

August 20, 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. John A. Carver**  
**Assistant Secretary for Public**  
**Land Management**  
**Department of the Interior**

**SUBJECT: Opening Up the Trust Territory of the**  
**Pacific Islands**

According to a memorandum dated August 15 from Mr. Roswell Gilpatric to me, the Department of Defense has no objection to opening 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.

It is proposed that the President will announce the rescission of Executive Order 8683 simultaneously with announcing his intention of opening up the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. This would be done either at a press conference or by a separate White House announcement. Will you undertake, in cooperation with the other departments represented on your Task Force to: (1) prepare a statement along the lines suggested by Mr. Gilpatric in his memo to me (copy attached) emphasizing that his action has been recommended and is supported by the Secretaries of State, Defense and Interior, and (2) undertake immediately the development of the procedural and other arrangements for opening up the Trust Territory and for reserving entry into those islands which are designated for national defense purposes to remain under the control of CINCPCAG.

It is hoped that the statement and rescission of the Executive Order can proceed immediately so that they may be used at an early press conference. The final arrangements with the Navy need not be completed before the announcement is made. In fact there is some merit in having an early announcement in advance of the completion of the final arrangements in this matter.

(S)

McGeorge Bundy

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