

Two Park Avenue,  
New York 16, New York,  
March 20, 1953.

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the United States Representative's note UN-1727/89, dated January 19, 1953, notifying you that as a result of the entry into force on July 25, 1952 of the new Constitution establishing the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Government has decided to cease to transmit information on Puerto Rico under Article 73(e) of the Charter.

The attainment by the People of Puerto Rico of their new Commonwealth status is a most significant step. This is the kind of progress to self-government contemplated by the United Nations Charter. This is the democratic pattern of the free world - of goals set and hopes realized. The people of Puerto Rico expressed their view by resolution at their Constitutional Convention in the following words: "Thus we attain the goal of complete self-government, the last vestiges of colonialism having disappeared in the principle of Compact, and we enter into an era of new developments in democratic civilization."

I invite your attention in particular to the enclosed letter of Governor Muñoz Marín of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in which, after requesting the termination of the transmittal of information under Article 73(e) with respect to Puerto Rico, and after recounting the development of the Island's political progress, he says: "The people of Puerto Rico are firm supporters of the United Nations and this great organization may confidently rely upon us for a continuation of that good will."

His Excellency  
Trygve Lie,  
Secretary General  
of the United Nations,  
New York, New York.

Let me add that the people of Puerto Rico at this moment are proudly cooperating to the utmost in the United Nations efforts to repel aggression in Korea. The men of Puerto Rico who are bearing the hardship of battle with other United Nations troops have, by their courage and determination, demonstrated their strong love for freedom.

There are enclosed for the information of the Members of the United Nations the following documents in compliance with the terms of Resolution 222(III) of the General Assembly:

- (1) Text of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
- (2) Memorandum by the Government of the United States of America Concerning the Cessation of Transmission of Information under Article 73(e) of the Charter with Regard to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- (3) Copy of the letter dated January 17, 1953, from the Governor of Puerto Rico to the President of the United States.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.  
Ambassador

Enclosures:

As stated.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Two Park Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.  
March 20, 1953

Dear Governor Muñoz Marín:

It gives me great pleasure to send you herewith a copy of my letter to Secretary General Lie of the United Nations, transmitting a copy of the new Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and other documents concerning the notification that the United States no longer will transmit to the United Nations information with respect to Puerto Rico under Article 73(e) of the Charter.

In my letter I explained to the Secretary General why I consider this notification a matter of great importance.

May I now add my belief that our association will stand before the world as an enduring example of mutually enriching cultures and of progress achieved through friendship and mutual understanding. Democracy and freedom are thus made more secure.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD. H. C. Lodge, Jr.)  
Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.  
Ambassador

The Honorable  
Luis Muñoz Marín  
Governor of Puerto Rico  
La Fortaleza  
San Juan, P. R.