



INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

30 APR 1974

In reply refer to:
I-4034/74

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Proposed US Memorial Park, Saipan, Mariana Islands

Attached is a point paper along with appropriate background, provided for your use at the meeting with the Secretary of the Interior, Rogers Morton; the Chairman, JCS, Admiral Moorer; and Ambassador Williams' representative Captain Dick Scott, USN, Director of the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations. The meeting is scheduled for 1100, Wednesday, 1 May in Secretary Morton's office, Room 6151, Interior Building, 18th and "C" Street. Deputy Assistant Secretary Dennis Doolin and his assistant for Trust Territory matters, Captain Ed Whelan, USN, are planning to attend the meeting with you.

The recommendations in the point paper have been coordinated with the Chairman's staff.

Attachments
a/s

Amos A. Jordan
Amos A. Jordan
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

COORDINATION:
OJCS (J-5)

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Point Paper for Meeting with Secretary Morton, 1 May

PURPOSE

To provide background and objectives for meeting with Secretary Rogers Morton at 1100, 1 May, concerning the development of a US memorial park on Saipan. Attendees at TAB A.

BACKGROUND

In negotiations to make the Mariana Islands District, TTPI, a commonwealth of the US, the majority of the military retention lands on Saipan are being returned to civilian control.

- One parcel was retained in Saipan's harbor area (Tanapag) for contingencies, and, to avoid holding it unused, Ambassador Williams has advocated its use as a "living memorial" to US servicemen which can be enjoyed by people on Saipan (map at TAB B).
- No other appropriate memorial to US personnel in Mariana Islands District, although Japanese have erected several.
- Initially, park concept was austere ... primarily a recreation area on scenic beach property, eventually including an approved monument costing about \$50,000.
- At Third Round of Marianas Talks (December 1973) Ambassador Williams description of the park included a swimming pool and arboretum, and possibly a marina.
- Subsequently, Department of Interior has developed unilaterally a "conceptual design" for the park, which has not been provided to DOD.
- Concern has grown in DOD over scope of park, initial funding responsibilities and particularly over annual maintenance. Various concepts outlined in TAB C. Correspondence arranging this meeting at TAB D.

DISCUSSION

Concept of park on this particular site is excellent: would protect beautiful beach area for public use, prevent further commercial encroachment, and enhance US negotiations.

C/

- Also, effectively reserves land for contingency purposes or future US Government use.
- On other hand, should be on guard against too grandiose plans and getting DOD into the park business.
- Interior's Mr. Jim Watt, Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation is expected to open meeting with brief of his conceptual design for park, estimated costs, construction responsibilities and long-term maintenance arrangements.
- Department of the Navy is being officially designated as the Executive Agent to follow through on DOD responsibilities in this project.
- Some basic policy decisions are needed to permit Ambassador Williams to make a progress report on the park at the next round of negotiations commencing 15 May, yet constrain him on the scope of facilities to be provided by US Government.

OBJECTIVES

It is recommended that agreement be reached on the following points:

- Scope of park: should be a simple beach area with facilities for swimming and picnicking; or should provisions be made for funding/constructing a swimming pool, arboretum, marina, playing fields and courts, etc.?
 - Recommend that DOD support concept of a simple facility with monument unless other Departments wish to fund more.
- Lead Agency has not been determined, but is considered necessary to plan and coordinate efforts of various participants.
 - Recommend that Interior Department take the lead because its charter prescribes responsibility for parks, it has expertise, and it has already conducted design planning.
- Funding responsibility should be determined; however, because of participation by several departments this is difficult issue. The overall policy in the Mariana's negotiations is to approach US Congress with a single price tag on the Commonwealth package to include annual operating costs, capital improvements, federal services, land acquisition base construction and loans/grants. The memorial park on Saipan contributes to the successful conclusion of the negotiations.

- Recommend that park funding should be included in total Mariana's authorization/appropriation from Congress on completion of the status negotiations.
- Construction responsibilities can be determined generally once the scope of the park is agreed upon. Early progress on the park project can be shown by clearing underbrush and cleaning up the site. Significantly more expensive vertical construction can come later.
 - Recommend that clearing and cleanup phase be accomplished by Civic Action teams (presently funded by DOD and Interior) and military engineers as available.
 - Interior could allocate to the project some of the \$80,000 worth of TNT recently transferred to TT Government from DOD (when it could not be used on Eniwetok follow-up seismic tests).
 - Recommend that local civilian contractors be employed to the maximum in any construction projects.
- Maintenance responsibility in the years ahead is a basic concern. DOD has legal and Congressional problems when attempting to justify funds for park maintenance.
 - Recommend that Interior assume responsibility for maintenance of the park. Delegation of this responsibility to Marianas Government would be acceptable if supervised by Interior's Park Service or other appropriate agency.
- DOD Executive Agent is (expected to be) the Department of the Navy.
 - Name of point of contact to be provided.
- Follow-up Action and detailed planning should be continued after this meeting by representatives of Secretary Morton, Admiral Moorer, Ambassador Williams and Secretary of Defense.

