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June 6, 1974

~~Mr. Peter Silverman~~
National Editor
Washington Post
1150 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Silverman:

Sig Harrison and I discussed from time to time the on-going negotiations between the United States and the Mariana Islands District of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands aimed at bringing the Marianas into the United States as a commonwealth. This firm is functioning as counsel to the Marianas Political Status Commission, which represents the Marianas for these negotiations. Don Oberdorfer, who has had a long standing interest in Micronesia and is a personal friend, also is generally aware of these negotiations. In light of the possibility that you may find recent developments in these negotiations to be of interest, I am enclosing the following materials:

1. Joint Communique dated May 31, 1974, reflecting the tentative agreements reached at the last session;
2. Summary report dated March, 1974, reflecting the agreements reached during the first three sessions of the negotiations; and
3. Statement of Marianas representatives before the United Nations Trusteeship Council today, June 6.

I sent Don a copy of the Joint Communique a few days ago. If you have any questions about these materials, please feel free to give me a ring.

Sincerely,

Howard P. Willens

Enclosures

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