

(WILLIAMS REVEAL U.S. MILITARY PLANS ON TINIAN)

SAIPAN, DEC. 11 (MNS) - AMBASSADOR HAYDEN WILLIAMS AND THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION HAVE CONCLUDED ONE WEEK OF MEETINGS IN THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH BEGAN ON DECEMBER 5.

THE MEETINGS HELD THUS FAR HAVE BEEN DEVOTED TO A CAREFUL REVIEW OF A DRAFT COVENANT PRESENTED BY THE JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES. SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS INFORMED THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 10 THAT A REVIEW OF U.S. DEFENSE PLANS HAS MADE NECESSARY VARIOUS ADJUSTMENTS IN U.S. DEFENSE PROGRAMS INCLUDING ADJUSTMENTS IN THE PLANS AND TIMETABLE FOR A MILITARY BASE ON TINIAN. THIS REVIEW HAS BEEN REQUIRED IN PART BECAUSE OF THE IMPACT OF INFLATION ON THE U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SAID THAT THE REVIEW HAS CONCLUDED THAT THERE CONTINUES TO BE AN IMPORTANT DEFENSE REQUIREMENT FOR THE PROPOSED TINIAN MILITARY LAND NEEDS AS PREVIOUSLY SET FORTH AND TENTATIVELY AGREED TO LAST MAY AND IT WILL REMAIN NECESSARY FOR THE U.S. TO ACQUIRE APPROXIMATELY 3,755 HECTARES ON TINIAN IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENT MILITARY RETENTION LANDS ON TINIAN. THE LONG TERM USE OF TINIAN WILL INCLUDE JOINT SERVICE LAND, SEA AND AIR TRAINING AND MANEUVERS, AMMUNITION STORAGE AND FORWARD LOGISTICS, WITH AN OPERATIONAL JOINT SERVICE AIRFIELD AND A DEVELOPED HARBOR TO SUPPORT THESE ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, IN THE NEAR TERM, THE MAJOR PLANNED USE FOR TINIAN WILL BE FOR GROUND, SEA AND AIR TRAINING EXERCISES.

TINIAN WILL BECOME AN IMPORTANT SITE, THE AMBASSADOR SAID, FOR KEEPING U.S. FORWARD AMPHIBIOUS FORCES IN A HIGH STATE OF READINESS THROUGH COMBINED EXERCISES. IT WILL BE USED BY UNITS OF VARIOUS SIZES, UP TO 2,000 MEN, FOR GROUND OPERATIONS AND AMPHIBIOUS LANDINGS SUPPORTED BY APPROPRIATE NAVAL AND AIR UNITS.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS POINTED OUT THAT TO SUPPORT THESE OPERATIONS AND TO FACILITATE THE RAPID BUILD-UP IN AN EMERGENCY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FULL PLANS FOR TINIAN, THE HARBOR AT SAN JOSE WILL BE REHABILITATED AND WEST FIELD WILL BE UPGRADED, ALTHOUGH THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO REORIENT AND LENGTHEN WEST FIELD AT THIS TIME. AMMUNITION STORAGE MAY COME LATER, AND IF IT DOES, A WET SLIP FOR OFF LOADING SHIPS WILL BE BUILT.

SAN JOSE HARBOR WILL BE REHABILITATED SOON, WHICH WILL INCLUDE REBUILDING THE BREAKWATER, DREDGING THE CHANNEL AND REPAIRING THE DOCK AREA. OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO THE HARBOR AND AIRFIELD REHABILITATION ALSO MAY BE POSSIBLE. NO PERMANENT STRUCTURES ARE NOW PLANNED FOR TINIAN, AND THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR STATIONING PERMANENT MILITARY PERSONNEL ON TINIAN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SAID THAT THIS LIMITED BASE CONCEPT WILL MEAN IN THE SHORT TERM LESS IN TERMS OF LOCAL INCOME FROM CONSTRUCTION AND A CONTINUOUS MILITARY PRESENCE. HOWEVER, THE PRESENT PLANS WILL RESULT IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF SAN JOSE HARBOR AND WEST FIELD WHICH ARE OF PRIMARY INTEREST TO THE PEOPLE. IN ADDITION, MORE LAND WILL NOW BE AVAILABLE FOR LEASEBACK FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES AND GRAZING. IN THE MEANTIME, HE ADDED, ONE WOULD EXPECT THAT TINIAN WILL BENEFIT GREATLY FROM THE PREVIOUSLY NEGOTIATED \$500,000 PER YEAR FOR A SEVEN-YEAR SPECIAL FUND FOR TINIAN'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, PLUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS FROM REGULAR OPERATING FUNDS OF THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE U.S. ALSO, HE ADDED, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON TINIAN WILL BE ENCOURAGED AND ENHANCED BY THE SPECIAL LOAN FUND RESERVED FOR FARMERS, FISHERMEN AND COOPERATIVES PROVIDED FOR IN THE DRAFT

COMMONWEALTH AGREEMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THE VARIOUS U.S. FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR SUCH THINGS AS SCHOOLS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ALSO BE OF BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN.