LIST OF PROBABLE ATTENDEES

Interior

Secretary Rogers Morton

Director James Watt
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation

Director Stanley Carpenter
Office of Territorial Affairs

OJCS

Admiral Thomas Moorer
Chairman

Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations

Captain Richard Scott, USN

Colonel Al Smith, USA

Office of the Secretary of Defense

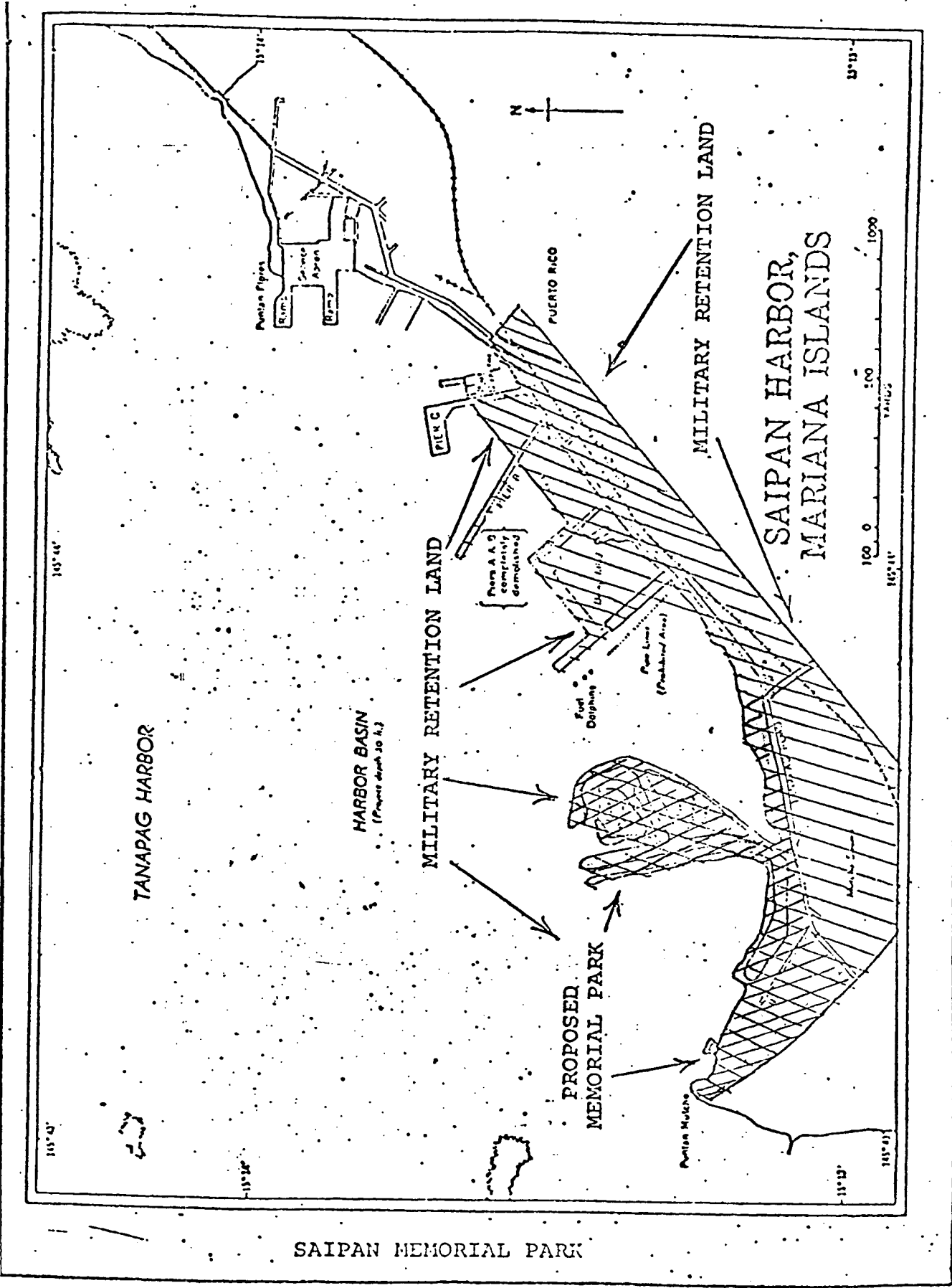
Deputy Secretary Clements

Deputy Assistant Secretary Dennis Doolin

Captain Edward C. Whelan, USN

TAB A

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SAIPAN MEMORIAL PARK

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SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED MEMORIAL PARK

- JCS/DOD Views

- Envision a relatively simple park occupying land in the Micro point area of the Tanapag Harbor retention area (see encl to TAB B) that initially could perhaps consist of the following:

- cleared beach front area
- recreational facilities
- gateway or arch

- Contemplate a monument (~~see TAB E for example of monument approved by the American Battle Monuments Commission~~), costing approximately \$50,000 could be erected at a later date.

- Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff advised Ambassador Williams on 7 Sep 73 that details as to feasibility, the manner in which such a project can best be accomplished, and, eventually, the design, funding, construction, and maintenance will have to be worked out.

- Dedicated to US Servicemen and Marianans.

- DOD will seek support of commorative organizations such as 2nd Marine Division, 20th AF, or 27th Infantry Div associations to assist.

- DOD executive agent (expect ASD/ISA to designate Navy shortly) will handle details of DOD participation.

- Ambassador Williams' views

-- Ambassador Williams envisions a part of a much larger scope than that contemplated by the JCS and DOD. As a result of public statements made by him at the third round of status talks in Dec 73, the following items are also expected to be included in the park.

- swimming pool
- marina
- arboretum
- playing fields
- clearing the water front area of WWII debris

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TAB C

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- Interior views

- Proposed area holds tremendous potential for a US Memorial Park.

- Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation visited Saipan and has developed a preliminary conceptual design.

-- Will be discussed at meeting.

-- Copy to be furnished DOD executive agent.

- Has suggestions, unknown at this time, as to funding, land clearing, construction, and long-range maintenance aspects of the park. Expect these to be discussed at meeting.

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