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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
Office of the Civil Administrator  
Saipan District

FF12(6)/A3-1  
(WRL:te)  
Ser 889  
3 October 1950

From: CIVAD Saipan  
To: HICOMTERPACIS

Subj: New chapter 4 of Interim Regulation 4-48, comments and suggestions on

Ref: (a) HICOMTERPACIS ltr A2 ser 1571 of 28 Aug 1950  
(b) CIVAD Saipan ltr A3-1 ser 853 of 25 Sep 1950  
(c) CIVAD Saipan ltr N1-13 ser 763 of 6 Sep 1950  
(d) Chapter 6, U.S. Navy Regulations 1948

1. Reference (a), forwarding advance copies of Interim Regulation 3-50 and copy of the Organization Chart of the Trust Territory, directed the Civil Administrator to forward a chart of the district civil administration organization with appropriate comments and suggestions to the High Commissioner. This chart was forwarded by reference (b), but comments and suggestions were withheld pending the return of the Civil Administrator from Chichi Jima.

2. The Civil Administrator has no comments or suggestions to offer concerning the actual reorganization of the Civil Administration Staff as very little change of duties was involved and it is anticipated that neither major problems nor need for changes will be created.

3. The Civil Administrator is, however, alarmed by the questions of responsibility and correspondence. The Civil Administrator has, rightly or wrongly, held himself responsible, both as Civil Administrator and Commanding Officer of Naval Personnel, for all that has transpired within his command and district. It is assumed that the High Commissioner and the Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet will continue to hold him so responsible. In order to accept such responsibility it is deemed necessary that the members of the Civil Administrator's staff be responsible to him and not to members of the High Commissioner's staff. Such responsibility or at least direction from above is indicated (to quote but two examples) in subparagraph 13 a of enclosure (1) to reference (a) which states: "The Director of Education--- shall supervise, through the District Directors of Education,---"; and in subparagraph 15 b which states: "The Attorney General shall exercise general superintendence and direction over the District Attorneys, etc." It is felt that such direction should be in the name of the High Commissioner through the Civil Administrator.

4. Another confusing aspect is that paragraph 24 of enclosure (1) to reference (a) appears to render the departmental jurisdiction mentioned above inoperable as the responsibilities of departmental heads as defined are more limited.



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The use of inter-office memoranda is forbidden for issuing of orders and directives and the issuing of criticisms, directives, orders and policy matters is defined as a function of the High Commissioner, the Chief Administrator, Field Headquarters, or the Civil Administrator as appropriate. Consequently, it is not known by what means the department heads are to exercise their powers over district departmental heads.

5. The Civil Administrator believes that the situation described above is liable to lead to confusion and misunderstanding. As a matter of fact, the use of and implied reference in official correspondence to inter-office memoranda has already resulted in a misunderstanding as was noted in reference (c). Therefore, it is requested that the duties and responsibilities of the Civil Administrator in relation to this problem be clearly defined.

6. It is noted that enclosure (2) to reference (a) continues the office of governor. It is felt that this office is an anachronism from military government days and should be abolished as superfluous. The very existence of a governor whose primary duties are military provides an undesirable subordination of civil administration to the military. Reference (d) appears to be adequate insofar as the military relations of a junior officer to a senior are concerned.

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>>> "Scott Russell" <srussell@pticom.com> 07/27/2011 1:58 AM >>>

I'm contacting you to find out the current status of a collection of documents relating to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I have attached the finding guide for this collection with this note. I am not sure of the record group number for this collection.

I finally tried to access these documents at the Navy Yard back in October 2008 but was advised that they had been transferred to NARA and I have been following up periodically with NARA staff hoping to get the word that it has once been declassified. Mr. Ed McCarter of NARA kindly provided me with your name and email address.

I am very interested in those parts of the collection dealing with the Northern Mariana Islands - Saipan, Tinian, Rota and the small volcanic islands to the north of Saipan.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter at your earliest convenience as these documents are critical to a research project I am currently working on. Thank you.

Scott Russell