

6 July 1944

Box 57  
Folder 1  
Item 11  
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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Subject: Conference regarding martial law in Hawaii  
Present: Mr. Meade, Office of Military Governor, Hawaii  
Major Krim, ASF  
Lt. Colonel Gerhardt.

Mr. Meade and Major Krim reported upon the current negotiations being undertaken to secure the acceptance of the War Manpower plan for Hawaii. Substantial agreement has been reached by all interested parties with the exception of the Department of the Interior, on all provisions of the plan with the exception of the compliance features.

The present strategy has been to maintain the compliance features of General Orders No. 10 for a period subsequent to the institution of the plan. In the event that the plan is a success and operates smoothly, General Orders No. 10 will be withdrawn and may possibly be replaced by sanctions under the civil authorities, probably under the Hawaiian Defense Act.

Mr. Meade and Major Krim asked that in order to secure Department of Interior concurrence, the provisions of General Orders No. 10 be retained for sixty days after institution of the plan and that Mr. Abe Fortas of the Interior Department be approached with this proposition. At the conclusion of the sixty-day period it seems probable that the entire martial law authority will be removed and administration turned back to the civil authorities. Reservation of certain powers necessary for internal security and to secure efficient operation of the port would be reserved to the military commander through a new executive order. A study is being made to determine how far existing executive orders cover the powers which General Richardson believes are necessary to maintain and secure military operations. Those not covered by these existing orders will be proposed in a new executive order.

Note: Mr. Meade reported that at 3:00 P.M., 6 July 1944, he had discussed the question of the sixty-day continuation of General Orders No. 10 with Colonel Morrison, Office of the Military Governor and he indicated that this would be acceptable but would like to check it with General Richardson. Mr. Fortas is at present out of the city but will return on the 7th of July, at which time this matter will be discussed with him.

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ASW 370.8 Hawaii - Labor

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6 JULY 1944

July 16, 1944

ASW 370.8 Hawaii

ASW 370.8 HAWAII-LABOR

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Subject: Termination of martial law in Hawaii,  
conversations with Captain Colclough, USN.

As a result of an informal conference held at the Navy Department with representatives of the Assistant Secretary of War and the Navy Department, informal study and consideration was given by the Navy to the proposal of terminating martial law in Hawaii. The Navy Department agreed to study the question informally to be prepared for later discussions. The War Manpower Plan for Hawaii, which has a bearing upon the martial law issue, has been agreed to by the Navy with the exception of the compliance features. It is understood that the compliance features provided for under General Orders No. 10, promulgated under martial law, will be temporarily continued for a period not to exceed sixty days, at which time, if the plan succeeds the general orders may be rescinded. An executive order giving to the Military Commander in Hawaii certain powers to maintain security as drafted by the Office of the Military Governor in Hawaii were informally transmitted to Admiral King at the request of Admiral Nimitz. The Navy (Captain Colclough) after a review of the order, stated that the Navy accepts in principle the abolition of martial law and the substitution therefor of an executive order granting powers as outlined above, subject to a review of the detailed terms of the order. The Navy requested guidance as to how much information would be imparted to the Department of Interior. They were informed that only the general plan, i.e., substitution of an executive order for martial law had been discussed with the Department of Interior but that no detailed draft for such order has been given to the Department of Interior or discussed with them. Mr. Harper of the Department of Interior stated that he had submitted to the War Department a memorandum setting forth Department of Interior views and recommendations for an order to strengthen the War Manpower Plan under the Hawaiian Defense Rule. Colonel Hughes and Lt. Colonel Slattery, Office of the Military Governor of Hawaii, are currently working on a draft of the proposed executive order.

16 July 44

H. A. G.