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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

> July 23, 1975 Pm guly 24

The President The White House Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

Siled Same Thank you for your letter of July 19, 1975, concerning the proposed Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant negotiated with the people of the Northern Marianas Islands.

As you know, I have closely followed the progress of negotiations toward permanent status for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs is holding a hearing on the resolution on July 24, and it is my intention to assign the greatest priority to committee and Senate consideration of this matter.

I appreciate having an expression of your personal interest in the Covenant.

Sincerely yours

Henry M. Jackson Chairman

HMJ/ddo'l