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'Overwhelming' 'Unreasonable'

By Diane Maddex
Daily News Staff Writer

SAIPAN — The Marianas Political Status Commission has told the United States that its request for land on Tinian for military purposes is "overwhelming" and that another move to retain land on Saipan is "unreasonable."

Marianas Dispute U.S., Papers Show

Marianas commission in effect asked the U.S. delegation to go home and rethink its military requirements for the Marianas in view of the commission's "concerns."

The more than 100-page set of position papers includes statements prepared for discussion during the talks and formal responses from both sides. Topics covered are future political status and self-government of the Marianas, economics and finance and land and military requirements.

The papers were recently presented to the Mariana Islands District Legislature but have not been made public.

They support the presumption that the most serious differences of opinion between the Marianas and U.S. delegations arose over the military's stated land needs.

On the sale-versus-lease
(Continued on page 36)

EXCLUSIVE

Position papers that have now come to light from the latest Marianas-U.S. status talks also reveal that the commission's "best current thinking" was that it would not agree to the sale of Tinian land for the military, as the U.S. has sought.

Instead, the Marianas delegation favors a lease agreement covering only the military's minimum land

requirements. The papers also disclose that the commission, contrary to U.S. desires, "is not inclined to agree to lease the entire island to the military with a sublease back of one-third for use by the civilian community."

At the June 4 conclusion of the negotiations, the

Letter From Gachong

Dear Mr. Editor:
That was an interesting story on computers.
What we have to watch out for, though, is the first super computer that starts muttering "Cogito Ergo Sum."

Gachong

Marianas Dispute U.S., Papers Show

(Continued from page 1)
controversy, the Marianas side said: "We recognize the United States' preference for outright purchase of the required land but are unable to honor it. Prevailing practice in the United States has little relevance to the Mariana Islands, where land is scarce and has a special cultural significance to the people.

"Regardless of the guarantees which the United States might make, the members of the Commission could not possibly justify or explain to their constituents or families the seemingly permanent transfer of so much of the Marianas' limited land to the United States for military purposes."

Williams' Response

"I believe the record is clear that the United States Government appreciates the importance which the people of the Marianas attach to their land," said Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams, head of the U.S. delegation.

But the U.S. "historically," he added, "purchases, not leases, land" for military bases.

"This does not mean, however, that the Commission's concerns on permanency could not be satisfied in some fashion," Williams continued. "The U.S. would perhaps be willing to commit itself, if at some time in the future a decision was made to close the Tinian base, to make the land available to the people of the Marianas through some kind of covenant within the purchase arrangement... However, such a qualification would in turn have a marked effect on the initial purchase price which the U.S. was able to pay."

Added Williams: "The U.S. Congress is reluctant to commit large sums to projects with only the protection of lease."

The U.S. has projected that the proposed 18,500-acre Air Force-Navy base on Tinian would require \$144.6 million in construction alone. Relocation costs for Tinian residents would take another \$13.5 million. The U.S. estimates that the base would eventually add \$15 million annually to the Marianas economy.

The Marianas commission, which is headed by Sen. Edward DLG. Pangelinan, also strongly contested U.S. proposals for Saipan and Farallon de Medinilla, a tiny island north of Saipan that

has been used for target practice by the military since 1970.

Saipan Debated

"The commission believes that the United States' requests for land on Saipan for military purposes are unreasonable," says its position paper.

"It is difficult to reconcile the sweeping requests of the United States for land on Tinian for presently-contemplated uses with its specific requests on Saipan for more generalized future uses.

"Before the commission accedes to any requests for land on Saipan, it will have to be persuaded that these contingency needs could not possibly be met through use of land and facilities to be developed on Tinian."

At particular issue was the U.S. request to retain 320 acres in Saipan's main harbor area for contingency purposes and another 500 acres adjacent to Isey Field, which is about to be converted to the island's new air field.

The U.S. now holds 4,966 acres of retention lands on Saipan, approximately 4,100 of which it has proposed to return.

While the U.S. delegation said it was "a little puzzled" and found the commission's position equally unreasonable, the Marianas paper explained that the air field especially is too important for Saipan's future economic development "to be burdened by restrictions arising from hypothetical needs of the United States in the future."

