



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, PLANS AND POLICY, JOINT STAFF (J)

Subj: Near Term Operational Requirements for Tinian (U)

Ref: (a) JCS 131312Z SEP 74

1. (S) Navy near term operational requirements for Tinian have been reviewed as requested by reference (a). The near term requirement is centered on the use of the proposed airfield and a guaranteed option for future use. The port development and the ammunition pier are required in support of the entire multi-Service base complex. The airfield is required to accommodate the staging of overflow land based ASW and transit aircraft from NAS Agana where the base loading under certain circumstances could prohibit supporting any additional aircraft. Additionally, the airfield would be used as a temporary training base for up to 1/2 of a CVW when the CV is in port Guam, in transit, or operating in the local areas. A VP detachment (3 a/c) with support equipment, supporting ground personnel and ASW ordnance will be maintained on a rotational basis to support the surveillance and defense of Micronesia and the lines of communication in the southwest Pacific.

2. (S) The situation at NAS Agana is complicated by the fact that it also serves as Guam's commercial airport. The increasing commercial air traffic, coupled with the Guamanians' long standing interest, desire, and effort to further expand the commercial air operations at Agana, are factors which must be considered when implying that Guam is satisfactorily providing for the near term Navy requirements. Continued civilian encroachment could severely limit our capability to increase the base loading to meet contingencies.

3. (S) It is imprudent to attempt to decouple short and long term requirements completely, in that the ground work to support potential long range requirements must be laid in the near term. Once a Trusteeship agreement is reached, the U.S. ability to obtain land for basing options will be severely diminished or become non-existent. Under normal

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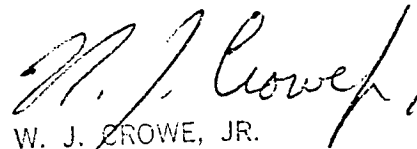
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processing, it will probably be calendar year 1978 or later before the base will be useable. When and if bases in Japan/Okinawa or in the Philippines are denied, the immediate availability of the Tinian base would largely negate a degradation of our ability to meet our Far Eastern commitments.

4. In summary, the Navy near term operational requirements as contained in Annex A to Programming Plan 73-1 (Crested Isle) are revalidated.



W. J. CROWE, JR.
Deputy Director
Strategic Plans, Policy and
Nuclear Systems Division

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