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October 11, 1974

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ARTICLE IX

Resident Commissioner and Consultation

Section 901.

(a) The Northern Mariana Islands may maintain in Washington, D.C. a Resident Commissioner who will be entitled to receive official recognition by all of the departments and agencies of the United States Government upon presentation, through the Department of State, of a certificate of [election from] [appointment by] the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) The Resident Commissioner will have a term of two years and will be [elected at the first general election to be held in the Northern Mariana Islands following the effective date of this section by the people qualified to vote for the members of the legislature, and subsequently at such general election every second year thereafter.] [appointed by the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands by and with the advice and consent of the upper house of the Northern Mariana Islands legislature.]

(c) No person will be eligible for [election] [appointment] as Resident Commissioner who is not--

(1) a bona fide citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands, provided that any Resident Commissioner [elected] [appointed] after the termination of the Trusteeship must be a citizen of the United States; and

(2) at least twenty-five years of age.

(d) In case of a vacancy in the office of Resident Commissioner by death, resignation, or otherwise, the Governor, by

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respecting the scarcity and special importance of land in the Northern Mariana Islands;

(b) endeavor to obtain the minimum interest in land necessary to accomplish such public interest, acquiring title only if a lesser interest would not be sufficient to serve the public purpose; and

(c) attempt to acquire an interest in public rather than private land whenever the public purpose can be accomplished by the use of such public land.

[Section 80[4]. (a) The United States Government will in all cases attempt to acquire any interest in land for public purposes by voluntary means. In the event this is not possible the United States will have and may exercise within the Commonwealth the power of eminent domain to the same extent and in the same manner as it has and can exercise the power of eminent domain in a State of the Union, observing the principles set forth in subsection (a), (b) and (c) of Section 80[3]; provided, however, that in addition to all other requirements of law the United States will not exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire any interest in land within the Commonwealth until the Congress of the United States has by law explicitly authorized and approved the exercise of the power of eminent domain to obtain a particular interest in a particular parcel of land in the Commonwealth.]

[(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (a) of this Section, upon a determination by the President that an