THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

July 5, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. David E. Bell

Director, Bureau of the Budget

SUBJECT: Guam Security Program

Generally I feel as you do that there seems to be no strong case for continuing the wartime Executive Order 8683. However, I suggest that before we submit this to the President we obtain the views of the Secretary of Defense.

As you know, a similar problem of security exists with respect to the Trust Territories of the Pacific and it is now being actively reviewed by the Secretary of Defense in light of the President's policy stated in his NSAM No. 145. In this directive he stressed the need, in effect, for bringing the people of the Trust Territories into the 20th century in terms of education and economic development. The working group dealing with the development of programs for carrying out NSAM 145 has identified the present security restrictions as being a handicap to the achievement of the President's objective.

The policies with respect to the security as applied to Guam and the Trust Territories will have to be treated as a whole to avoid inconsistency and troublesome discrimination in treatment.

I suggest that the Secretary of Defense be requested to give his views with respect to the possible rescission of Executive Order 8683 as a matter of some urgency. If the over-all security problem with respect to Guam and the Trust Territories is not possible of solution without extensive field investigation and debate in Washington, the specific question of the rescission of 8683 should be given separate and early treatment.