THE AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED THAT THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF A MILITARY BASE ON TINIAN REMAINS UNCHANGED. TINIAN IS STILL CONSIDERED HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR ITS IMMEDIATE VALUE AND FOR ITS GREAT POTENTIAL AS A READY RESERVE AND FOR A BUILD-UP IN TIMES OF EMERGENCIES.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION OF THE NEW DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PLANS FOR TINIAN AT THEIR NEXT MEETING AFTER THE COMMISSION HAS HAD TIME TO CONSIDER THE INFORMATION GIVEN IT IN YESTERDAY'S WORKING SESSION.

(ISLEY FIELD BIDS OPEN)

SAIPAN, DEC. 11 (MNS) ---BIDS WERE OPEN LAST WEEK FOR THE COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND ALL LANDSCAPING AT THE NEW SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT THE HEADQUARTERS DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE.

THREE CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES WERE REPRESENTED AT THE BID OPENING. THE LOW BIDDER WAS THE BLACK MICRO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, WHICH SUBMITTED A BID OF \$3,637,000 WHICH INCLUDES \$2,787,000 FOR COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND \$850,000 FOR ALL LANDSCAPING.

THE SECOND LOWEST BIDDER WAS SHIMIZU/SABLAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, A JOINT VENTURE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY WITH A JAPANESE CONSTRUCTION FIRM. THE COMPANY SUBMITTED A BID OF \$3,700,000, OF WHICH \$3,600,000 FOR THE COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND \$100,000 FOR ALL LANDSCAPING.

THE HIGHEST BIDDER WAS HAWAII DREDGING, DILLINGHAM CORPORATION'S CONSTRUCTION BRANCH WHICH BID \$4,800,000 OF WHICH \$4,400,000 FOR COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND \$400,000 FOR ALL LANDSCAPING.

THE GOVERNMENT ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE WAS \$4,074,800, OF WHICH \$3,939,300 FOR COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND \$135,500 FOR ALL LANDSCAPING.

INCREMENT TWO INCLUDES THE DEPARTURES BUILDING, MAIN ENTRANCE AREA WITH A RAMP SYSTEM, THE WAITING ROOM, DUTY FREE SHOP, RESTAURANT AND A BAR, A FLIGHT KITCHEN. ALL OF THE AIRLINES COUNTER OPERATIONS AND TWO OUTSIDE GARDEN-WAITING ROOMS.

THE BID ALSO INCLUDES A MINOR RENOVATION OF THE DEPARTURE'S BUILDING PRESENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY THE SABLAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. THE RENOVATION IS TO CONVERT THAT BUILDING INTO A FULLY OPERATIONAL ARRIVAL BUILDING. THAT PARTICULAR BUILDING IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN JUNE, 1975.

INCREMENT TWO ALSO INVOLVES ALL LANDSCAPING, RENOVATING THE EXISTING OLD JAPANESE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING INTO A TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER, A MAINTENANCE BUILDING, CAR RENTAL BUILDING, PAVING OF PARKING AREA AND SOME ADDITIONAL SERVICE ROADS THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED UNDER INCREMENT ONE.

THE RESTUARANT, BAR AND DUTY-FREE SHOP ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION ON MARCH 19, 1975. ALL OTHER BUILDINGS SHOULD BE COMPLETED 550 CALENDAR DAYS CONTRACT TIME FROM THE DATE THE CONTRACTORS RECEIVED A NOTICE TO PROCEED CONSTRUCTION.

THE GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT IS EVALUATING THE BIDS THAT WERE SUBMITTED. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS. THE CONTRACT SHOULD BE AWARDED TO THE CONTRACTOR BEFORE DECEMBER 18.

(COACHING POSITION FOR SPG)

SAIPAN, DEC. 11 (MNS) ---THE MICRONESIAN SPORTS COUNCIL IS IN THE PROCESS OF SELECTING COACHES FOR MICRONESIA'S ENTRY TO THE FIFTH SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON GUAM BEGINNING IN AUGUST 1-10, 1975.

THE COACHING POSITIONS WILL BE IN TRACK AND FIELD, SWIMMING,  
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL, MEN'S SOFTBALL, AND MEN'S BASKETBALL.

THE FURTHER INFORMATION OR APPLICATIONS CONTACT YOUR  
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MICRONESIAN SPORTS COUNCIL OR  
KURT C. BARNES, SPORTS DIRECTOR FOR THE COUNCIL. BARNES MAY BE  
CONTACTED AT P.O. BOX 863, SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS, 96950.

THE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE COUNCIL ARE: LUKE MOON,  
YAP; YASUO YAMADA, PONAPE; OSCAR C. RASA, MARIANAS; DR. EMIL  
MENASSA, MARSHALLS; NAMIE ALEXANDER, TRUK; AND DEMEIN OTOBED, PALAU.