



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

DEC 29 1945

My dear Mr. President:

From the beginning, I have agreed with you that the problems arising from administration of the Pacific islands should be considered without delay. I firmly believe that this can be done without any disturbance to international negotiations which takes place now or in the future. Furthermore, by exploring the possibility of establishing sound interim civil government in the islands, I am sure that we can strengthen our international position. Therefore, I have requested Secretary Byrnes to have the subcommittee summoned to draft an interim report for submission to you by the Committee of four Secretaries on or before February 1. A copy of my letter to Secretary Byrnes is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

*Harold L. Ickes*

Secretary of the Interior.

The President,

The White House.

Enclosure 145.

