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FM CINCPACREP GUAM/TIPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA

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UNCLAS

STATE PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN AND DOTA
DEFENSE FOR ASD/ISA

COMTWELVE PASS TO AMB WILLIAMS

TINIAN-ROTA PRODUCE PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

1. AS DISCUSSED WITH AMB WILLIAMS IN MARCH HONOLULU TALKS, SPEC ASST TIPI ARRANGED MEETING WITH NAVY AND AIR FORCE COMMISSARY AND SUPPLY OFFICERS AS WELL AS VETERINARY AND HEALTH OFFICERS TO FORMULATE PROGRAM FOR INCREASING PRODUCTION, VARIETY AND TRANSPORTATION OF TINIAN-ROTA GROWN PRODUCE. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED APPOINTS SINGLE PURCHASING AGENT FOR CONTRACTING, ORDERING, INSPECTING, TRANSPORTING AND PAYING FOR ALL PRODUCE OBTAINED BY MILITARY ON GUAM. IN PAST, CONFUSION AMONGST FARMERS AND OFFICIALS DUE SEPARATE AF AND NAVY CONTRACTS, ORDERING, SHIPPING, ETC. HAS CAUSED DELAYS AND DIFFICULTIES. COORDINATION WITH TIPI AGRIC DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC EXPERTISE ON CROP CYCLING, NEW VEGETABLES TO BE GROWN AND HERBICIDES USED WAS TO ACCOMPLISHED WITH CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS. DETERMINATION AS TO AMOUNTS OF VARIOUS PRODUCE NEEDED, SPECIAL PACKAGING OF EACH TYPE, DELIVERY TIMES, PRICES, ETC. WAS MADE AND PRINTED UP FOR DISTRIBUTION.

IN SHORT, COMPLETE PACKAGE PROPOSAL WAS DEVELOPED FOR PRESENTATION TO TINIAN FARMERS AND POLITICAL LEADERS.

2. ON 24 APR 74 CDR WESTLAKE TOOK TEAM OF NINE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS TO TINIAN, SAIPAN AND ROTA TO MEET WITH FARMERS, DISTRICT OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL LEADERS. THIS GROUP INCLUDED COMMISSARY AND SUPPLY OFFICERS OF NAVAL STATION AND ANDERSEN AFB, VETERINARY-HEALTH OFFICERS AND INSPECTORS, ANDERSEN C-LL8 SCHEDULES OFFICER, AND MR. LES WEAVER, MARIANAS AGRIC OFFICER FOR TIPI. DISTAD ADA INVITED AS PER OUR HONOLULU TALKS, BUT DECLINED TO ATTEND.

3. AT TINIAN MEETING TURNOUT WAS SURPRISINGLY LARGE WITH CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM SHOWN BY ALL. MAYOR BORJA, SPKR CRUZ, FRANK HOCOG (NOW A FARMER VICE A TEACHER), FRANK CABRERA, BEN MANCLONA, RAMON SAN NICHOLAS, PRES OF FARMERS COOP, MRS CEPEDA, SECTY OF COOP AND MANY FARMERS FILLED MUNICIPAL HALL WITH LATE COMERS STANDING OUTSIDE. PACKAGE PROPOSAL PRESENTED BY CDR WESTLAKE.

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WITH LENGTHY DISCUSSION BETWEEN TINIANESE AND ALL MEMBERS OF GROUP. AGREEMENT REACHED IN NEARLY ALL AREAS: PARTICULARLY PACKAGING AND INSPECTING, QUALITY OF PICKED ITEMS, NEW SINGLE AGENT CONTRACT, WILLINGNESS TO GROW NEW PRODUCTS, AND CYCLE PRODUCTION. AIR FORCE AGREED TO TWO C-119 FLTS PER WEEK WITH AIR MICRONESIA PICKING UP SLACK ON TWO OTHER DAYS. MR. WEAVER AGREED TO PROVIDE SEED, NEWLY TESTED AND ACCEPTABLE HYBRID PLANTS AND TO REQUEST AGRONOMIST AND HERBICIDE EXPERT FROM NEW CALEDONIA (UNDER AUSPICES OF S. PACIFIC COMMISSION) TO COME TO TINIAN FOR 2-3 MONTH INSTRUCTIONAL AND SUPERVISORY PERIOD. AS TEAM PREPARED TO END MEETING FARMERS REQUESTED (BEN MANGLONA AND FRANK HODG INTERPRETING) ADDITIONAL HALF-HOUR PERIOD FOR DISCUSSION. TEAM ENDED UP STAYING ANOTHER 40 MINUTES WITH GENERAL AGREEMENT BEING REACHED ON METHOD OF MONETARY REIMBURSEMENT. FARMERS DESIRED PAYMENT BY CHECK DIRECT TO DISTAD AGRIC ACCOUNT (MR WEAVER) FOR DISTRIBUTION TO FARMERS. PRESENT ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY CHECK IS MADE OUT TO MUNICIPALITY INVOLVES LENGTHY DELAYS IN MONIES DISTRIBUTION AND A TEN PERCENT CUT WHICH FARMERS FOUND OBJECTIONAL. MAYOR BORJA AND SPOKE CRUZ HAD PROBLEMS WITH THIS BUT ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN OBJECTING. BELIEVE TINIAN MEETING MOST WORTHWHILE AND ACTUAL PROGRESS MADE. WHEN DISCUSSION ENDED ENTIRE TEAM GIVEN STANDING OVATION AND MORE PRODUCE GIFTS THAN WE COULD CARRY HOME. A FUTURE MEETING TO IRON OUT NEW CONTRACT, SPECIFY PRICES AND DETERMINE TIMES FOR AIRCRAFT LANDING WILL BE HELD.

4. SIMILAR BUT SHORTER MEETINGS HELD ON SAIPAN AND ROTA WITH VARYING RESULTS. SAIPAN HAS LARGE ENOUGH MARKET FOR ALL THEY PRODUCE SO THERE IS LITTLE DESIRE TO EXPORT. HOWEVER, THEY AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE MILITARY ANY SURPLUS. ROTA ALREADY HAS A GOOD ORGANIZATION WITH PRESENT COOP WORKING WELL AND EXPORTING GOODLY AMOUNTS. BUT THEY WERE MOST AMENABLE TO NEW SINGLE AGENT CONTRACT AND BETTER TRANSPORTATION FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION.

5. IN SUMMARY, PRODUCE PROGRAM DEVELOPING BETTER THAN ANTICIPATED WITH ENTHUSIASM AND INTEREST OF FARMERS, ESPECIALLY ON TINIAN, MOST GRATIFYING. WILL KEEP ALCON INFORMED AS PROGRAM DEVELOPS.

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