

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

March 18, 1977

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands Government. This Constitution was drafted and adopted by the popularly elected Constitutional Convention in Saipan during November-December and ratified by a referendum of the voters on March 6, 1977.

Under the terms of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, this Constitution is to be submitted to the President of the United States for approval or disapproval within six months after its receipt. The fixing of the date from which this six months begins to run is of some importance to the establishment of constitutional government, hence I hope this Constitution -- of vital historic significance to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands -- may be soon submitted to the President.

The fulfillment of the responsibilities of the United States under its trusteeship role is valuably served by this Constitution.

Sincerely yours,

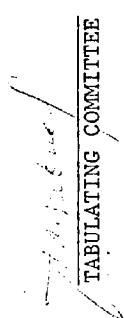


Erwin D. Canham
Resident Commissioner

CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM
TALLY SHEET
MARCH 6, 1977

	ROTA	TINIAN	DIST. #1	DIST. #2	DIST. #3	DIST. #4	DIST. #5	DIST. #6	DIST. #7	DIST. #8	DIST. #9	DIST. #10	DIST. #11	ALAMA- GAN	PAGAN	AGRI- HAN	HOSP.	ABSEN- TEE	TOTAL
YES	256	186	293	254	319	148	202	371	351	176	190	171	434	8	15	17	26	140	3557
NO	14	31	12	15	9	9	14	23	26	31	5	3	42	0	2	8	1	13	258
VOID	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	19


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Erwin D. Canham

Certified correct:

Erwin D. Canham
Resident Commissioner & Election Commissioner
Government of the Northern Mariana Islands