

AGREEMENT
IN REFERENCE
TO
SAN JOSE HARBOR, TINIAN

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Statement of Intention

The Governments of the Marianas and the United States have, as an explicitly stated objective, the meeting of the needs and the ambitions of the people of the Marianas Islands.

San Jose Port, Tinian is recognized as an asset of primacy in the transportation network of these islands and as an instrument of substantial value in the economic growth of the civilian sector as well as in meeting national defense needs. As such its proper development, operation and maintenance in both the present and future are direct contributors to the forestated public aspirations and joint needs.

This agreement for development and operation of that port has been prepared then with the objectives in mind of:

(1) Selection of a course of action that will offer the highest degree of certainty to the rapid initial development of port facilities that are adequate, reliable, and cost effective in meeting the interests of the civilian and Government users, and;

(2) Structuring the growth of the port so as to provide for orderly expansion under competent direction of civilian authorities. Therefore:

Recognizing that port development is essential, critical, and must precede other undertakings in island development - and to select a course of action which affords maximum assurance that the resources to effect port development are available when required, it is agreed that the Military Construction Program be used as the primary instrument for accomplishment of harbor works.

Recognizing that no operational or cost experience exists to describe an increased tempo of operations in San Juan Harbor - and to retain confidence that port operations in their initial and most critical stage will be responsive and cost effective not only to U. S. Government needs but the civilian community as well - and to protect against both cost and operational contingencies of an unforeseen nature, it is agreed that existing, proven capabilities of agencies of the federal Government be used to initially operate, maintain and manage the port.

To simultaneously insure that GOM interests will be protected by continued attention to the commercial needs and usage of the port - and recognizing that it is the intent of the U. S. Government to transfer operating responsibilities at the earliest practicable date to GOM authority - and recognizing that specific calendar dates for transfer would be infeasible and unrealistic to identify at present, it is agreed that separate, distinct and identifiable phases in port growth and use be narratively described and that transfer of specific port functions to GOM during or at the end of each phase be clearly defined.

Lastly, recognizing the dynamic aspects of such a plan, and the need therefore for transfers of function to be realistically related to the changing needs of the port as well as the developing capabilities of the Commonwealth. it is agreed that formal consultation be continued on port matters with the objective of insuring an orderly and effective transition of port management responsibilities, at a time and in a way satisfactory to all parties.