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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

15 MAY 1974

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

In reply refer to:  
I-3914/74

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (I&L)

SUBJECT: Memorial Park on Saipan, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

As indicated in the attached correspondence, the concept of a United States Memorial Park on Saipan, commemorating the American casualties of World War II in that area, has been endorsed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Subsequently, Deputy Secretary of Defense Clements indicated in a letter to Secretary of Interior Rogers Morton that Defense supported the concept and sought information on the responsibilities which the Department of the Interior would assume in this project. As a result, a meeting between Secretary Morton, Deputy Secretary Clements, Admiral Moorer, Ambassador Williams' representative and the Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation was held on 1 May 1974 in Secretary Morton's office. At this meeting, after reviewing a Department of Interior concept for design of the park, it was agreed that Interior would develop a Master Plan for development of such a park in phases. Once this plan is available, it will be determined what assistance the Defense Department can provide.

6/19/74

The Department of the Navy is designated as the Department of Defense Executive Agent effective 1 June 1974, to plan, coordinate and manage DOD participation in the development of a US memorial park, Tanapag Harbor, Saipan. This assignment is made because of the Navy's existing area and real estate responsibilities in the Trust Territory as well as its continuing broad interests in that area of the world.

As Executive Agent, the Navy is requested to develop a general plan with milestones, for the early accomplishment of tasks in the Master Plan which are within this Department's capacity to accomplish. It is further requested that a copy of the plan be furnished this office within 30 days of receipt of Interior's Master Plan for review within the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff.

(Signed) Dennis J. Doolin  
Deputy Assistant Secretary

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Attachment  
a/s

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