



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

The President has seen 11/3

October 31, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: James C. Miller III  
Director

SUBJECT: Proposed Executive Order Entitled "Relations with the Northern Mariana Islands"

**SUMMARY:** This memorandum forwards for your consideration a proposed Executive order, submitted by the Department of the Interior, that would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to exercise administrative supervision over the relations between the Federal government and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands in all areas not the program responsibility of another Federal department or agency.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1975, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands decided that they wished to be part of the United States following termination of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. On March 24, 1976, Congress adopted a Covenant to Establish A Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America ("the Covenant") (Public Law 94-421).

On November 3, 1986, the United States will terminate the Trusteeship Agreement with the Northern Mariana Islands and two other entities in the Trust Territory for the Pacific Islands. The Senior Interagency Group for Micronesian Affairs has concluded that it would be advisable to delineate more precisely the responsibility of the Federal departments and agencies for managing the new relationship with the Northern Mariana Islands after termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

The proposed Executive order would implement this recommendation by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to exercise general administrative supervision of United States relations with the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands in all matters not the program responsibility on another Federal agencies. This authority will be exercised consistent with the Covenant.

None of the affected agencies has objected to the proposed Executive order.

**RECOMMENDATION:** I recommend that you sign the proposed Executive order.

Attachment 11/3/86: Sgd. & dated - aboard Air Force One en route L.A. from Las Vegas  
11/2/86: Announced - Costa Mesa, CA  
11/6/86: To Archives

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