The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Marshall Islands presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor to transmit the attached letter from Her Excellency Hilda C. Heine, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to His Excellency President Barack H. Obama, President of the United States of America.

The Ministry has the further honor to seek the Embassy’s kind assistance in ensuring the attached letter reaches its most esteemed destination.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Marshall Islands avails itself to this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurance of its highest consideration.

March 9, 2016

Embassy of the United States of America
Majuro, REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
Tuesday, March 8, 2016

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is with great sadness that I learned of the passing in Los Angeles on Sunday of Former first lady Nancy Reagan from congestive heart failure.

The Marshallese people join me in recognizing the extraordinary life of Former first lady Nancy Reagan. The late Nancy Reagan worked with numerous charitable groups, and spent hours visiting veterans, the elderly, and the emotionally and physically handicapped. When her husband became president of the United States, First Lady Nancy Reagan continued her interest in these groups and is best known for her "Just Say No" program fighting against drug abuse among youth.

Her legacy endures with the many lives she had touched and continues to influence. For the Marshall Islands, the naming of the Army Missile Testing Range at Kwajalein Atoll after former President Ronald Reagan symbolizes the very close and cordial ties between our two countries and peoples, speaking to mutual admiration and enduring respect for former President Ronald Reagan and former First Lady Nancy Reagan.

On behalf of the Marshallese people, I wish to convey our utmost condolences and sympathy to the surviving children, family, the Government, and the American people.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Hilda C. Heine, Ed. D
President