

## OFFICE OF TRANSITION STUDIES AND PLANNING NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS P.O. BOX 42

SAIPAN, AMERICAN MARIANAS 96950



June 22, 1976

Professor H. Mantel Institute of Public Administration 55 West 44th Street New York, New York 10036

Dear Professor Mantel:

Mr. Howard Willens suggested that I contact you regarding our need for professional assistance.

The primary mission of our newly established office is to assist the new government of the Northern Mariana Islands in such areas as socioeconomic planning, physical planning and government organization, inter-governmental relations and public administration. As a result of the President's approval of the Commonwealth Covenant between the U. S. and the representatives of the Northern Mariana Islands, we have received a grant from the U. S. Congress to conduct specific studies and activities designed to promote transition to full internal self-government in the Northern Mariana Islands by January 1, 1978.

One aspect of this planning involves the organization and support of a constitutional convention for the Northern Mariana Islands plus the conduct of studies leading to action recommendation regarding government organization, including local government and its powers vis-a-vis the new Commonwealth government. This area of study also includes the objective of providing guidance to the new government in the areas of public administration, intra-governmental relation, decision-making, etc.

Specifically, we are looking for a highly qualified professional who would assist us in formulating a detailed work program, letting contracts or hiring consultants and then supervising their work in this critical area. I enclose a brief job description approved by our governing body - the Joint Transition Commission for the Northern Mariana Islands.

Alternatively, we would be happy to consider a consultant arrangement, say for a period of one year, within your organization, whom you could spare for a year, beginning this summer.

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If you have any suggestions regarding the above or if your organization would be interested in a contract on this field, please let us know. I should add that our budget for this purpose is extremely limited but negotiable.

Mr. Howard Willens of the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering in D.C. can provide additional background. Also, I have asked our newly-appointed Washington Liaison Officer, Mr. Edward Pangelinan, to contact you on this matter once he gets established in Washington early next month.

Time is of the essence in all of our undertakings, therefore, I would appreciate an early response if you have an interest in participating in this venture or have any specific suggestion as to the staff job we have in mind.

Sincerely yours,

Pedro A. Tenorio

Director

Enclosure

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