APPENDICES
SURVEY OF AMERICAN TERRITORIES AND COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

American Samoa

American Samoa, an un-incorporated and unorganized territory of US consists of seven Islands. It is located 2,300 miles southwest of Honolulu and 1,600 miles northeast of New Zealand. Until 30 June 1951, it remained under the control of Navy department, when its administration was transferred to the Department of Interior by Executive order.¹

Currently, the local administration of the territory is being carried on under the revised constitution of 1 July 1967. The legislative power is vested in a bicameral legislature.² The latter could make laws on matters of local concern.³ The executive power is vested in an appointed Governor.⁴ The judicial power is exercised by an independent judiciary.⁵ The territory has no representation in either house of Congress.

Guam

The territory of Guam is located, 6,000 miles southwest of

² See Revised Constitution, 1967 with subsequent amendments, Article III, Sec. 3
³ Ibid.
⁴ Ibid., Article IV
⁵ Ibid., Article III
San Francisco and 1,500 miles southeast of Manila. It has an area of 209 square miles and a population 86,926 (1970 census). In 1950, the administration of the territory was transferred from the department of Navy to the Department of Interior. The territory was organized by the Organic Act of 1 August 1950. Under the Act the legislative power is vested in a unicameral legislature. The executive power is exercised by an elected Governor. The judicial power rests with the District court of Guam. The Guamanians are represented in the House of Representatives by a non-voting delegate.

The Virgin Islands

An un-incorporated territory of the Virgin Islands is located 1,400 miles southeast of New York and approximately 1,000 miles southeast of Miami in the Caribbean Sea. The Virgin Islands, until 18 March 1931, were under the jurisdiction of Navy department, when, by an Executive Order

---


7 See Organic Act of Guam (64 Stat 384) 1950 with subsequent amendments, Sec. 10

8 Ibid., Sec. 6

9 Ibid., Sec. 22

its administrative responsibility was transferred to the Department of Interior. The territory was initially organized by an Organic Act of 22 June 1916. At present, the administration of the territory is carried on under the revised Organic Act of 22 July 1954. The legislative power has been conferred on a unicameral legislature which consists of 15 members. The executive power is vested in an elected governor. The judicial power has been conferred on a District Court and other inferior courts. The Islands since 1973 are represented in the US House of Representatives by a non-voting delegate, elected by popular vote.

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico, which was an organized territory of US, in 1952 was elevated to the status of "Commonwealth". It is 105 miles long and 25 miles wide, is the easternmost Island of the West Indies group known as Greater Antilles. Under the


12 See the Virgin Islands Organic Act (68 Stat 497) 1954 with subsequent amendments, Sec. 5

13 Ibid., Sec. 11

14 Ibid., Sec. 21


16 See Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (64 Stat 327), 25 July 1952, Article I.
Constitution of 25 July 1952 the legislative power has been conferred on the bicameral legislature. The executive power is vested in an elected Governor. The judicial power is vested in a Supreme Court and subordinate courts. The Resident Commissioner who has no voting rights represents the Commonwealth in US House of Representatives.

District of Columbia

The District of Columbia which is an incorporated territory of the United States was acquired from the States of Maryland and Virginia on 16 July 1790 for the purpose of the seat of Federal Government. Prior to 1967 the administration of the territory was carried out by the Board of three Commissioners. Among them two were appointed by the President with the approval of Senate for three years. The third was appointed from the Engineer's Corps of army. But in 1967 to achieve community representation the Commissioners' form of government was abolished and in its place the Mayor or Councillors' form of government was instituted. The Mayor who heads the administration is appointed by the President with the

17 Ibid., Article III, Sec. 2
18 Ibid., Article IV, Sec. 1
19 Ibid., Article V, Sec. 1
20 Source: p. 7 of the Documents supplied by the Department of Interior entitled, "Puerto Rico".
confirmation of Senate for a period of four years. In discharge of his functions he is assisted by a City Council of nine members which is also appointed by the President.\textsuperscript{22}

The people of the territory have a right to participate in the election of the President\textsuperscript{23} but they are not represented in US Congress.

\textsuperscript{22} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{23} This right was conferred on the people by the Constitution (XXIII Amendment) Act, 1961, Sec. 1