As to the Farallon de Medinilla question, the commission told the U.S. it "definitely prefers" that one of the more distant Northern Mariana Islands be selected. The Marianas asked for cost differentials and reassurances as to safety precautions.

"The island will be used for air-to-ground and ship-to-shore target practice only," said Williams. "It will not, I repeat will not, be used as a ground-to-ground missile target area."

Other Points Told

Other points raised by the Marianas delegation against the Tinian proposals were:

- That the portion of the island "not leased" to the U.S. should remain in civilian control, either private or public.

- That the U.S. should show the approximate

(Continued on page 39)

**'It is difficult to reconcile
the sweeping requests of the
U.S....with its specific requests...'**

Williams Adds: U.S. 'Also Has A Stake.'

(Continued from page 36)
savings to the U.S. of using the present harbor facilities rather than developing a new location.

- That the land left for civilian use must be adequate for the next 40 to 50 years.

- That the commission must be "fully persuaded that the United States had paid the maximum dollar value" for the Tinian land before the Marianas delegation will be able to "defend any agreement involving the lease of massive amounts of land to the United States."

All position papers and discussions seem to indicate that the relocation of San Jose Village away from military installations has been taken for granted by both sides.

"The United States proposals for resettlement of Tinian residents appear at first glance to be both flexible and generous," said the Marianas delegation. It added that those citizens who prefer to move to other islands should receive benefits equivalent to those given residents remaining on Tinian.

The commission asked the military to explore the possibility of a substantially integrated housing area for military and civilian personnel in the relocated San Jose Village.

To jointly address questions concerning future relations between the civilian and military communities, Williams suggested that a Tinian Civilian/Military Community Relations Committee be formed early in the planning process. The group would be composed of Tinian residents and military representatives.

Williams also emphasized that the primary objective of the U.S. interests on Tinian "must be constantly kept in mind—that is, to build a needed installation to meet U.S. defense requirements in the Western Pacific."

He viewed the Tinian base as a possibly "ideal civilian/military complex."

"The requirement to acquire the whole island of Tinian was set forth to enhance the prospects of achieving such an objective," said Williams.

"The United States included in its land

welfare of the people of Tinian, but it is also vitally interested in the operational effectiveness of the military base, the well-being of men and women who serve on that base, and the efficient expenditure of the large sums of money which the U.S. will expend on Tinian."

The Marianas commission concluded the round of talks by saying: "If the United States re-evaluates

its plans and supplies the requested information, the commission pledges itself, in good faith, to thoroughly consider the United States proposals and attempt to reach agreement with the United States on this important subject."

The next, or third, round of negotiations is due to get underway sometime this fall. Washington, Hawaii and Guam are the three sites under consideration.

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'To Prevent' Problems

requirements the southern one-third of Tinian in order to prevent undesirable conditions and consequences which could possibly result from the presence of a major military base and which would not be in the interests of either the local residents or of the U.S. military....

"Let me reemphasize," Williams added, "that the U.S. Government also has a stake in this matter. Not only is it interested in the

Commission Presses Firm \$\$ Promises

By Diane Maddex
Daily News Staff Writer

SAIPAN--The founding fathers of the new Marianas government are looking to the U.S. for financial assistance extending to the year 2000 "and perhaps beyond."

In current dollars, this could entail \$167.3 million for the period 1974-81 alone, according to figures prepared for the Marianas Political Status Commission.

The projections are contained in position papers discussed privately during the May 15-to-June 4 round of status talks between the Marianas and the U.S.

The Marianas has proposed a three-phased program of U.S. economic support during its transition to a new political status, a process it expects to "continue for many years beyond the formal acceptance of a new status agreement."

Letter From Gachong

Dear Mr. Editor:

Times change. Before Mr. Agnew's troubles the phrase read "beware of Greeks bearing gifts."

Gachong

EXCLUSIVE

POSITION

PAPERS

FROM

MARIANAS

TALKS-II

Phase I is tagged to begin in 1974, Phase II in 1975 and Phase III in 1982.

While the U.S. negotiators agreed with many of the principles set out by the Marianas, they questioned the accuracy of the high level of economic support projected. It was suggested that a "radically different picture" might emerge from an investigation into a greater number of potential sources of income than the Marianas presented, including the economic impact of the proposed military base on Tinian.

