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# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JAN 13 1987

Honorable Froilan Tenorio  
Resident Representative  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
Islands  
2121 - R Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20008

Dear Mr. Tenorio:

President Reagan asked that I respond to your letter of December 8, 1986, regarding the citizenship status of a number of persons residing in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. They had anticipated receiving United States citizenship on November 4, 1986 when the Northern Mariana Islands became a commonwealth of the United States. We appreciate your explanation of the dramatic political rights implications of the issue.

Let me assure that the Administration views this United States citizenship matter with utmost concern, and is working to resolve the issue in an expeditious manner. We appreciate your offer of assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Montoya  
Assistant Secretary--Territorial  
and International Affairs