

November 8, 1976

PROPOSED PLAN FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

It is proposed that public hearings on the draft Commonwealth Constitution be held under the following plan:

1. Public hearings will be held after the Convention has adopted in principle each of the articles of the proposed Commonwealth Constitution in order that the people of the Commonwealth can express their views on the work of the Convention most effectively.
2. Public hearings will be held on Saipan, Rota and Tinian. There will be hearings on two days in Saipan and one day each on Rota and Tinian.
3. If the Convention finishes with first reading by Friday, November 12, 1976, public hearings will be scheduled for Sunday, November 14, 1976 on Rota at a time and place to be designated by the Vice President from Rota; for Monday, November 15, 1976 on Tinian at a time and place to be designated by the Vice President from Tinian; and for Tuesday and Wednesday, November 16-17, 1976 on Saipan at times and places to be designated by the Vice President from Saipan.
4. The representatives of the Convention at each of the public hearings shall be two delegates designated by the Chairman of each substantive Committee; two delegates designated by each Vice President of the Convention; and one delegate designated by the President of the Convention. Different delegates may be designated as representatives of the Convention at each of the public hearings. Any other delegate

may attend at his or her own expense.

5. The Vice President for each municipality shall designate the delegate (from among the Convention representatives) who shall serve as chairman of the public hearing held in that municipality. The chairman shall devise an orderly procedure for obtaining the views of the public on each of the proposed articles that have been adopted in principle by the Convention.

6. The Convention shall have printed or duplicated 1,000 copies of the collected constitutional articles that have been adopted in principle by the Convention. These copies shall be made available to the public in a manner designated by the Chairman of the public hearing in each municipality.

7. The Convention shall have assembled into convenient reference form each of the Committee Reports that accompanied the proposed constitutional articles when they came to the floor. One copy of this reference volume shall be provided to each representative of the Convention to the public hearings to assist in answering questions.

8. The Convention shall be in recess from Sunday, November 14, through Wednesday, November 17, 1976. However, these days shall be considered as business days of the Convention for the purpose of compensation of the delegates. The Convention shall be in session on Thursday, November 18, 1976 at 9:00 a.m. at which time the Convention will begin to consider the draft articles on second reading.

Submitted by

---

Lorenzo I. Guerrero, President