The U.S. side also said it "would not be surprised if the Marianas were well on the road to self-sufficiency" before the phase-out of direct U.S. economic assistance now contemplated by the Marianas.

The position papers, which have been released only to the Mariana Islands District Legislature, disclose that the U.S. delegation said it would be premature to set a level of U.S. aid until the closely-related question of land has been reviewed.

'Release' Rapped

An official release on economics and finance that was issued jointly by the two delegations on May 29 came in for a critical private note from Marianas commission chairman Edward DLG. Pangelinan. Addressing himself to Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams on behalf of a unanimous Marianas delegation, Pangelinan said: "The commitments made by the United States in the area of economic and financial support in this (press) release are *not* as *specific, definite* or *generous* as the commission believes appropriate.

"The commission intends to press its views on this matter vigorously in the future at every possible occasion until the United States is prepared to

(Continued on page 4)

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U.S. Aid Money Till 2000...

(Continued from page 1)

make the financial commitments necessary for the future growth and development of the Marianas."

Pangelinan's comments would seem to indicate that the "joint

press release" had been prepared by the U.S. delegation.

Evidently choosing to disregard the figures the Marianas had presented to the U.S. side, one sentence in the official release said: "The two

Chairmen stated that it was not possible at this time to provide any reliable estimates regarding the level of annual financial requirements which might be necessary for the new Commonwealth to achieve self-sufficiency."

The commission added, however, "that any benefits from military operations which might reduce the level of required (U.S.) budget support should be provided in some other form in the event military plans are not implemented.... The commission feels that it is essential for the United States to make specific commitments of economic assistance which will not be contingent on the re-establishment of the military in the Marianas."

The Marianas anticipated that required planning activities under Phase I will cost \$4.5 million. The one-year period would be devoted to preparing

detailed plans for government reorganization, economic and social development and legal matters such as a constitutional convention. The bulk of the request, \$3.75 million, would be used for land surveys and master planning.

The commission proposed that Phase I funds be granted immediately after the conclusion of successful negotiations for a new political status.

To implement these plans in Phase II, the Marianas asked the U.S. to give its assurance that it will provide a total of \$162.8 million (in current dollars) in (Continued on page 5)

Hamburger Cleared

Impact Of Military

In its budget presentation, the Marianas commission admitted that it had not taken into account the economic impact of the military because it "did not have details of planned U.S. military operations in the Marianas."

Inset

Seen By Marianas Side

U.S. side on Tinian: 1,000-man construction force, and here's how much money from it.

(Continued from page 4)

needed budget support from 1975 to 1981. This figure, averaging about \$23.25 million a year, was arrived at by subtracting the projected tax revenues from the projected government expenditures for capital improvements, program operations and economic development.

"Even though the tax burden in the Marianas is projected to increase by more than 100 per cent between 1973 and 1981, from 8 per cent to 19 per cent of district income," said the commission, "large government deficits will still exist."

To meet the needs for commercial investment and housing development during Phase II, the commission proposed the creation of a Marianas-owned development corporation to provide equity financing, loans and technical assistance. Such a corporation could attract capital from external sources while providing safeguards against external domination of the Marianas' economy," says the commission's position paper. It estimated that \$47.7 million (in 1975 dollars) would be required for capital improvement projects through 1980.

Growth Ideas

- Other projections for Marianas growth from 1973 to 1981 include:
- A population increase from 14,900 to 24,200.
- A rise in district income from \$15 million to \$58.3 million.
- A per capita income increase from \$1,000 to \$2,400.
- An increase in total tax revenue from \$1.2 million to \$11.1 million.

The commission also estimated that expenditures for capital improvements would go from a current \$2.2 million to a high of \$12.3 million in 1979, program operations from \$5 million to \$20.5 in 1981 and economic development to highs of \$10 million in 1975 and 1976 (no current figure is given).

The commission stated that it was difficult to project financial requirements beyond Phase II. It proposed that a review of Phase III budget support be made in the fifth year of Phase II, 1979.

Tinian \$ Told

In responding to the Marianas position paper, the U.S. said it had examined the experience of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and also your close neighbor to the south, Guam. These "have now, in a sense, graduated" from the U.S. policy "of encouraging and assisting these members of the American family to become more and more self-sufficient

while providing needed back-up support and incentives for the generation of local revenues." The U.S. delegation said.

