



Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

202525

Office of the Resident Representative to the United States
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

2121 R STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008



PHONE: (202) 328-3847
TELEX: MARIANAS 64561

March 2, 1984

The Honorable
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Since assuming my duties as the elected representative to the United States, I must say that the warm and cooperative attitude of officials of your Administration has been very gratifying indeed. I have become concerned, however, at the frequency with which I have had to deal with cases of federal government discrimination against citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands on the grounds that they are not Americans.

Fortunately, most of these cases have been resolved amicably. Many of them arose from a good faith reading of laws and regulations by lower level agency officials unaware of our Covenant and of the decision by nearly every agency to treat my people for most purposes as if we already had United States citizenship. Although I believe that the Covenant itself provides adequate statutory authority for nondiscriminatory treatment, as long as earlier statutes to the contrary remain unchanged on the books, confusion will continue to result.

For this reason, the Northern Mariana Islands Commission on Federal Laws selected as one of its highest priorities the identification of statutory bars to full participation in the American system by citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands. In response to the Interim Report of the Commission, the Congress enacted and on December 8, 1983, you approved Public Law 98-213. Sections 19 and 20 of that Act authorize you to issue one or more proclamations to exempt Northern Marianas citizens from certain statutory requirements of United States citizenship to obtain a benefit or avoid a burden or disability. On January 11, 1984, the Chairman of the Commission transmitted a draft proclamation to the Director of Management and Budget, and I understand that the period set by OMB for agency comment has expired.



Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

The President
March 2, 1984
Page 2

In order to provide a specific statutory basis for non-discrimination, avoid the need for ad hoc administrative solutions, and reduce the hardship on my people as we await termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, I urge you to issue the proclamation at the earliest possible date.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Froilan C. Tenorio
Resident Representative

Reproduced at the Ronald Reagan Library

ID# 203878

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 09, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FOILAN C. TENORIO

SUBJECT URGES THE PRESIDENT TO ISSUE THE PROCLAMATION
RELATIVE TO NORTHERN MARIANAS CITIZENS AND
U. S CITIZENSHIPS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
✓ LEE VERSTANDIG REFERRAL NOTE:	ORG	84/03/09	1	C 84/04/18
✓ ROBERT GLEASON REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	84/03/09	1	A 7/1/23/20
IDENTIFIED REPLY 10/17/84 REFERRAL NOTE:	A	8/1/23/20		A 8/1/23/20
Files REFERRAL NOTE:	A	84/04/19		1/1
REFERRAL NOTE:		1/1		1/1
REFERRAL NOTE:				1/1

COMMENTS

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION CODES:	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	* CORRESPONDENCE	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	* OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	* CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		* OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.