
To assist the Status Commission in assessing the practical consequences of such a "general formula" approach, this memorandum examines the legal consequences of adopting a general formula to govern the application of existing United States federal law in the Marianas. At issue is whether any such general formula will adequately protect the interests of the Marianas in ^{the} any application of existing federal law upon

* / The December 19, 1973 Joint Communique also stated that "at an appropriate time" after the signing of the Status Agreement, a Joint Commission would study the relevant federal legislation and make recommendations to the U.S. Congress "regarding the future applicability of such legislation in the Marianas."