November 17, 1976

Herman Marcuse, Esq. Office of Legal Counsel United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Herman:

A. 1.

The Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention has now tentatively approved in principle a Constitution. The document has been assembled in draft form and circulated to the Marianas people, who have been invited to testify at public hearings conducted on Saipan, Rota and Tinian today and to comment in writing. A copy is enclosed for your review.

The Convention will begin its second reading of the draft Constitution on Monday, November 22, 1976. The delegates will intensively reconsider each provision before submitting the proposed Constitution to the people for their approval.

We would appreciate your reviewing the draft before the Convention finishes its work. As you know, under Northern Marianas Law 4-205, Act 347-1976, the Convention's mandate expires on December 6, 1976. Accordingly, your comments should reach us by November 29, 1976.

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Herman Marcese, Esq. - 2 -November 17, 1976

I look forward to hearing from you. I am grateful for your taking the time to examine the draft document for constitutional and practical problems.

Best personal regards.

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Sincerely,

Howard P. Willens

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Enclosure

P.S. Thanks for the compiled legislative history of the Covenant; it has been very useful. I miss you and the other friendly faces of the U.S. Delegation.

Howard P. Willens, Esq. c/o Saipan Beach Inter-Continental Inn P.O. Box 1029 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950