It said that it envisions two forms of annual financial assistance for the Marianas: direct grants and the extension of federal programs and services to the Marianas.

As possible sources of revenue or income under the proposed commonwealth that were not detailed by the Marianas paper, the U.S. suggested the disposal of public lands returned to the district, income from property taken over from the Tinian government when it transfers out of the Marianas, import duties, income taxes and real estate and property taxes.

The most "dramatic increase in revenues," said the U.S., would come from the military. During the six years predicted for construction of the proposed Tinian base, \$39.8 million is expected to flow into the Marianas economy (not taking into account a multiplier factor of 2 1/2 to 3 used to calculate "the actual impact on the economy of a developing

society"). A labor force of 1,000 would be required.

After construction of the base, the U.S. projected the impact of military operations at \$15 million a year (again without the multiplier factor). It estimated that the completed base would employ 600 local employees.

An additional \$4 million a year could come from federal tax revenues of base personnel.

Besides criticizing the Marianas financial projections for not taking these sources of income into account, the U.S. also questioned the "inordinately high" population increase estimate, the high capital improvement budget, the application of GovGuam pay scales and the Marianas Development Corporation proposal.

The Marianas delegation answered that "controlled immigration into the Marianas will be necessary if we are to attain our economic goal" and that "any substantial salary and wage differential between the Marianas and Guam would result in outmigration to Guam

of most skilled and well trained people in the Marianas."

Who's To Run It?

The commission agreed to further study the capital improvements expenditures, but took a hard line on the economic development program.

"We see little possibility for true self-government if we do not participate in and control our economy after the change in our political status," it said. "We are sure that you are aware that Japanese and other outside investors are already showing interest in the Marianas."

"Let us assure you that one of the reasons for this interest is the possibility which some investors see for controlling our economy by making relatively small commitments of capital in the Marianas. The total public and private investment which is required in the future is well within the capabilities of single large companies."

"We do not want the Marianas to be dominated by absentee landlords."

the Subject is



MIPSC

PBW 7/24

Editorial....

Asking Too Much.....

We can appreciate the strong stance the people of the Northern Marianas are taking regarding the all-important land issue, particularly that in Tinian. The position of the Marianas came to light through the acquisition of 100 page "position papers" by the Daily News. The papers were recently presented to the Mariana Islands District Legislature, but have not been made public.

The papers support the presumption that the most serious differences of opinion between the Marianas and the U.S. delegates arose over the military land needs.

In effect the Marianas Political Status Commission asked the U.S. delegation to go home and rethink its military requirements for the Marianas in view of the commission's "concerns" that the military is asking for too much.

The people of Guam can only look with envy on the talks between the Marianas group and the United States. It shows what a difference 23 years can make. When Guam achieved the Organic Act in 1950 there were no such talks, and there was no such discussion of military land needs here. Wouldn't the people of Guam love to be in the same spot that the people of the Northern Marianas are today? Wouldn't they like to sit down and discuss military land use on Guam—and the idea of looking to the U.S. for financial assistance extending to the year 2000—and perhaps beyond.

We certainly don't blame the people of the Marianas Political Status group for taking the hard line with the U.S. We believe that the U.S. negotiators asked for far too much when they insisted on a complete take-over of Tinian, with a lease-back agreement on one third of the island. This the Commission called "overwhelming." Further, the military land desires on Saipan were called "unreasonable."

It could be that the American team, like all true negotiators everywhere have just asked for the sky and the moon, and now will have a place to fall back from. We just hope that the U.S. isn't spoiling our otherwise excellent relationship with the people of the Marianas by getting too greedy in their demands.

We agree with Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams, head of the U.S. delegation, on his declaration of lease of land rather than outright sale—up to a point. Williams made the point that the U.S. "historically" does not lease land for military bases, and instead has always tried to purchase such land.

One of the reasons for this is that Williams noted that U.S. Congress just won't go it. He said "The U.S. Congress is reluctant to commit large sums to projects with only the protection of lease." The U.S. has been stuck before, most recently in Libya, at Wheelus Field, when they poured \$100,000,000 into a gigantic airbase, only to find a change of government and a subsequent order to get out of the country. No, we would say that the U.S. Congress wouldn't buy a lease arrangement in a foreign country at this point in time, as they say. But the fact is quite different. Tinian, and the Marianas aren't going to be foreign countries. Instead they will be a real part of the U.S., perhaps as a Commonwealth, and so it could be argued that a lease agreement could be swallowed by Congress as part of a specific package that allows the people of the Marianas to become Americans.

