

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1977

I was very pleased to sign the Proclamation that signals an important stage of self government for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Proclamation establishes the effectiveness of your new Constitution.

It is gratifying to me and to the people of the United States that the citizens of these Islands in the Western Pacific wish to continue to link their political future with ours. I welcome this opportunity to extend to the peoples of the Northern Mariana Islands a firm hand of friendship and to receive them into our family in their new status.

JIMMY CARTER

STATEMENT SENT TO:

The Honorable Erwin D. Canham
Resident Commissioner
Government of the North Mariana Islands
Saipan
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cc: Mrs. Ruth Van Cleve
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