

JUN 5 1974

Terms Revised

Pact Set on U.S. Base on Tinian

By Carl Zimmerman
Star-Bulletin Writer

Agreement on the use of
about two-thirds of Tinian

Island as a U.S. joint
service military base has
been reached in negotia-
tions on Saipan between
the Marianas Political

Status Commission and a
U.S. delegation headed by
Ambassador Franklin
Haydn Williams.

The agreement was an-
nounced in a joint
communiqué, issued after
the fourth session of ne-
gotiations on bringing the
present Marianas district
of the Trust Territory of
the Pacific Islands into
the U.S. political system
as a commonwealth. The
meetings extended from
May 15 to May 31.

A joint drafting commit-
tee will be formed to pre-
pare a status agreement
that will be presented at
the next negotiating ses-
sion, the communiqué
said. The next meeting is
expected to take place in
the early fall.

UNDER REVISED
plans, 17,475 acres on Tin-
ian will be made available
for the U.S. base -- a
reduction of 1,200 acres.
The revision also elimi-
nated the need to relocate
San Jose Village, the
communiqué noted.

Arrangements will be
developed for the joint use
of the new West Field and
San Jose harbor, it was
announced, and the réha-
bilitated harbor will be
under the control of the
Marianas government ex-
cept in national emergen-
cies.

On Saipan, 197 acres in
the Tanapag Harbor area
will be made available for
future contingency use.

"Most of this land will
be used by the United
States for the develop-
ment of an American
Memorial Park which will
be used as a recreation
area by the people of the
Marianas," the commu-
nique said.

ALSO MADE available
to the United States for
future contingency use on
Saipan will be 482 acres
adjacent to the southern
runway of Isely Field.

Also, the island of
Farallon de Medinilla will
continue to be available
for use as a target area.

However, the United
States indicated that it
would relinquish its rights
on all remaining military
retention lands not cover-
ed by the new agreement
and return them to the
public domain. This would
involve the return of 4,691
acres, the announcement
said.

No agreement was
reached on whether the
military lands would be
sold outright to the United
States or leased, and on
how fair market value
would be determined. A
committee was named to
study the matter

AGREEMENT WAS
reached on a program of
U.S. financial aid after
the new Marianas govern-
ment is formed. The
United States will provide
\$13.5 million in direct
grants a year for seven
years.

In addition, "the an-
nouncement said, "a wide
range of services and
assistance under regular
U.S. federal programs
will be available. The
United States estimates
the value of federal serv-
ices and assistance at \$3
million a year.

"The total direct annual
assistance is thus estimat-
ed at \$16.5 million. This
does not include potential
additional income from
military construction and
a growing military pres-
ence and spending."

The direct grants would
include \$8 million for gov-
ernment operations; \$1.5
million for economic
development loans, and
\$4 million for capital im-
provement projects.

THE NEGOTIATORS
discussed a request by the
Marianas for possible
separate administration
of the district before the
trusteeship agreement for
Micronesia is ended, but
did not resolve the ques-
tion.

The Marianas talks are
much closer to a conclu-
sion than the overall Mi-
cronesian negotiations,
and the change of status
in the Marianas might be
delayed by the Microne-
sian talks.