

August 16, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

Mac--

Here are some action documents for your signature. The whole approach was discussed with Mike who concurs therein and has already talked with Carver to alert him this package is coming over to him.

1. A request to Dave Bell to arrange for the rescission of Executive Order 8683.

2. An action assignment to Carver to draft a Presidential announcement reporting Presidential intention of opening up the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands which stems from a joint recommendation of State, Defense and Interior. This announcement will be drafted to achieve three purposes: (a) to get psychological mileage in the area and at the UN; (b) to strengthen Interior's hand in negotiating with Navy on procedural arrangements whereby the "opening up" is achieved; and (c) strengthening McNamara and Gilpatric on the Hill against sniping from Navy supporters who may think "we are giving away the Pacific." I am told that there is evidence at this time that the campaign has already begun. As you know, the Defense decision overrules the Secretary and Under Secretary of the Navy and the Joint Chiefs. However, McNamara and Gilpatric feel the decision is a sound one and was reached after Skallerup visited the area and made a first-hand examination of our requirements for national security purposes.



Charles E. Johnson

cc: Mr. Forrestal

DRAFT
8/16/62

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. David E. Bell
Director, Bureau of the Budget

SUBJECT: Rescission of Executive Order 8683, February 14, 1941

Mr. Roswell Gilpatric, Deputy Secretary of Defense, by memorandum to me dated August 15, has indicated that the Department of Defense interposes no objection to the rescission of subject Executive Order (copy of his memo is attached). Would you please undertake the necessary arrangements for the rescission of this Executive Order?

For your information, the Department of the Interior, through the Task Force of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, is undertaking the preparation of a Presidential statement to be made in connection with the opening up of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to U. S. citizens, U. S. investment and U. S. flag vessels without prior security clearance from the Department of the Navy. At the same time, ^{but} the President announces rescission of Executive Order 8683, he ~~will~~ ^{will} announce his intention ^{of} opening the Trust Territory. This means that both the rescission of the Executive Order and the preparation of the statement must be coordinated so that the two actions can be taken simultaneously. A copy of the instruction to Interior is also attached.

I am returning your file with respect to the rescission of subject Executive Order.

McGeorge Bundy

Attachments



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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7/62

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE McGEORGE BUNDY
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

This is in further response to your memorandum dated July 13, 1962 concerning the Department of Defense security program for Guam and the Trust Territories.

The Department of Defense interposes no objection to the rescission of Executive Order 8683, February 14, 1941. As you know on Guam the entire natural harbor available for shipping is within the Naval Base and commercial air operations are conducted at the Naval Air Station. It is understood that a rescission of Executive Order 8683 would not affect the authority of the commanding officer or other appropriate commander to control entry into or passage through any base, station or other installation or area, including port and harbor facilities under Army, Navy or Air Force control. It is the responsibility of the Department of the Navy, however, to make appropriate arrangements for the use of harbor and air station facilities by commercial carriers.

Further, the Department of Defense has no objection to opening the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to United States citizens, United States investment and United States flag vessels without prior security clearance from the Department of the Navy. It is understood that entry into the Trust Territory will continue to be under control of the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory and further, that entry into Eniwetok, Bikini and Kwajalein Atolls, together with such other islands as are designated for national defense purposes from time to time, will be under the control of the Commander in Chief, Pacific.

We urge that you consider the desirability of requesting the President to announce any action taken by him along these lines, and we would suggest emphasizing that these steps are consistent with our national policies of local self government, and of political, economic and social development for the people of these islands; and further, that all appropriate measures will be taken to insure that the security requirements of the United States in these areas are amply safeguarded.

Howell S. G. [Signature]