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Tinian Meeting Has Unrest, Rota Quiet

By Joan King
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TINIAN -- Objections to U.S. military requirements for two-thirds of Tinian surfaced at a stormy public meeting with the United Nations (U.N.) Trusteeship Council visiting mission Saturday afternoon.

Protests here were in sharp contrast to Rota's Saturday morning meeting with U.N. observers, where not one of the small, quiet group had anything but desire for "closer association" with the United States.

In quick stops at Rota and Tinian Saturday, the visiting mission, as part of its plebiscite observation, listened to arguments for and against the covenant to be voted on Tuesday by 5,379 Marianas voters.

Though the U.N. team was there to answer questions or hear complaints about how the plebiscite will be conducted, most speakers on Rota and Tinian were more concerned about the covenant's content.

The 504 registered voters on Rota, expected to endorse the covenant by about 95 percent, seemed hardly aware of the public meeting in their municipal government building in Songsong Village.

Joaquin Atalig, said it was "unfortunate we're not informed about anticovenant views, but they are almost non-existent here."

A crowd with signs proclaiming "yes" for commonwealth greeted the U.N. observers as they stepped off their chartered Air Pacific flight here. The island has 295

registered voters.

Only a few anticovenant signs were in evidence as the motorcade drove from Tinian's airport to San Jose Village.

Observers said there had been more anticovenant signs but they had been torn down.

As spectators sat in the packed Tinian council chamber

renegotiation of the covenant also emerged as an issue on Tinian.

Despite the appearance of anticovenant feelings, observers are estimating from 70 to 90 percent will vote "yes."

Jose V. King, a covenant supporter, said it was "only natural" the U.S. military

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with an "In God We Trust" sign on the wall, they listened to pro and anticovenant opinions.

U.N. Representative Chairman James Murray of the United Kingdom, perspiring in his tie and jacket and with a monocle at his right eye, said, "you are all very politically mature people."

Besides the recurring, question unanswerable of which "why is so much land on Tinian needed by the U.S. military?"

should take land. "The U.S. should have the land, since the U.S. military shed blood. It was the American government that gave us all the freedom we enjoy today," he added.

However, Councilman Elias Borja insisted he "strongly opposes two-thirds of the island being taken over by the military."

"The 100-year lease provision is very wrong and very

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Scattered Showers

Skies today will be mostly cloudy with scattered showers throughout the day, according to the Fleet Weather Central 24-hour forecast.

Winds will be easterly at 12-17 miles per hour (mph) with gusts to 25 mph near showers, becoming generally less than 10 mph at night. Seas will be 3-4 feet from the east.

Surf conditions will be moderate at 4-5 feet, one eastern reef and exposed beaches, and 1-3 feet elsewhere.

The first low tide will be at 7:09 a.m. at 1 foot, and the first high tide will be at 12:24 p.m. at 1.8 feet.

The second low tide will be at 6:40 p.m. at .4 feet, and the second high tide will be at 1:39 a.m. Tuesday at 2.5 feet.

Sunrise today will be at 5:53 a.m. and sunset at 6:49. Sunrise tomorrow will be at 5:54.

Maximum temperature will be 84 and the minimum 79.

Total rainfall for June through 4 p.m. yesterday was 4.13 inches.