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May 21, 1976

DGL-T:CBC 110350

Chief Justice Harold W. Burnett
High Court of the Trust Territory
of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

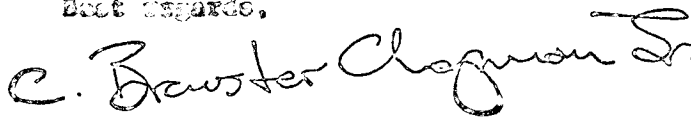
Dear Harry:

I have your note of April 23, 1976, concerning your problems in connection with the establishment of a separate government for the Northern Mariana Islands District and the role that the High Court will have to play during the interim period.

I share your concern and certainly agree you should be consulted and have an opportunity for a meaningful input in connection with the role the High Court will be playing in the next few years. I have discussed this matter with Emmett Rice, whom I think is the ideal person for you to talk with, and he advises me that it is highly possible that he will have to go to Guam within the next week or week-and-a-half, and that if he does, he will contact you and arrange to get together with you so that you and he can have a full discussion of the matter. In the event Emmett does not go to Guam, he will call you from Washington and discuss the problem on the phone.

Please let me know if you have any further difficulties. I strongly agree that you have to be in the act.

Best regards,



C. Brewster Chapman, Jr.
Assistant Solicitor, Territories
Division of General Inv

bcc E. Rice (sep. envelope)
Terr Subj
Terr Reading
DGL Chron (2)
CBChapman, Jr. :bb:5/21/76

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