A.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES

IMPORT -- EXPORT

GENERAL MERCHANDISE WHOLESALE - RETAIL

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JOSE C. TENORIO

P.O. BOX 137

JOETEN CENTER

SAIPAN, M.I. 96950

March 17, 1975

Mr. Charles Leppert, Jr.
Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Charlie:

Congratulations. I had not heard of your move from the Hill to the White House. Of course, you have my best wishes in your new position.

Enclosed is a copy of the Covenant signed by the President's personal representative and the members of the Marianas Political Status Commission. As you can see by the sequence of events (abstract enclosed) leading up to "Commonwealth" status within the United States political family, the Administration of the Northern Marianas will be separated from the Headquarters of the Trust Territory before Congress even gets to look at it.

The exception to this sequence is that the Congress has been asked to fund the transitional government activity required. Included in this funding request presently before the Congress is the cost of a political education program and the cost of the plebiscite. Should the Congress not act on these funds or deny the request; then, I assume action here on the sequence of events would slow down or halt altogether.

A copy of the ad hoc committee report on the form the transitional government will take has now been made available to me (copy enclosed). Regrettably, I must now rethink my aspirations concerning the top slot in the new Northern Marianas Administration until the responsibilities and authority for the position are established. It would appear that as of now a joint commission and a committee type of Government will be instituted until a constitution is adopted. This form of government is



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not to my liking and, indeed, I see no reason to appoint a Resident Commissioner or whatever for the Northern Marianas except as liason with the Department. Pete Coleman could function in such a position.

However, if and when Coleman moves down to the District Government, the Deputy High Commissioner's job becomes open. Please help to get me considered for this slot.

Have you seen Sam and Sherry since their return to the D. C. area? Yoshie and I miss them very much. I am looking forward to a visit to Washington, but do not yet know the opportune time. It would be an experience for me to visit someone in the White House.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

J. F. Screen General Manager

Enc.

Charlie let's key the options oper until the Devetorial and in formulated and we prom more obout the article form of Soviement and what positions is estatished for