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July 24, 1995
VIA FAX 670/322-2267

Deanne Siemer, Esq.
General Counsel
Third Constitutional Convention
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950

Dear Deanne:

Having taken to heart the admonition of the Lands Committee that we should all refrain from the use of "unhelpful rhetoric," I can't resist asking for some help in understanding the metaphor: "embeddded in the law" as in "the concept of fairness is embedded in the law." Is that anything like a stake embedded in the heart, a mattock embedded in the head (a la Trotsky) or a virus embedded in the deoxyribonucleic acid?

Seriously, I have had my eye out for that very "fairness embedded in the law" for the past thirty years and I am not sure I have seen it actually at work, in isolation, even once. Decisions seem to be made on some other basis, with fairness an incidental benefit, maybe. That, of course, is all based on my own notions of what "fairness" means. I could be wrong.

Sincerely,



THEODORE R. MITCHELL

-2960-

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July 23, 1995
VIA FAX 670/322-2267

Deanne Siemer, Esq.
General Counsel
Third Constitutional Convention
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Saipan, MP 96950

Re: Article XII; July 21, 1995 Draft

Dear Deanne:

May we have, as soon as they are available, a copy of the journal for July 22, 1995, a copy of the Lands Committee report on the July 21 draft of Article XII and a copy of the schedule of activities for the week of July 24, and, beyond, if that is extant?

If you have somebody call, we will rush up the hill to get this stuff.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ted', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

THEODORE R. MITCHELL