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November 17, 1975

Honorable John Sparkman  
Chairman, Foreign Relations  
Committee  
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On November 5, the Committee held hearings on the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America (H.J. 549). Senator Pell had asked Ambassador Williams to explain the views of Deputy Secretary Ingersoll, who had testified earlier in the day, on the United Nations Security Council's role in the termination of the trusteeship agreement. The Department would like to have the following statement inserted after the words "Security Council" on line 2, page 164, to supplement Ambassador Williams' response.

"The United States recognizes that it is obligated to seek Security Council approval of termination of the trusteeship agreement. The United States accordingly intends to seek and expects to obtain Security Council approval. The United States does not anticipate that the Security Council would deny or ignore the mandate it shares with the Administering Authority to elicit and respect the freely expressed wishes of the people for self-determination. If for any reason the Security Council's concurrence were withheld, we would have to face that question at the time."

Sincerely,

LP

Robert J. McCloskey  
Assistant Secretary  
for Congressional Relations

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Clearances: IO:ROBlake  
L/UNA:RStow  
EA:LEdmond  
H:WRichardson  
D:RSIngersoll

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY [Signature] DATE MAR 5 1987

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