RESOLUTION NO.	/
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THIRD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION

To unequivocally condemn and express adamant opposition to France's declared intention to resume nuclear testing in the South Pacific region.

WHEREAS, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, beginning with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, followed by the military standoff of the Cold War era, and continuing with the pursuit of nuclear capability by diverse national interests, has created an unprecedented threat to the continued existence of human civilization and possibly life on Earth; and

WHEREAS, the pursuit of nuclear military power by nations through research, development, testing, and implementation has diverted immense natural, human and financial resources away from more productive political and social endeavors;

WHEREAS, the people of the Pacific, having been made an unwitting battleground for the military conflicts of World War II, were then further exploited as a testing ground for nuclear weapons by industrialized nations without the consultation or consent of the affected island communities; and

WHEREAS, these prior programs of nuclear testing caused untold suffering, illness and death to the indigenous people of those islands and poisoned by radioactive contamination the lands and waters which had served as their livelihood since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the nations of the world have come to realize that the only viable solution for the future of human civilization is the achievement of a stable world order wherein all nations can pursue self determination without detriment to world peace; and

WHEREAS, the necessary first step to a stable world order is the containment of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and eventual nuclear disarmament; and

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WHEREAS, to this end one hundred and seventy nations have agreed to indefinitely extend the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty and the major nuclear powers, including the United Sates, Britain, France and Russia are scheduled to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; and

WHEREAS, in contravention of this international consensus to contain and reduce nuclear weaponry, France has recently announced that it plans to conduct a series of eight nuclear tests at Moraroa, French Polynesia between September 1995 and May 1996; and

WHEREAS, these plans for nuclear testing represent a blatant disregard and disrespect for the sentiments, health and welfare of the peoples of the region and place the lands and waters of common to all Pacific peoples at risk for renewed radioactive contamination; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by and through its elected representatives in the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention wish to declare their solidarity with the people of French Polynesia and join the other Pacific nations of Guam, American and Western Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Kiribati, New Zealand and Australia in opposing and condemning France's plans to engage in renewed nuclear testing; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention to adamantly oppose and unequivocally condemn any attempt by any nation to subject the people, islands and ocean of the Pacific to the dangers and risks of nuclear testing and to express support for a permanent halt to nuclear testing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Convention shall certify and the Secretary of the Convention shall attest to the adoption of this resolution and thereafter transmit copies to the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the President of the United States of America, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of France, the Governor of Guam, the Governor of Hawaii, the Governor of American Samoa, and to the Heads of State of Japan, Philippines, Western Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Kiribati, New Zealand, Australia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Secretariat of South Pacific Commission, and the Secretariat of the South Pacific Forum.

Date: 7/13/95

Introduced By. DAVID L.

ÁVID L. IGITÓĻ

Ballohus	-1805-
Tomas B. Aldan (M.D.	Bonald B. Mendiola
Vicente S. Aldan	James M. Mendiola
Marian Aldan-Pierce Www. My Stryk Frances LG. Borja	Justo/S/ Quitugra
Carlos S. Camacho	Joey P. San Nicolas
Esther/S. Fleming	Teresita A. Santos
John Oliver DLR. Gonzales	Bernadita T. Seman
Herman T. Guerrero	marlon fel fori Marylon Ada-Sirok
Victor B. Hocog	Mariano Taitano
Henry U. Horschrieder	Helen Taro-Atalig
Jose Britishi	July S. Tenorio
Banjahin T. Manglona	Lillian A. Tenorio
David Q. Maratita	Jaquin P. Villagomez