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PLANNED FEDERAL DEVELOPMENT ON TINIAN

I. What is to be done on Tinian? The United States Government is proposing to the Marianas Political Status Commission the establishment of a military base on Tinian. To minimize the land needed, the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines will conduct strategically necessary activities on shared facilities:

- Defense operations in the Pacific and Asia areas involve the flying of all types of military aircraft. A major air base is needed to support any of these aircraft.
- To keep U. S. ground forces in the Pacific area trained and ready, an undeveloped land area adjacent to the sea is needed regularly throughout the year. It must be large enough to permit maneuvers by 1800-2000 soldiers supported by ships, helicopters and airplanes.
- To be ready for a crisis and to support normal activities of U.S. forces, supply and storage areas are urgently needed for such things as fuel, ammunition, parts and many kinds of military equipment.

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- Managing these activities and facilities is a complex task which means headquarters buildings. The people stationed on the base must be taken care of.
- Use of San Jose harbor is necessary to support all these activities, except for the loading and unloading of ammunition which will be accomplished at a separate place to be built in the base on the northwest coast.

II. What areas are needed? All these activities unfortunately use a lot of land. The U. S. Government has made every effort to combine areas and limit land requirements to the minimum, but many hectares are still required, as outlined below:

- The federal government now has 8,882 acres in Tinian (3,550 hectares) set aside for military use.
- Most of these "military retention areas" are in the center of Tinian starting with all of West Field and extending from coast to coast across the island (see the dark areas on the attached map).
- The rest of these retention lands are in the north around North Field.

- About 430 acres (160 hectares) out of this total are not needed for the new base and would be turned over to the Marianas Government. (On the attached map, see the darkened area extending south of the base boundary.)
- An additional 9048 acres (3660 hectares) more or less are still needed for the base (see lined area on attached map).
 - The majority of these acres are located between West Field and North Field.
 - The rest extend from West Field down to and including the harbor (see map).
 - The federal government wants to acquire the harbor in order to improve the docks and breakwater, but would not control it.
 - Of these 3660 hectares of additional land needed, about 234 hectares (578 acres) are privately held agricultural lands that would have to be purchased from the owners at their fair market price. The rest is public land.

III. How will this land be used? The key features which dictate land use are four: (1) a large airfield, (2) a large maneuver area, (3) ammunition storage with safety zone, and (4) access to a large, modern harbor. The details of these features are set forth below:

- The airfield must be 12,500 feet long which is over twice as long as the present commercial runway at West Field. In addition there must be 1,000 foot overruns or safety areas on each end of the runway. Approach lights and navigational aids extend beyond the overruns.
- It can't go in the North Field area because the flight pattern gets in the way of big civilian aircraft flying in to the new Saipan International Airport (Isley Field). Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety regulations prohibit the construction of military or civilian airfields which would cause such flight patterns.
- It can only go from east to west because of the prevailing wind.
- It can't go further north because of terrain features.

- The maneuver and training area north of the airfield should actually be many times larger than 12,000 acres (approximately) to be of maximum benefit and provide space for realistic training.
- It is the minimum land necessary for this purpose.
- Maneuvers will involve close air support and the use of the old landing beaches.
- Ammunition will be stored on the northernmost part of Tinian to minimize the land in the safety zone
- Adjacent to training area and far from any areas where people live.
- A special slip to berth an ammunition ship will be constructed nearby in "Dumpcoke", also moving that safety zone away from housing.
- San Jose village will not be relocated.
- The harbor area must be improved to provide a useable facility for the many seagoing civilian cargo ships bringing in material for base construction and base support, as well as for naval ships stopping at Tinian.

- The Federal Government must acquire the harbor area before the U. S. Congress will authorize funds for harbor repairs and improvements, but it will continue to be a joint-use harbor under local civil control. Public Law 92-340 does not permit military control of a harbor which is a civilian community's only seaport.

IV. Where will the people live? While the Federal Government wishes to occupy a larger part of the island and to develop it the base will be just another resident on the island. Outside the base:

- The remainder of the island will remain under local civil government and control, including San Jose village.

- Since the hazard of handling ammunition in San Jose harbor has been removed, the village does not need to be relocated.
- Approximately the southern 1/3 of the island will be private or public (not federal) lands, freely available for use and development consistent with policy set by local civil authorities.
- Land use zoning would be prescribed by local civil regulations.
- The development of public facilities for Tinian such as air, ground and water transportation, would be at the initiative and direction of the civilian community.

V. Major Benefits to the Civilian Community.

- West Field will be replaced with an airfield larger and more sophisticated than the new one at Isley Field, Saipan.
- There will be joint use of the airfield with free access to the civil and general aviation terminal.
- Adequate parking for civil aircraft will also be available.
- Provision can be made for development of additional terminal facilities if desired by the local government.

- Minimum landing fees will be charged commercial aircraft, but these fees, by law, go to U.S. Treasury. However additional landing fees may be charged by local authorities.
- Harbor at San Jose will be fully renovated and greatly improved.
 - This will make it the finest harbor in Micronesia.
 - The new port will be operated by local civil port authority.
 - There would be adequate room for protected small boat moorings.
 - Ammunition will not have to be moved through San Jose harbor thus making relocation of San Jose village unnecessary.
- There will be access to federal lands for such purposes as:
 - Hunting
 - Fishing
 - Recreation
 - Agriculture
 - Visits to memorials and historical sites.
- There would be no fencing except where necessary for security or safety reasons.

VI. Additional Aspects of the Federal Government's
Development.

- It will be possible to tie into base power, water and sewerage system if local authorities decide not to maintain independent systems.
- Schools would be expanded to provide for military dependents and impact funds generated for local school systems by military presence would be a source of assistance for improving quality of schools.
- Demand for rental housing in the local community would multiply, thereby increasing the demand for local contractors.
- A large increase in retail sales by local stores and restaurants would result from the influx of construction workers and later military personnel.
- Emergency medical care immediately available on Tinian.
- Preferential hire of local workers would provide unequalled opportunities.
- Training of local workers would provide new career opportunities.
- Local business would be spurred by the opportunity for local contractors to subcontract such things as:

- Quarrying
- Transportation
- Maintenance
- Service Activities
- A large increase in job training and permanent employment opportunities.
- A large increase in revenue from sales and entertainment taxes.
- There will be many new opportunities of local businesses both off base and authorized concessions on base.
- Emergency assistance will be immediately available in case of a natural disaster, such as a bad typhoon.
- New incentives for inter-island transportation, communication, and trade will stem from these activities.
- An expanded and convenient market for local farmers and fishermen will occur on Tinian.
- Sufficient advanced notice is available to permit careful civic planning and the establishment of proper zoning laws.

- A Joint Community/Military Planning Committee, is being established early to minimize or avoid problems. Later, if desired by the local leaders, a base/community council will be established. Base/community councils are normal practice in the United States and have proven to be the most efficient and effective manner in which to foster cordial base/community relations.