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Authority NND 911 018

By GWNARA Date 6-6-08

Dear Bill:

Upon receiving your letter of June 19, I asked my staff to prepare a memorandum, which I have enclosed, describing the reasons for our decision to transmit information to the United Nations on Alaska and Hawaii in accordance with Article 73(e) of the United Nations Charter.

The problem was given careful consideration at the time in 1946. It was only after consultation with certain members of the Congress, including Senators Vandenberg and Connally, and with the Department of Interior, and after obtaining an opinion on the legal status of the territories from the Department's Legal Advisor, that this decision was taken.

For the reasons outlined in the memorandum, I hope you will agree it would be unwise for the United States to discontinue transmission of information on Alaska and Hawaii, until after they have made further constitutional advancements.

Sincerely yours,

John Foster Dulles

Enclosure:

Memorandum

The Honorable
William F. Knowland,
United States Senate.

Retyped in S/S-RO:RGSturgill:emb 6/28/56
EVMcAuliffe