

March 13, 1974

13
215

POINT PAPER
ON
ACTIVITIES OF THE JOINT CIVIL/MILITARY
COMMUNITY PLANNING COUNCIL

Background

1. During Marianas II, the U.S. suggested the establishment of a Joint Civil/Military Community Council to facilitate reaching understandings and solutions to community/military relations and planning problems. No specific time frame was proposed for its activation. (It was pointed out that such Councils now exist in most communities adjacent to U.S. bases). The initial MPSC reaction was cool.

2. In the Marianas II Joint Communique, however, both parties "agreed to establish a consultative group" (with a narrower stated purpose) "to discuss the detailed plans for military and related land use in the Marianas as they are developed, and to consult with the people directly affected by those plans". (The U.S. visualized this group as being the entity through which it could disseminate publicly releaseable base development plans as they are completed, and within which coordination could be effected in dealing with the dual issues of relocation, and development planning within the southern 1/3 of the island). During Marianas III, the intention of both parties to establish such a group was reaffirmed as follows; - - "and a working group would be established to look further into questions which might be involved in future military-civilian relationships in the Marianas."

3. Subsequently, the JCS has endorsed a CINCPAC recommendation that the OMSN consider proposing the early creation of a Joint Zoning Board for the southern 1/3 of Tinian in order to preclude the uncontrolled introduction of undesirable activities near the base.

Discussion

4. There is general agreement within the U.S. delegation that the establishment of a consultative group will be useful at some stage of the status negotiation process, although there is a question as to the immediate utility of such a group. (Its practical functions can be satisfactorily accomplished by other groups or means). The following activities have been considered as useful pursuits in the immediate time frame:

a. Provide an immediate forum for discussing and presenting the facts of the U.S. status and defense proposals that have become political issues, i.e.;

- (1) Ken Jones
- (2) Security on base
- (3) Importation of labor
- (4) Local employment
- (5) Access to beaches

03 023954

b. Coordinate planning efforts aimed toward defusing sensitive issues;

(1) Moratorium

(2) Alternative village sites

(3) Identification of affected property owners and planning for property exchanges from northern 2/3 to southern 1/3 (to include establishing priorities).

(4) Discussion of the planning and priorities that should be accorded present (unprocessed) homestead applicants.

(5) Discussion of the extent (number) of new homestead applications that the Marianas District Legislature may visualize (want processed).

c. Act as a catalyst or coordinating group for facilitating planning for the southern 1/3.

d. Initiate discussion and planning on long-term (traditional) military/civil community problems.

e. Publish periodic reports and statements on applicable issues.

5. As to the make-up of such a group or council, the U.S. must be concerned with the Marianas representation as well as its own delegates.

a. Considering the long-range purpose of the group, it will ultimately be necessary for the military Executive Agent for Base Development (USAF) to play the major U.S. role on the council. However, in the interim (until political status and land acquisition agreements are consummated) most of the activities of such a group (paragraph 4 above) would evolve around near-term political or negotiating problems. Therefore, it would appear that the U.S. could be adequately represented by CDR's Westlake and Pendleton. (The SLNO, Miss Trent, could play a role as an advisor or as an official U.S. member).

b. The U.S. objectives in the early activation of such a group are best realized if the Marianas membership is representative of all major interests. Municipal leaders, the people of Tinian, business leaders and the District Legislature should be adequately represented.

c. Under the circumstances little purpose will be served by staffing such a group with Washington representatives (Willens, Leonard & U.S. DOD). The existence of such a group in Washington would only provide a forum through which Willens and Leonard would try to meddle in the technical planning of DOD.

6. For the Council to function adequately, it may require some (nominal) administrative funds and a reservoir for its files and administration. Supplies could be provided gratis from TTPI Government or COMNAVMAR; money, (which should amount to no more than a couple hundred dollars) could be

provided by OMSN; and unusual expenses incurred by its members for specifically approved activities should be borne by member sponsors or OMSN (if appropriate).

Conclusions/Recommendations

1. While there is no pressing need for the Joint Community Council, (most of its near-term functions can be otherwise accomplished), its immediate activation would on balance appear to serve a useful purpose. It could become the principal forum for initially addressing questions dealing with U.S. military activities (and intentions), that may affect the people of the Northern Marianas.

2. The charter (purpose) should be general! - -

The Council will operate as a forum: (a) to which matters and questions dealing with the U.S. military presence in the Northern Marianas can be addressed; (b) within which all such issues will be explored to devise alternative solutions, and or clarify for the appropriate principals or agencies the specifics of each disagreement or question; and (c) through which coordination of planning and operational activities involving any activity represented on the Council, may be effected.

3. The make-up of the board should be flexible but should be chaired by a Marianas leader and at a minimum include:

- a. CDR Westlake (Vice-Chairman)
- b. CDR Pendleton (Member)
- c. Miss Trent (Advisor)
- d. Two members from Tinian
- e. One member from District Legislature (or MPSC)
- f. One member from TTPI Government.
- g. One member from Marianas Business Community
- h. Others as may be desired by the MPSC.

4. The nominal expenses of the Council should be borne by the SLNO Office, OMSN, or COMNAVMAR as appropriate.

Al Smith