

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington

ORDER NO. 2918

December 27, 1968

Subject: Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Trusteeship Agreement between the United States and the Security Council of the United Nations, the United States has undertaken to promote self-government in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, Department of the Interior Order No. 2876 of January 30, 1964, as amended, set forth the extent and nature of the authority of the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, Department of the Interior Order No. 2882 of September 28, 1964, as amended, created the Congress of Micronesia and granted legislative authority thereto; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the two aforesaid basic Orders, as amended, be modified in minor particulars, consolidated in one basic order, and reissued, with all amendments therein incorporated,

NOW, THEREFORE, the following single basic Order respecting the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is issued:

PART I. Purpose

The purpose of this order is to delimit the extent and nature of the authority of the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (hereinafter called "the Trust Territory"), as it will be exercised under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter called "the Secretary"), pursuant to Executive Order No. 11021 of May 7, 1962, and to prescribe the manner in which the relationships of the Government of the

Trust Territory shall be established and maintained with the Congress, the Department of the Interior and other Federal agencies, and with foreign governments and international bodies.

PART II. Executive Authority

Section 1. The executive authority of the Government of the Trust Territory, and the responsibility for carrying out the international obligations undertaken by the United States with respect to the Trust Territory, shall be vested in a High Commissioner of the Trust Territory and shall be exercised and discharged under the supervision and direction of the Secretary.

The Secretary shall appoint a Deputy High Commissioner, who shall have all the powers of the High Commissioner in the case of a vacancy in the office of High Commissioner or the disability or temporary absence of the High Commissioner.

Section 2. The relations of the Government of the Trust Territory with the Congress of the United States on all legislative matters, including appropriations, shall be conducted through the Department of the Interior.

Section 3. With freedom to consult directly with the Secretary when necessary, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory shall normally communicate with the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the Office of Territories. The High Commissioner shall be responsible for all United States property in the Trust Territory which is required for the operation of the Government of the Trust Territory and for which the Department of the Interior has administrative responsibility. The High Commissioner shall perform such other functions for the Department of the Interior in the Trust Territory as may be delegated to him by the Secretary.