

OP NAV CMR

DEC 21 1961

Op-09502/rw
Ser 183870922

20 DEC 1961

MAILED.....

My dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your letter of 12 July 1961 regarding the establishment of a single administration for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

As you know, representatives from your Department and the Department of the Navy have conferred on several occasions to discuss the details of the transfer of the Saipan District to the Department of the Interior. The proposed transfer date of 1 July 1962 has been informally agreed to. It is therefore suggested that a joint Interior/Navy announcement be released as soon as possible setting the date of transfer as of 1 July 1962. Such announcement would enable the cognizant naval commands in the Pacific to commence planning the implementation of this transfer, and would, I am sure, serve the best interests of both Departments.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN B. CONNALLY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Honorable Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Copy to:

Cincpacflt 12/22/61

ORIG: CAPT L.G. FINDLEY, 09B22, X-54418 on 6 Dec 1961
REWRITTEN: RADM G.R. DONANO, 09B, X-54337 on 8 Dec 1961
TYPED: WARD, YNC