

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

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A1  
Ser 1046

26 FEB 1954

From: Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet  
To: Naval Administrator, U. S. Naval Administration Unit, Saipan  
Via: Commander Naval Forces Marianas

Subj: Naval Hospital, Naval Administrative Unit, Saipan

Ref: (a) Naval Administrator Unit, Saipan ltr ser 1138 of 31 Dec 1953  
(b) CINCPACFLT 282021Z Jan to COMNAVMIANAS

1. Reference (a) recommended that the medical facilities at the Naval Administration Unit Saipan be retained intact in its present location rather than moved to the Navy Hill area as previously recommended by the Naval Administrator, Saipan and Commander Naval Forces Marianas, and, approved by the Chief of Naval Operations. Reference (b) disapproved the recommendation made in reference (a).
2. Full cognizance is given to the mission of the Naval Administration Unit Saipan of furthering the health of the indigenous population of Saipan as stated in the first endorsement to reference (a). However, the transfer of medical facilities from Chalan Kanco to Navy Hill does not appear to jeopardize or render any less effective the stated mission. Original planning contemplated that certain of the hospital facilities at Chalan Kanco would be made available to village officials for use as a local dispensary under the supervision of the village practitioner. This arrangement should provide medical facilities for the majority of the needs of the inhabitants of the Chalan Kanco area and reduce considerably the necessity for any considerable number of persons needing medical attention to journey to the Navy Hill site.
3. While it is recognized that there will be a certain amount of inconvenience encountered in the movement of the hospital facilities from Chalan Kanco to the Navy Hill area, it is believed that careful preliminary planning will aid greatly in reducing any problems that might arise.
4. The problem of transportation is not considered to be of the magnitude suggested nor of an unsurmountable nature. Great care should be taken in utilizing all available means for encouraging the development of local self reliance and participation on the part of the inhabitants in resolving their own problems. It is not considered the mission of Naval Administration to provide the indigenous population with all services, but rather those beyond the capacity of the local inhabitants. It is recommended that the use of local revenues in financing a local transportation system under the jurisdiction of the Saipan Congress be explored.

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5. The concern of the Naval Administration Unit Saipan for the problems of the people of Saipan is commendable. However, this same concern could appropriately be directed toward helping the Saipanese to help themselves.

H. G. HOPWOOD  
Chief of Staff

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Chief of Naval Operations ←