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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

SUBJECT: Pacific Islands

Receipt is acknowledged of the interesting paper concerning the island territories in the Pacific. I am forwarding copies to other departments and agencies concerned. I shall bring it to the attention of Walt Rostow's Policy Planning Group for early consideration.

SIGNED

Peter Selbert  
Deputy Assistant Secretary

DISTRIBUTION

cc w/Study:

- McGeorge Bundy (White House)
- William Bundy (State)
- Walt W. Rostow (State)
- Dept of Interior (Sec of the Interior)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20350

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

The attached point paper, which I strongly endorse, is forwarded recommending that the appropriate action be taken.

*Paul H. Nitze*

PAUL H. NITZE

Attachment

Copy to: (w/attach.)  
DEPSECDEF

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filed*

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*Encl.*

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POINT PAPER

Subj: US Control of the Territory of Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific

BACKGROUND

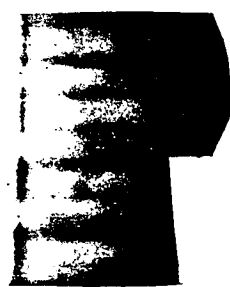
1. By Act of Congress, 1 August 1950, Guam is an unincorporated Territory of the United States. Its native population of 36,193 shares US citizenship. It is currently administered through the Secretary of the Interior by a Presidentially appointed Guamanian, Governor Manuel F. L. Guerrero, serving a four-year term from 9 March 1963.
2. The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is a UN designated strategic area administered by the US who is responsible to the UN Security Council. This arrangement provides Security Council members with a veto power over the question of plebiscites in the islands.

POINTS

1. The military utilization of Guam has remained comparatively unrestricted although the defensive sea area around the island has been disestablished.

2.

3.



4. It is essential therefore that our political ties with Guam be continually strengthened so that any future subversion attempts may be forestalled and to groom this island for eventual statehood, or for inclusion in the existing State of Hawaii.

5. The next logical step leading to either of these alternatives would be the incorporation of the territory. Such an action would follow the previous routes of Alaska and Hawaii. This action would require a new Act of Congress.

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6. In the case of the Trust Territory Islands, NSAM 145 and NSAM 243 set forth as US policy the movement of these islands by informed and free choice, into a permanent relationship with the US.

7. "The Report by the U. S. Government Survey Mission to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" (Anthony Solomon, Chairman) has recommended that a plebiscite be held in 1967 or 1968.

8.

9.

10. Such action should take the form of expansion of training and educational facilities and improvements in existing transportation and communications.

11. There may well be difficulties in attempting to arrange a political affiliation between Guam or certain of the Trust Territory Islands and the State of Hawaii. Cultural differences, physical remoteness and reported reluctance on the part of the State of Hawaii to assume the fiscal and administrative burdens of a dependent economy might have to be overcome.

RECOMMENDATIONS

[REDACTED]

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