups created
Even Fund
Admin Comm w/ D.C.
w/ E. Fund

TRAVEL

Big mtg in D.C.
totally anticipated

Request \$ in Auto/
Exec Branch in use
engaged on special agreement.
50/50 basis.



File

AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP
ON PUERTO RICO
1016 16th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20036

June 3, 1975

Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.
The Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Norm:

The Co-Chairmen have set four meeting dates for the month of July as outlined in the attached notice to appear in the Federal Register this week.

Senator Cook wishes to advise that the primary dates for the next meeting are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 10, 11 and 12, 1975 in Washington, D.C. The publication of the remaining dates is to foreclose the requirement for an additional thirty day notice period in the event it is necessary to again postpone a meeting of the Advisory Group.

Further details regarding the meetings will be forwarded to you as they become available.

Best regards, I am

Very truly yours,


Peter J. Gallagher
Executive Director

Enc.



6/4

AD HOC ADVISORY GROUP

ON PUERTO RICO

Notice of Meeting

The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Puerto Rico will hold a public meeting at 9:30 am to 12 noon and from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm as follows, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 10, 11 and 12, 1975 in Room 2010 of the New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Additional meeting dates are hereby set for July 17, 18 and 19, 1975; July 24, 25, and 26, 1975 and July 31, August 1 and 2, 1975. Locations of the latter meetings will be determined by the Co-Chairmen and notice given herein at the earliest possible date. Any further questions concerning meeting dates and locations should be directed to the undersigned at 1016 16th Street, N.W., Room 400, Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 382 1771.

The purpose of the meeting(s) will be to jointly review and discuss the draft "Compact of Permanent Union between Puerto Rico and the United States" as presented by the Puerto Rican delegation to the Advisory Group.


Peter J. Gallagher, Esq.
Executive Director

