



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

May 20
1975
18
5

Proposed interim
separate administration

ORDER NO.

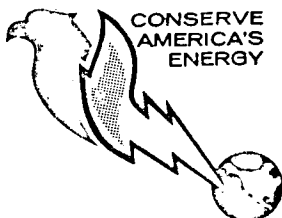
Subject: Authority of the Mariana Islands District Legislature

WHEREAS, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in the exercise of their right of self-determination and pursuant to Secretarial Order No. 2973 have voted in a political status plebiscite to approve the "Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America"; and

WHEREAS, the results of the plebiscite officially certified by the Plebiscite Commissioner indicate an overwhelming approval of the Covenant;

NOW, THEREFORE, pending approval of the Covenant by the United States Congress, following which the Northern Mariana Islands will be separated administratively from the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the following interim Secretarial Order is issued:
Section 1. Legislative authority for all matters directly relating to or affecting the future political status of the people of the Mariana Islands District is hereby vested exclusively with the Mariana Islands District Legislature.

Section 2. The High Commissioner is hereby authorized to exclude, upon the formal request of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, the Mariana Islands District from the application of any legislation heretofore enacted by the Congress of Micronesia, affecting the future political status of the Mariana Islands District.



Save Energy and You Serve America!

12867

Section 3. All prior orders of the Department of the Interior, insofar as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this order, are hereby superseded.

Secretary of the Interior

12858