

PROPOSED DRAFT OF LETTER TO THE SPEAKER AND
THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

My dear Mr. Speaker:

There is enclosed a copy of a report from the Secretary of State indicating a course of action which the Secretaries of State, War, Navy and Interior have agreed should be followed with respect to the administration of Guam, Samoa and the Pacific islands *to be placed* under United States trusteeship.

On October 20, 1945, I appointed a committee consisting of the Secretaries of these four departments to make recommendations concerning this matter. After preliminary consideration it seemed ^{it} advisable ^{to formulate} ~~that the~~ *a final recommendation until* ~~committee's report should be postponed pending~~ a determination ^{had been made} of the status of ^{islands formerly under Japanese control} ~~occupied Japanese islands~~.

In the meantime the departments represented on the committee continued to give study to the problems involved.

After the United Nations ^{Security Council} approved a trusteeship agreement designating the United States as the administering authority for ^{the} former Japanese mandated

islands, I requested that the members of the committee again give joint consideration to problems relating to the administration of the Pacific islands. The enclosed report has been submitted pursuant to that request.

I am sure that the agreement reached by the four Secretaries will be of interest to the Congress in connection with its consideration of legislation to provide civilian government for these islands, and that the information obtained by the departments in studying this question will also be helpful in the consideration of such legislation.

It has long been my view that the inhabitants of Guam and Samoa should enjoy those fundamental human rights and that democratic form of government which are the rich heritage of the people of the United States.

We have already extended those rights and that form of government to other possessions of the United States, ^{such as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands} and have given solemn assurance to the United Nations ^{with respect to the inhabitants of the trust territories} of our intention to grant ^{these inhabitants} a full measure of individual rights and liberties. ~~to the inhabitants of territories placed in our trust.~~

*Adm
mt
Adm*



I hope that the Congress will approve legislation for the purposes indicated in the enclosed report and that such legislation will provide for the full enjoyment of civil rights and for the greatest practicable measure of self government.

Very sincerely yours,

RECEIVED

APR 10 9 41 AM '44

