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June 6, 1973

Mr. Arnold H. Leibowitz, Director
Office of Technical Assistance
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Arnold:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 14, sending me a copy of your article on "The Applicability of Federal Law to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico." I just returned yesterday from six weeks in Saipan preparing for and participating in negotiations with the United States regarding the future political status of the Mariana Islands. Because of your past interest in this area, I am enclosing a copy of the Joint Communique issued at the conclusion of the session.

I want you to know that we relied very heavily on your article and the Status Commission report in analyzing the various questions which we wanted to discuss with our client and present in some form to the United States. As the Joint Communique demonstrates, some of the most difficult questions relating to the proposed commonwealth arrangement have been deferred for future study. I would like very much to consult unofficially with you on the subject during the next few weeks.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Howard P. Willens

Enclosure

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

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Mr. Howard Willens
Wilmer, Curtler & Pickering
900 - 17th Street, NW
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Howie:

Lou Oberdorfer mentioned that you were working on status relationships between the Mariana Island and the United States. I thought you might be interested, therefore, in my article on "The Applicability of Federal Law to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico" which explores in some detail the Puerto Rico-United States relationship. I suspect you are way beyond this now but I thought it might be of some use to you.

With best personal regards,

Cordially,


Arnold H. Leibowitz, Director
Office of Technical Assistance

Enclosure

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