Another fallacy in Ambassador Williams' reasoning also needs to be spelled out. That is the U.S. goal of making the Tinian base the "ideal civilian/military complex," by controlling the civilian portion of the island, and thus by controlling business commitments there, "in order to prevent undesirable conditions and consequences which could possibly result from the presence of a major military base and which would not be in the interests of either the local residents or of the U.S. military."

Obviously, what the U.S. is worried about is that the civilian portion of Tinian could, without the proper restrictions and controls, be turned into some sort of massive brothel, and gambling casino. This sort of attitude on the part of the U.S. negotiating team is slightly insulting to the people of the Marianas, people who value good, clean government as much as the U.S. does.

After all, Guam has been open to outside business interests for more than 10 years, and it too has a combination of a large military establishment, and a viable civilian community, and nothing as gross as what our negotiators fear for Tinian has happened here. Frankly, we think that the men and women of the Marianas are as God-fearing as the next person. They aren't about to shove sin and corruption on the military population of the island. We think they would be the first, along with other Marianas leaders, to adopt laws to curb the "undesirable" element that Mr. Williams apparently fears.

Our point is that most of the people of Tinian, and the rest of the Marianas want to be part of the United States. And they have no objections to a military presence in the Marianas. All they are asking—firmly—is that the U.S. be reasonable about their land needs on Tinian, and Saipan, and that they allow the civilian community to function without fear or favor. We don't think that is asking too much. After all, despite all the arguments, it is still their island. JCM.

IMPORTANT

Position papers by both the U.S. and the Marianas Delegations to the Negotiation for a future political status for the Mariana Islands have been made available to the Marianas Variety.

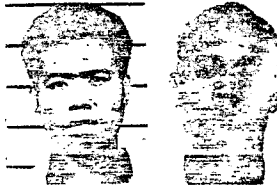
As a service to the Public, Marianas Variety will begin a series appearing each week outlining the main points expressed by both delegations.

Of necessity, detailed information will have to be omitted in order to present the main points.

Topics which will be treated include finance, military involvement, land, application of U.S. Federal law and citizenship under the proposed Commonwealth Status.

This week's instalment outlines a few of the main points concerning the nature of the Commonwealth proposal.

see page - 2 *over*



M. Taitano

R. Lisua

SAIPAN, (MNS)---Two men from Saipan who left for a fishing trip on July 3rd-- forty eight days ago--have been found in good condition, still in their boat drifting 350 miles west of Guam. The two men, Miguel Taitano and Ramon Lisua, were the objects of

TWO MISSING FOUND

searches during the several days following their failure to return to Saipan.

According to word received Tuesday (Aug. 21) from the rescue search coordination center on Guam, the pair were spotted Tuesday morning about 8:30 a.m. and taken aboard

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Heroic rescue...
See page 5

BOOKLET AND TAPES ON POLITICAL EDUCATION WITHHELD

SAIPAN, (CONGRESS RELEASE)---The United States Government is deliberately withholding a political education program from the people of Micronesia Senator Lazarus Salii of the Congress of Micronesia has charged.

Senator Salii, who heads the Joint Committee

on Future Status, today severely criticized the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations (OMSN) which he says has suppressed a booklet and some tapes produce by the Trust Territory Department of Public Affairs.

According to the Senator, the booklet and tapes

were produce by the effort of the Joint Committee's former staff member, who went to work for Public Affairs with the express purpose of creating such a program.

However, the Senator has recently learned that before the material was re-

Continued on page 7

COM NEXT SESSION ON SAIPAN

SAIPAN (CONGRESS RELEASE)---The Congress of Micronesia's next regular session will be on Saipan--not on Majuro in the Marshall Islands District.

The final decision, made by the Speaker and the President of the Congress, was announced today, Tuesday, August 21, by the Congress' Legislative Counsel, Kaleb Udui.

During a June meeting in Truk District the Congress Leadership discussed whether or not a decision should be made at that time to go to Majuro. The House and Senate Clerks presented a report to the members which outlined the amount of preparedness and

Continued on page 8

BACK TO SCHOOL

"Is this Room 222?"
a bewildered freshman asked her friend.

