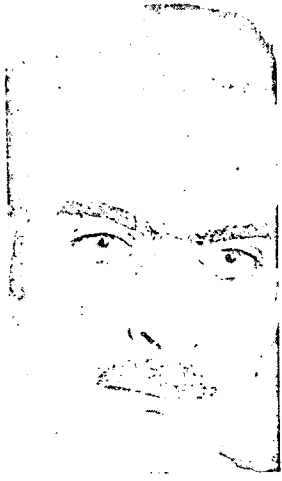
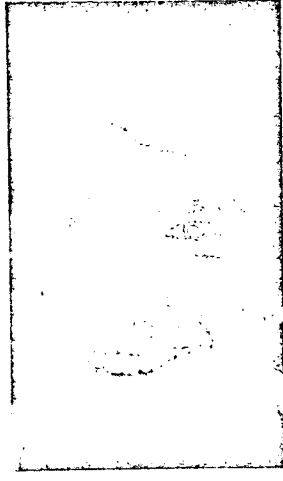


GUDELUNAS



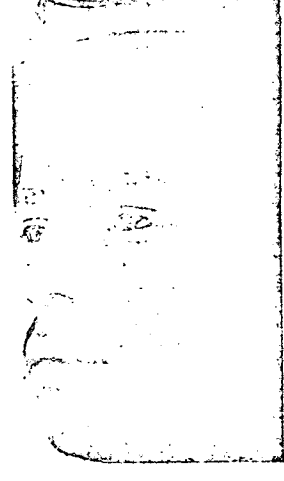
JOHNS



SETTERLAND



CASTRO



McHENRY

'No Way!' 'Women?' 'Anywhere'

If the United States intends to build a massive air and naval base on Tinian, somebody is going to have to man it. Some estimates say 15,000 people might have to man it. It occurred to us that the kind of people who would wind up with that tour of duty might have some thoughts on whether they'd like that or not.

By Tom Stevens
Daily News Staff Writer

By and large, the prospect of being transferred to the palm-fringed island of Tinian holds little allure for servicemen and dependents now stationed on the palm-fringed island of Guam. A number of Navy and Air Force men—and a few wives—were interviewed along Marine Drive yesterday. They were asked to give their personal opinions about being transferred to Tinian if and when the major military complex there becomes a reality.

Airman First Class Pete Gudelunas of Andersen answered the question with one of his own—"Are there any women?"—then added that "I'd rather be stationed in Thule, Greenland."

Another Air Force man, Staff Sergeant Larry Johns, felt that a Tinian assignment "wouldn't be bad if it was an accompanied tour, but to go unaccompanied would be rather lonely." Accompanied tours are those in which servicemen may take their wives with them.

Navy Communications Technician Len Setterlund of NCS said: "I wouldn't want to go... being sent to a smaller island with nothing but military on it would be like being on Adak (Alaska)."

Radioman Second Class Doug Hawkins, also of NCS, shared Setterlund's sentiments. "I wouldn't want to be there; it's too small."

"No way!" answered Enrique Castro, a sergeant at Andersen. "It would be just like being stationed on Johnston Island. It's not that bad here. I think Guam's a lot better than Vietnam or Minot." (Minot, North Dakota is an air base site generally referred to as the "Air Force Refrigerator".)

Another Air Force sergeant, Elwood McHenry, remarked that duty on Tinian would be "too confined." He recalled that when he had originally received his overseas orders, "I thought after coming this far across the water I'd end up in Thailand or the Philippines. . . I wasn't expecting Guam. To tell

you the truth, I don't really like it over here—there's not that much to do."

Navy radioman Bob Jansen, now stationed at Naval Hospital ("my orders got fouled up"), feels that what the military should do "is move over there and then let a civilian community build up, like it has on Guam." He specified, however, that the civilian community "should not depend on the military as much as they do here. If the military moves out of here, a lot of things are going to fold up."

A crew-cut Air Force lieutenant colonel, who preferred to remain unidentified and un-photographed, said "I don't think it would make much difference to us. Personally, I'd rather be on Guam. It sounds like Tinian's more of a Navy project anyway. . ."

Air Force sergeant Rick Covington said: "A switch to Tinian probably wouldn't make much difference, being here or there. . . 200 miles wouldn't make a difference to me." Regarding the proposal to move the islanders off of Tinian, Covington said, "I don't think that's too cool, moving the people out of their home."

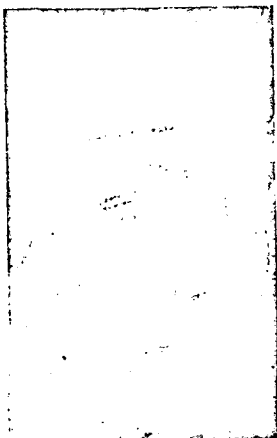
Navy electrician's mate Ron Mello, from NAS, said "I don't think I could dig it over there—it's too small. There's no chicks, and not much happening over there."

An unidentified Air Force staff sergeant felt that Tinian "can't be no worse" than Guam. "I think we should all just go home," he said. His companion, airman John Bonnar, said "If it was my choice, I'd leave the island the way it is."

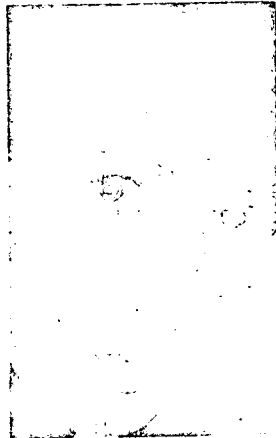
On the distaff side, a group of Navy wives admiring baubles in a local jewelry shop immediately began speculating about the new facilities which would have to be built if the military moved into Tinian en masse. They mentioned "air conditioned theaters", sports facilities for their youngsters, termite-free housing, and other desirable aspects of Tinian duty.

Mrs. Jo Dunnire, wife of a Navy man attached to VQ-3 at Naval Air Station, rendered an opinion which would no doubt serve as a model for the model military wife. "I followed him to Guam, didn't I? I'll follow him anywhere," she said.

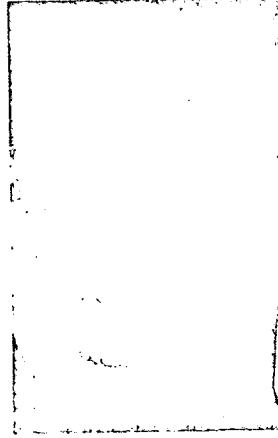
Tinian, brace thyself.



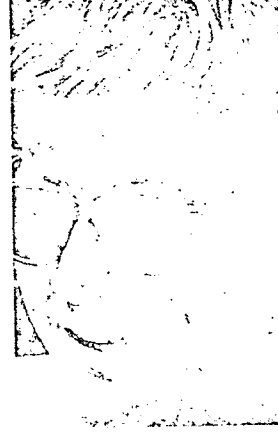
MRS. DUNMIRE



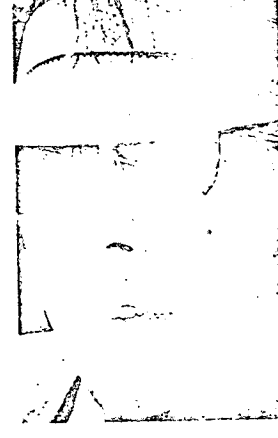
JANSEN



COVINGTON



BONNAR



MELLO