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Northern Mariana Islands Commission on Federal Laws Washington, D.C. 20240 (202) 343-5617

Benigno R. Fitial
Chair and
Commissioner

Pedro A. Tenorio
Vice-Chair and
Commissioner

Paul J. Bergsma
Commissioner

Jesus C. Borja
Commissioner

Dwight L. Falcone
Commissioner

Hon. Robert J. Lagomarsino
Commissioner

Edward DLG. Pangelinan
Commissioner

Daniel H. MacMeekin
Executive Director

August 9, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed is Welcoming America's New Commonwealth: The Second Interim Report of the Northern Mariana Islands Commission on Federal Laws to the Congress of the United States. The Commission, appointed by the President pursuant to section 504 of the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America (approved by Public Law 94-241, 90 Stat. 263, March 24, 1976), is instructed "to survey the laws of the United States and to make recommendations to the United States Congress as to which laws of the United States not applicable to the Northern Mariana Islands should be made applicable and to what extent and in what manner, and which applicable laws should be made inapplicable and to what extent and in what manner."

The Commission is required to make its final report and recommendations to Congress within one year after termination of the Trusteeship Agreement pursuant to which the United States now administers the Northern Mariana Islands. Before that time, the Commission is authorized to "make such interim reports and recommendations to the Congress as it considers appropriate to facilitate the transition of the Northern Mariana Islands to its new political status."

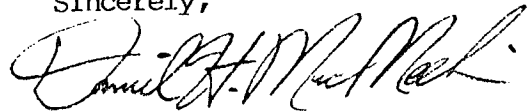
The enclosed second interim report of the Commission is comprehensive and for all practical purposes may be the final report of the Commission. The date the Trusteeship Agreement will be terminated is not now known, however, and developments between now and the Commission's statutory expiration one year after termination of the trusteeship may make desirable submission of further recommendations to Congress by the Commission. Accordingly, even though the Commission's staff will be disbanded after submission of this report, the report is labelled as interim rather than final.

A nine-page executive summary of the report appears immediately after the table of contents.

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Legislation to implement the Commission's recommendations is incorporated within the report. The Commission has urged the Congress to enact this legislation at its earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,



Daniel H. MacMeekin

Enclosure





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Subject: 2nd Interim Report of Northern Marianas Islands Commission on Federal Laws

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