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JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE WORKING DRAFT

November 21, 1974

OF AGREEMENT

[MPSC: AGREEMENT] [US: CONVENANT; or: ARTICLES] TO
ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Whereas, the Charter of the United Nations and the
Trusteeship Agreement between the Security Council of the
United Nations and the United States of America guarantee to
the people of the Northern Mariana Islands the right freely
to express their wishes for self-government or independence; and

Whereas, the United States supports the desire of
the people of the Northern Mariana Islands to exercise their
inalienable right of self-determination; and

Whereas, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands
and the people of the United States share the goals and values
found in the American system of government based upon the
principles of government by consent, individual freedom, and
democracy; and

Whereas, for over twenty years, the people of the
Northern Mariana Islands, through public petition and re-
ferendum, have clearly expressed their desire for political
union with the United States;

* Split not noted in succeeding references to "Agreement"