

EXECUTIVE

ME 3-3/ST51

APR 16 1976

To the People of the Northern Mariana Islands:

It is with great pleasure that I ask my personal representative, Ambassador F. Hayda Williams, to present to you a copy of Public Law 94-241, which enacted the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America. History will record that this legislation was the result of more than two years of free negotiations between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States and that the Covenant gives expression to the desire of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands for self-government within the American political system.

I extend to you my best wishes and congratulate you on your success in achieving the goal for which you have worked so hard. I share your pleasure and welcome you as fellow Americans.

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD

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