

## The President Palikir, Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia

The Honorable Stevenson A. Joseph Governor State of Pohnpei Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Dear Governor Joseph:

October 3, 2024

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I present warm compliments with greetings and would like to update you on the State Funeral arrangements being handled by a Working Group established for this purpose. The Group, guided by the latest wish of the family, has confirmed that the remains of the late second President of our Nation will be shipped via patrol boat to Chuuk State where a Funeral Mass will take place at the Catholic Church in Nepukos, before the coffin is taken by smaller boats to the burial site on an island near Uman Island called Fonow Island. Soon after the State Funeral on October 14<sup>th</sup>, after a time for viewing, the coffin will be taken from Palikir to the dock and placed on a patrol boat to be shipped to Chuuk. In Weno, the coffin along with accompanying family members and government officials will be taken on smaller boats to the burial site after the Funeral Mass.

Meanwhile, the Working Group continues to flesh out the various activities that are part and parcel of the State Funeral Program. At this stage, the involvement of Pohnpei State Government as host State will entail assistance at the airport upon arrival for customs, immigration and quarantine requirements as well as access to the tarmac, at the dock upon departure of the remains and on traffic control in collaboration with the National Police. As host State, the Working Group would appreciate your agreeing to provide a Welcoming Remarks at the State Funeral. The Working Group has also deemed it necessary to have a Welcome Party at the entranceway to the Congress Chamber and also at the Airport to receive the remains of the late second President and his entourage, and I would appreciate if you and your spouse could join Speaker Moses and I and our spouses at the airport. A further update on the funeral arrangement including the Program itself will be provided when it is made available.

With my kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely,

esley W. Simina President