

**TOP SECRET**

WASHINGTON

10 SEP 1945

11 AUG 1945



*Navy*

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:**

Executive approval has been given to a recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy to continue the pre-war form of naval government in Guam, and extend this naval government to include Saipan, Tinian, and other islands of the Marianas group. The suggestion was also made that consideration be given to placing under naval government all islands taken from the Japanese.

The question of military bases in the Pacific is a matter of vital interest to both the War and Navy Departments, and the subject of continuing studies by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Only by an integrated system of mutually supporting bases for land, sea and air forces can military security and control be achieved. The type of government to be established over those Pacific islands, such as the Marianas and Okinawa, which are key areas in our national security program, is an important consideration in the establishment of an integrated system of land, sea and air bases, and concerns both the War and Navy Departments as well as other departments of the Government.

It is therefore recommended that your approval of the recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy on this matter be regarded as an interim authority, and that the Secretaries of State, War and Navy be directed to study and submit joint recommendations on the type of government to be established on the various Pacific islands.

(Sgt.) HENRY L. STRASOP

Secretary of War

*x Japan*

*in Jones tal*  
*James Forrestal*

*Ap 7/11/45*  
*HST*  
*x B. F. War*

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By *NS/H* NARS Date *2-6-76*

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KEY TO ACCURACY ORIGINAL

Original Retired  
for Preservation