

Big new base for Marianas

Saipan, May 31.

The U.S. Government announced today it proposes to acquire two-thirds of the Pacific island of Tinian - launch site for Second World War atomic bombing raids on Japan - for construction of a major new military base.

The U.S. Ambassador, Mr Haydn Williams, in a 20-minute radio address to the people of the U.S. - administered Mariana Islands, said the base would include an airfield, harbour, supply and maintenance facilities and training grounds.

He gave no further details of the base, but the Pacific Daily News on the island of Guam said it would house 2,600 military and civilian personnel and would cover about 18,500 acres.

Tinian, with a population of nearly 800, is part of the Marianas Group in the western Pacific. The Marianas form part of the Pacific Trust Territory which the U.S. administers under a United Nations mandate.

Negotiations have been in progress for several years on ending this mandate, but the Marianas alone want to continue as an American possession. Agreement has already been reached in principle on a form of Commonwealth status similar to Puerto Rico.

Tinian had a brief moment of fame when it was used to launch the U.S. atomic bomb raids on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August, 1945. The runway is now overgrown. - Reuter.

籌建在太平洋

建築新基地

地點擇定太尼安島

（路透社西貢卅一日電）美政府今日宣布擬利用太平洋之「太尼安」島三分二地方建築一個重大新軍事基地。美國大使威廉斯向美國管理之「馬利亞納」羣島居民發表一項歷時廿分鐘之電台演說時表示：該基地將包括一機場，港口，訓練場所，供應及保養等設備。威廉斯在該項電台

演說中未有就該基地作詳盡透露。但網島之「太平洋日報」稱：該基地將容納二千六百文武人員，並佔地約一萬八千五百英畝。「太尼安」島居民約八百，是「馬利亞納」羣島之一部份，該島是該羣島之最大島，位於西太平洋。戰後根據一項聯合國委任狀而負責管理該島。美國上述計劃被認為擬在亞洲獲較多安全基地，以便繼續履行該區之安全承擔。