



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

IN REPLY REFER TO
Op-09B22/rw
Ser 200P09B2
9 January 1962

From: Chief of Naval Operations
To: Commander U. S. Naval Forces Marianas
Via: Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: Transfer of administration of the Saipan District from the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Interior

1. The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Navy have agreed to the transfer of the Saipan District from Navy to Interior effective 1 July 1962.

2. Executive Orders 10408 and 10470 provided that the Northern Mariana Islands (less the island of Rota), Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, then administered by the Department of the Interior be transferred to the Department of the Navy. To implement the forthcoming transfer, the Department of the Interior has indicated that they would assume responsibility for initiating action to modify Executive Orders 10408 and 10470 which would reflect the change in responsibility for the administration of the Northern Mariana Islands.

3. The Department of the Interior has advised that the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, Mr. Will Goding, has been informed of the agreement reached between the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of the Navy.

4. It is requested that you begin discussions with the High Commissioner in implementation of the transfer and that a draft agreement be prepared for forwarding to the Chief of Naval Operations. It is suggested that the draft agreement be developed along the same lines as previous agreements covering the transfers of administration in the Trust Territory in 1951 and 1953.

/s/ G. R. DONAHO
Assistant Vice Chief of Naval Operations/
Director of Naval Administration

Copy to:
NAVAD Saipan

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