

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : OP-02
 Via : OP-21
 FROM : OP-215


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DATE: 31 March 1953

SUBJECT: Administration of Saipan District

Ref: (a) Fonecon of 30 Mar 1953 with E. J. Sady, Dept of Interior

1. Mr. Sady, Chief of the Pacific Division, Office of Territories, Department of Interior advised that the Interior Department is exercising full administrative supervision over the Saipan District less the Islands of Saipan and Tinian, and that the proposed interdepartmental agreement between the Navy and Interior to the contrary, the Department of Interior does not recognize or any longer hold to the previous arrangement under which the Navy Department took over the administration of the whole Marianas area on 1 January 1953.
2. In response to the question as to whether the Interior was paying the school teachers on Rota, Alamagahan, and Agrihan, and whether Interior was actively administering the islands other than Saipan and Tinian, Mr. Sady answered that he did not know.
3. Mr. Sady further advised that due to the change in the political administration of the United States Government on 20 January 1953, the Secretary of Interior's letter of 30 December 1952 concurring in a proposed amendment to Executive Order 10408 to also transfer the remaining Mariana Islands other than Saipan and Tinian to the Navy Department, was now subject to revision. The Interior presently intends to object to this transfer and has asked the Bureau of Budget, which has the proposed amendment, for an opportunity to present a new position.
4. The Naval Administration Unit is currently administering the whole of the Marianas District in accordance with the terms of the proposed interdepartmental agreement approved by the Secretary of the Navy on 28 January 1953 and forwarded at that time to the Secretary of Interior for his concurrence, which as of this date has not been received. In the intervening period from 1 January 1953 to 30 March 1953, the Naval Administration Unit Saipan has budgeted for expenses related to certain Mariana Islands other than Saipan and Tinian.

Very respectfully,

 R. V. REIGHARD

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