See story page 3



Booklet and Tapes...

Continued from page 1

leased, it was reviewed by several people in the Administration, including the State Department Status Liaison Officer, Miss Mary Trent. From her, they were sent to the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiation headed by Ambassador Franklin Williams and OMSN Director James Wilson.

"Furthermore, a very high official in the Executive Branch has informed me that he was told any further political education efforts will be developed in Washington, D.C. and the matter is no longer a concern of the Trust Territory Administration," he added.

Chairman Salii also made reference to a remark made by the High Commissioner at the United Nations to the effect that: "...we have in the Executive Branch of the Trust Territory Government taken certain very specific steps in the last few weeks and months to develop a program of political education."

"But what has happened to this program," Salii said, "is that some people in the U.S. Government also took certain very specific steps with regard to this program--they suppressed it."

"That is why I found the remark of the Nanwarki of Uh in Ponape to Co-Chairman Silk about political education to be a very ironic one."

"I believe the people of Micronesia should know the facts. It is not the Congress or the Joint Committee that are holding back political education in Micronesia. It is the Administering Authority, an administering authority which is charged with a 'sacred trust' for the people of Micronesia, an administering authority which is supposed to promote--not suppress--political education according to the Trusteeship Agreement," he said. "This action is disgraceful, and is a blight upon the repu-

tation of the so-called democratic United States Government.

Senator Salii noted that he and Co-Chairman Silk had discussed the matter with the Speaker and the President of the Congress on Saipan. He indicated that his first reaction upon hearing what had happened was to bring this matter to the attention of President Nixon and members of the United States Congress.

"However, we have decided to first contact Ambassador Williams to see if the matter can be straightened out. If the Ambas-

Missing Found...

Continued from page 1

the Seairain Lines merchant Vessel Westerbroker. The ship radioed that the men were in good condition despite their long ordeal. They said the men told them they were unable to return to Saipan or make any headway anywhere because they lost a propeller from their boat's engine. No further details were available concerning the men or how they survived for nearly seven weeks on the open sea.

The MV Westerbroker is now on its way to Kaoshiung, Taiwan, with an estimated date of arrival of August 25. From there, arrangements will be made to return Taitano and Lisua to Saipan where family and friends will be waiting anxiously.

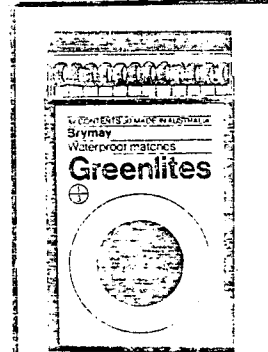
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SERVING SAIPAN OVER 20 YEARS

sador does not reveal be made available to the this decision, then we tend to go over his head," concluded.

The Senator from Idaho, who has headed the future status organization of the Congress of Micronesia for the past six years, also indicated that there was another course of action which could be taken to get the material to the public.

"The Political Education Commission created by the Congress of Micronesia will soon be organized. The suppressed material will be made available to it--and I am certain that soon after that, it will



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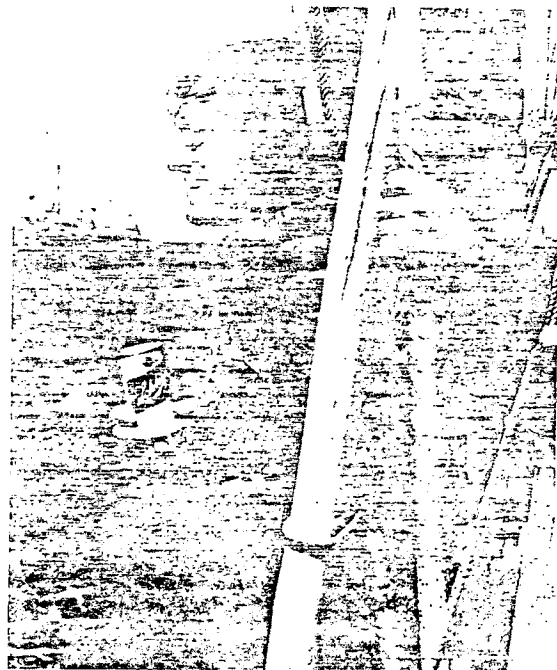
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