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July 13, 1962

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter to the Secretary dated July 6, 1962, which made reference to earlier correspondence and informal advices concerning the administration of the Navy's security clearance program on Guam.

The propriety of existing security policies on Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands among other matters has been the subject of an extensive review for the past few months by the President's Task Force on the Trust Territory, which as you know, is made up of representatives of the Departments of State, Defense and Interior.

Further, the questions raised in the April 17, 1962, letter from Senator Jackson and you concerning Guam have been considered in turn by the Department of the Navy, CINCPAC and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Upon reviewing the responses of these latter authorities, which adhered to what might be called the historic position of the Navy, we were not satisfied to leave the matter on that basis. Accordingly, we are sending the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Security Policy and a small party to Guam and Saipan to get first-hand factual information. This group is scheduled to leave for Guam within the next few days, and when they return we will communicate further with you.

We appreciate the interest of the Committee and share the view that security policies and practices on Guam should be appropriate and in touch with the times.

We look forward to a resolution of these matters in the near future. I shall personally follow the subject to be sure that no further delays occur.

Sincerely,

Honorable Clinton P. Anderson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate

Signed
ROSWELL L. GILBERT

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