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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington 25, D. C.

DEC 30, 1952

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In your letter of December 18, 1952, you request my concurrence in a proposal to amend Executive Order 10408 to effect the transfer from this Department to the Navy Department of all the islands in the Northern Marianas District, including the islands of Saipan and Tinian, which will be so transferred on January 1 pursuant to the above-mentioned Order.

While this Department opposed the issuance of Executive Order 10408, I concur under the circumstances in your proposal to amend this Order.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Secretaries of State and Defense.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Oscar Chapman  
Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Dan A. Kimball  
Secretary of the Navy  
Washington 25, D. C.