

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date: August 8, 1979

TO: Barbara Heller

FROM: Jeffrey Farrow

This should be taken into  
consideration by the Interagency  
Task Force on Territorial Policy.

DRAFT

Dear Governor Camacho:

The President has asked me to reply to your letter of July 13, 1979 regarding the applicability of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, as amended, to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

As you know an Interagency Task Force on Territorial Policy is currently examining all aspects of the relationships between the United States Government and the territories of the United States and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. A particular emphasis of the study is an examination of the methods by which the United States Government can best encourage economic development. This may include reconsideration of any Federal laws that pose impediments to economic growth in the territories and the Trust Territory.

A copy of your letter and the position paper prepared by your Fishery Task Force has been forwarded to the Task Force for consideration during the preparation of their report. I understand that a copy of the Task Force's draft reports will be transmitted to you upon completion with a request for your comments.

Sincerely,

Jack H. Watson, Jr.  
Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Carlos S. Camacho  
Governor of the Commonwealth  
of Northern Mariana Islands  
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Betty:

Please retype as a draft  
and send to Regina w/  
a cover note from me.

Attached is a draft letter  
in per your request I'll appreciate  
receiving all correspondence  
regarding the territories.

Keep a copy of this for  
our files + ~~send it to~~  
~~it also in my draft~~

Also lets send in copy  
(over)

to Barbara Heller,  
Deputy Undersecretary of Int  
~~Coordination~~ (just Carrachos  
letter + position paper)  
w/ a cover note from  
me saying:

This should be taken  
into consideration by the  
Indivgr just based on  
Transsec Policy.

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*inches*  
*of*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Mr. 420*

7/26

Jeff:

Per our conversation yesterday,  
attached is the Gov. Camacho  
ltr & resolution re the  
Fishery Conversation and  
Management Act.

Would you be able to draft  
a response for Jack's signature?

Thanks.

Regina Purcell  
Jack Watson's office  
6693  
117 EOB

**WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

ID # 052410

I - INCOMING  
Received Date: 790723  
 O - OUTGOING  
 H - INTERNAL

Name: Carlos S. Comacho

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Requests suspension of the application of the  
Fishery Conservation + Management Act to the waters  
within + adjacent to the Commonwealth of the Northern  
Mariana Islands.

**ROUTE TO:**

**ACTION**

**DISPOSITION**

Office/Agency.	Last Name	Refer Type	Action Code	Date YYMMDD	Response	Code	Date
<u>IRB</u>	<u>Watson</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>790724</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>790724</u>
<u>IB</u>	<u>Parcell</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>790724</u>		
<u>PP</u>	<u>Farrington</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>790726</u>		
		<u>R</u>					

REFER TYPE:    A - Agency    ACTION CODES:    A - Appropriate Action    N - No Action    DISPOSITION CODES:    A - Acknowledged  
                   S - Staff                    C - Comments        R - Direct Reply w/Copy    R - Completed  
   D - Draft Response    S - For Signature        S - Suspended  
   F - Fact Sheet        X - Interim Response  
   I - Into Copy

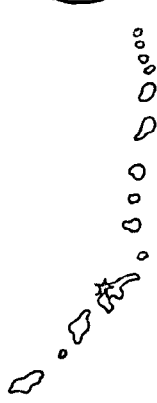
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**Office of the Governor**

Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

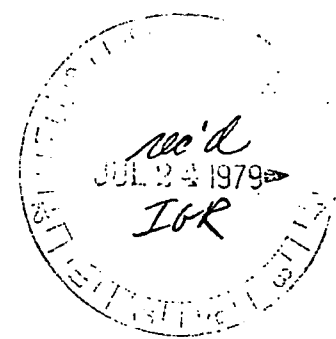
Cable Address:  
Gov. CNMI Saipan



JW  
052410

July 13, 1979

The Honorable Jimmy Carter  
President, United States of America  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C.



Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, I am seeking your assistance in a matter of serious economic and social concern.

Article 6(2) of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Former Japanese Mandated Islands places the duty upon the United States as the administering authority to promote the economic advancement and self-sufficiency of our citizens and to encourage the development of fisheries as a viable local industry.

The enclosed Position Paper of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) regarding the applicability of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (FCMA) of 1976, as amended, demonstrates that the application of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act to the waters within and adjacent to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands would have a significant detrimental effect on the economic development and growth of the Commonwealth. Because of our location, the impact of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act would retard economic advancement and self-sufficiency and discourage the development of our fisheries. This would be inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of the United States imposed by Article 6(2) of the Trusteeship Agreement.

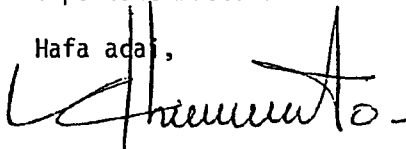
The Presidential authority pursuant to Section 1004 of the Covenant to establish A Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, (CNMI) In Political Union With the United States of America (U.S.P.L. No. 94-241, 48 U.S.C. 1681) and reserved by Presidential Proclamation No. 4534 (October 24, 1977) would allow you to resolve our dilemma expeditiously.

The Honorable Jimmy Carter  
July 13, 1979  
Page 2

Without prejudice to the Commonwealth's position and legal rights,  
I am respectfully requesting you to issue a Presidential  
Proclamation suspending the application of the Fishery Conservation  
and Management Act to the waters within and adjacent to the  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The people of the Northern Mariana Islands wish to express their  
appreciation for any consideration you may give us in this  
important matter.

Hafa ada,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Camacho', with a large, stylized initial 'C'.

Carlos S. Camacho  
Governor



## Oct 5 NMI Fishing

State-legislative fix on closed alone preferable

Judicial - suit by private individuals - Top level NMI joined suit. 3rd circuit rejected applicants - EG & NMI sued. Inland fishing in the closed to fish. View: handle otherwise. DOJ: most viable means is proclamation, some Post intervention - U.S. Atty questions by court. Proclaim FCMA not apply - grounded P.I. U.S. Atty wants to litigate. Now appears pre-went.

Hinkley - Barber (sp?) Govt rep. pushes go beyond application of FCMA NMI really wants to be long term fishing (as other IT districts do). U.S. posit, internationally is contrary. Marshall & Japan now negotiating - NMI prob.

By the way - Anna Tick

→ need program on east coast (common - de-pot-d-p)

Roskow - 30 days if do nothing

- 1 answer, 2 answers - NMI or to making organized corps.

- State - M & M Fisheries didn't like comprehensive