THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 8, 1949

MEMORANDUM TO M. MURPHY:

SUBJECT: POINT IV LEGISLATION

I had a call from Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward of the Federal Security Agency this afternoon, inquiring about Point IV and giving her views as to the necessity for having some legislation passed at this session to permit at least the continuance of existing technical assistance programs.

You might also be interested in the attached letter from Max Goldschmidt of the Department of the Interior on this subject.

DAVID D. LLOYD

Mr. Charles S. Murphy
August 5, 1949

Mr. David Lloyd
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dave:

I tried to reach you on the 'phone this afternoon with the following thoughts on Point Four.

(1) It is essential that we get some legislative action on this program in the remainder of this session because (a) it is a cardinal point in the President's foreign policy, (b) failure will seriously embarrass us in the open debates at U.N. this fall, and (c) we will need the next few months to prevent a let down of interest and to tool up to do the basic job next year.

(2) These routes for action have been suggested: (a) my proposal for a deficiency under P.L. 102, (b) the substantive legislation upon which no hearings are even yet in prospect, and (c) a joint resolution carrying some appropriation provisions.

(3) A real coordinated drive would be necessary to effectuate even the least desirable of these alternatives, and no such drive is shaping up. Indeed, there are differences as to which course should be followed because our sources of information on possibilities are wholly inadequate for a decision.

(4) The matter can only be resolved by discussions between the President and his congressional leadership to determine what can be done to make progress on this important program. Would that not be the place to put up those alternatives?

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Godschmidt,
Special Assistant to the Secretary