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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 15, 1975

I extend my warmest congratulations to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands as their representatives sign a Covenant of Political Union with the United States.

Over the past quarter century you have consistently sought to form a closer union with the United States. We have welcomed that desire which is embodied in the Covenant which we sign today. This Covenant, the product of almost three years of cooperative discussions, recognizes both of our interests in this new relationship. The United States looks forward to an enduring and mutually beneficial union.

With warm good wishes,

*RF*  
Gerald R. Ford

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