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## NAVY DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



SECRET

SECRET

10 JUN 1948

3274

Via Air Mail

From:

Chief of Naval Operations.

To:

Deputy High Commissioner Trust Territory

of the Pacific Islands.

Subject:

Establishment of Leprosarium, Saipan.

Enclosure:

(A) Copy of a memorandum from the Deputy Chief of Staff, United States Army to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operation (Administration) of 2 June 1948.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith for information.

2. Transmission by Registered Guard Mail or United States registered mail is authorized in accordance with Article 76(15)(e) and (f), United States Navy Regulations.

W. F. Jennings, By direction.

Copy to:

CinCPacFlt (w/enc) (Air Mail) HiComTerPacIs (w/enc) (Air Mail) ComMarianas (w/enc)(Air Mail)

2 June 1948

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (ADMINISTRATION):

SUBJECT: Establishment of Leprosarium, Saipan.

- 1. Reference is made to your informal memorandum of 24 April 1948 to Brigadier General C. V. R. Schuyler, of Plans and Operations Division, on the subject stated above.
- 2. Present Army plans for the deployment of troops in the Marianas call for their location on Guam. However, these plans are not stable, and future modifications may call for the utilization of Saipan. In such event, it is probable that the proposed site for the leprosarium would be required for troop housing or other military needs.
- 3. The complexity of the problems confronting the Department of the Navy in the establishment of a leprosarium in the Trust Territory is fully appreciated. However, in view of the above considerations, the Department of the Army cannot agree to the completion of the leprosarium at the site proposed on Saipan.
- 4. In informal telephone conversations between Commander Gill of your office and Lt. Colonel Crandell of P&O Division, it was understood that the Navy had located an alternate site for the leprosarium on Tinian and had authorized the expenditure of \$20,000 for construction at this site. It was further understood that this alternate site was not within an area earmarked for military use by the Joint Marianas Board. The Department of the Army has no objection to construction of the leprosarium at the alternate site on Tinian.

/s/ J. Lawton Collins
General, GSC
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Army

Encl. (A)