

2117 Bella Casa Street  
Davis, California 95616  
March 21, 1975

Mr. Michael S. Helfer  
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering  
1666 K Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Dear Mr. Helfer:

I am currently in the midst of completing the final draft of my law review article which has been limited to an analysis of Article III of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Enclosed is what I understand to be the anticipated timetable for the implementation of the Covenant. I would like to know if you agree with this timetable. If not, I would like to know how you differ. Relatedly I would appreciate clarification on the following points:

- 1) Is there an approximate date when the Mariana Islands District Legislature will approve the Covenant?
- 2) When will the constitutional convention be convened and how long will it meet?

I would appreciate any information you can offer. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

  
Earl F. Sato

Encl.

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TIMETABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COVENANT TO  
ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

- March, 1975: Start a political education program on the Covenant in the Northern Mariana Islands.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 1975: Mariana Islands District Legislature approves the Covenant.
- June, 1975: United Nations observed plebiscite approves the Covenant.
- July, 1975: United States Congress approves the Covenant.
- August-September, 1975: Constitutional convention in the Northern Mariana Islands.
- December, 1975-  
January, 1976: Plebiscite on the Northern Mariana Islands' constitution.
- March-April, 1976: Local elections.
- 1980: Dissolution of the trust territory and establishment of the commonwealth.