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DRAFT: PRESS STATEMENT: LEASES OF MILITARY RETENTION AREAS

Status negotiations between the Marianas Political Status Commission and the United States are now in active progress and total United States military land requirements are an integral part of these talks. Given the sensitive stage the negotiations have reached, it would be inappropriate and premature at this time to discuss the question of future leases of the land to be retained by the United States military on Tinian.

It is probable, however, that future use of military retention areas by local residents would be possible so long as there is no conflict with military requirements.