

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY DEEDED  
FOR THE NATIONAL PARK

On April 4, 1969, the United States Department of Interior deeded to the Government of Guam certain lands under the Territorial Submerged Lands Act of 1963, for a commercial port and industrial park site. The condition of the conveyance was that the Government of Guam was to convey in exchange to the United States, Department of Interior, suitable land for the proposed "War in the Pacific National Historical Park."

Between the years 1970 and 1972, the Government of Guam conveyed 850.55 acres of land for the proposed War in the Pacific Park to Department of Interior.

In 1978, the Congress of the United States created the War in the Pacific National Historical Park on Guam by passing Public Law 95-348. Private lands, federal and territorial lands and waters were included by Congress within the park boundaries. By passage of Public Law 95-348, 1150.63 land acres were designated for the park. The Department of Interior and the Navy own 851.83 acres or 75%, private owners own 237.06 acres or 20%, and the Government of Guam owns 55.22 acres or 4%. About 6 acres or 1% is of unknown ownership.

From the total conveyance of GovGuam land, only 521.29 acres are actually within the boundaries of the park as established by Public Law 95-348. There are 329.22 remaining acres GovGuam conveyed which are not included within the boundaries of the park, for which the National Park Service proposes the following:

- a) 42.02 acres east of the Asan Inland Unit and 83.92 acres east of the Piti Guns Unit to be used as land exchange with private landowners within the park;

- b) 200 acres west of the Mt. Tenjo to Mt. Chachao Unit to be used as a buffer for the Unit; and
- c) 3.28 acres south of the Agat Unit to be included within the Park boundaries.

The Government of Guam should strongly oppose the intent of the National Park to exchange 125.94 acres of land outside the park for the following reasons:

1. The initial intent of the land exchange between the Government of Guam and the Department of Interior is such that the land be given to the Department of Interior to be used for the development of the War in the Pacific.
2. The areas cited for exchange are impacted by slide and erosion zones. Development of these areas would destroy protective vegetative cover and increase erosion. Furthermore, such development within this zone can also lead to landslides and increase flood hazard areas. The weight of structures on steep hillsides can cause unstable soils to "slump" and weaken foundations. In extreme cases, mud slides may cause building damage and/or threat to human life.
3. In the event that the National Park agrees not to exchange the land but to retain the land for future use, the Bureau strongly recommends that the areas be maintained at its natural state in order to protect the surrounding natural resources. On the other hand, the lands could be returned to GovGuam to ensure that these areas shall not be developed in ways that would pose unreasonable risk to the health, safety, or welfare of the people of Guam.

GOVGUAM LANDS DEEDED  
FOR THE NATIONAL PARK

| LOT #         | LOCATION | ACREAGE | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | REMARKS                                         |
|---------------|----------|---------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 259           | Piti     | 87.64   | 115867             | 83.92 acres outside<br>Piti Unit                |
| 260           | Piti     | 9.96    | 115867             |                                                 |
| 497-R1        | Asan     | 42.02   | 115867             | Located outside Asan Inland<br>Unit             |
| Mt. Tenjo     | Piti     | 200.00  | 115867             | Located outside Mt. Tenjo &<br>Mt. Chachao Unit |
| 194-2-1       | Agat     | 3.28    | 115867             | Located outside Agat Unit                       |
| 443 Part 2    | Agat     | 0.296   | 94353              |                                                 |
| 443 Part 1-R4 | Agat     | 6.745   | 94353              |                                                 |
| 497-1         | Asan     | 50.73   | 94353              |                                                 |
| 446           | Agat     | 157.90  | 94353              |                                                 |
| 499           | Asan     | 291.94  | 94353              |                                                 |

TOTAL                      850.511

Source: Bureau of Planning