

FRIENDS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS
P. O. Box 802
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

April 10
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Since the United States has taken the responsibility for the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the people of the Northern Marianas have learned to appreciate the goals and ideals for which America stands, such as the Bill of Rights, the dignity of man, and the democratic principles of government that insure life and liberty for all. As a result of this appreciation, the people of the Northern Marianas have for the last twenty (20) years been trying to become a part of the American political family.

Several years ago the United States Government expressed its desire to support the dialogue of the people of the Northern Marianas relative to their future political aspirations and as a result serious comprehensive political status negotiations were entered into between the United States and the Marianas Political Status Commission.

As a result of these negotiations, the people of the Northern Marianas and the United States Government reached an agreement and signed the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in Political Union with the United States of America. This document will be presented to the people for their final approval or disapproval in a plebiscite to be held on June 17, 1975. In order to continue to carry out a non-partisan comprehensive program of political education we, the FRIENDS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, have embarked on a course to persuade our people that the Covenant

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is indeed the most beneficial and enduring relationship for the people of our islands. We are presently confronted with serious opposition from various sectors in the Trust Territory who hope to frustrate the desire of our people in achieving their long held desire to become a part of the United States. Recently, this organized opposition received a considerable sum of money for this particular purpose. We do not wish to impose on anyone in our endeavor to achieve our political aspirations; however, this recent well financed opposition in our islands indicates that without similar financial support it will be most difficult to succeed at the polls.

We respectfully solicit your financial support to assist the FRIENDS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS so that we can give our people the kind of political education that would assure a favorable decision in the forthcoming plebiscite to be held this June. The FRIENDS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS is a group of dedicated leaders representing a wide cross section of the Marianas community.

We can assure you that whatever support you give us will be used towards the single objective of carrying on a comprehensive political education program so that our people will be able to make an intelligent decision and support the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas in Political Union with the United States of America. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Francisco T. Palacios

Dr. Francisco T. Palacios
President