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RADM Donaho

7 JUNE 1961

VIA : CAPT Moncure  
 CAPT Findley

Meeting at State Department to discuss pertinent  
 questions raised in Report of Visiting Mission

Encl: (1) Copy of Agenda  
 (2) Proposed Memorandum to SECNAV

1. As reported in my memorandum to you of 5 June, a meeting was held at the State Department at 1530 on 6 June. Topics under discussion are outlined in enclosure (1). The meeting was chaired by Mr. Woodruff Wallner, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs. Those attending were:

State Department

Mr. Wallner  
 Mr. Ben Gerig, Director, Dependent Area Affairs

Interior Department

Assistant Secretary John A. Carver, Jr.  
 Mr. Robert M. Mangan, Special Assistant  
 High Commissioner of the Trust Territory M. Wilfred Goding

United States Representative on the Trusteeship Council

Jonathan Bingham

Other Interested Department

Mr. R. F. Drummond  
 Mr. Matthew Baird

Navy Department

CAPT L. G. Findley

2. Of particular concern to the Navy is the question of "Divided Administration". The writer was asked to review this subject: Executive Orders of 10 November 1952 and 17 July 1953 which transferred the Saipan District (except for the island of Rota) were the starting point; meetings held by representatives of all interested Departments were outlined, climaxed by an exchange of

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correspondence in the fall of 1959 between the Secretary of the Interior and the Under Secretary of the Navy in which Mr. Bantz advised Secretary Seaton (OP-09B25 Serial 3631P09B2 of 17 December 1959) that "... the Navy Department is prepared to transfer administrative responsibility for the Saipan District to the Department of the Interior." Following an inspection of the facilities on Saipan by the former High Commissioner, Interior representatives informed representatives in OPNAV that they were not prepared to assume this responsibility. Consequently, no further action was taken by Navy.

3. Representatives from the other Governmental Department stated that they would prefer to have the status quo maintained under Navy. They could, and would, continue operation under Interior's administration of the Saipan District -- provided NTTU was retained with necessary details handled as Guam (COMNAVMARIANAS).

4. Mr. Carver then brought up the suggestion that he had in Honolulu (covered in my memorandum of 5 June) that the Navy should assume more responsibility in administering the whole Trust Territory. His proposal is that the Navy take over the logistic support of the entire Trust Territory -- both air and surface. I asked if he had in mind a joint administration between Navy and Interior and if so that this had been done in the past. Article 1, Logistics, of the Transfer Agreement between Navy and Interior reads in part "... it is agreed that the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands shall become independent of Navy installations as rapidly as practicable."

The aircraft used by the High Commissioner, flown under contract with PANAM, are old and should be replaced. Interior recently tried to do this but were unsuccessful. The AKL's turned over to Interior in 1951 are reported to be in poor operating condition. Logistic support in the Trust Territory is the most difficult part of the administration of the area. It is a well known fact that Interior has been having difficulty in keeping the supply lines open in the Marshalls and Carolines. Secretary Carver stated that they were not going to live with the mistakes that had been made in the past but rather would request additional Navy support in the fields of logistic support and possibly communications. I mentioned that at one time a recommendation had been made to have the medical field turned over to the U. S. Public Health Service. In sum, the High Commissioner, Deputy High Commissioner, Legal, Economics, Education and Scientific fields would be Interior employees and Logistics and possibly Communications would be handled by the Navy.

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5. As there is a strong possibility that a letter may come to SECNAV from SECINTERIOR recommending this merging of administrative chores in the near future, I have prepared enclosure (2) for your consideration.

6. Other items on the Agenda deal principally with Interior and State. Mr. Bingham stated that he would answer questions dealing with political and U. S. policy while ones concerning administrative matters would be answered by Mr. Nucker or Mr. Goding - the Special U. S. Representatives.

Very respectfully,

L. G. FINDLEY  
Captain, USN

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