

U.S., Trust Isles Pact

ALL THAT remains to be cleared up in the way of substantive differences, a status office spokesman said, is whether the new compact would apply to all six districts of Micronesia or to five districts — excluding the Marianas, which seem headed toward becoming a U.S. commonwealth territory as the result of a

separate set of negotiations.

While Micronesian leaders publicly insist on a six-district pact and U.S. representatives want a five-district agreement, status people here say this difference is not the impasse it may appear to be.

It is not considered a

serious obstacle to full agreement, and the release by the normally cautious status office of the proposed agreement now seems to confirm these private assurances that the document certifying a new relationship between the U.S. and the islands is at hand.

UNDER THE draft agreement, a new government of Micronesia would have full responsibility for running its internal affairs with its own laws. The U.S. would administer its foreign affairs and defense program, having the exclusive right to set up and keep military bases on the islands.

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