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NARRATIVE

was essential that the rest of the shrapnel be removed before the additional squadrons arrived. Even with the entire area cleaned of shrapnel, parking space for planes would be at a premium. Any sort of dispersal would be out of the question.

(4) The gasoline situation was critical. No tank farm system or ready tanks were available, and construction on the farm had not begun. A YOGL (small gasoline barge) was moored in Tinian Harbor ten (10) miles from North Field by road. A two-inch pipe line had been laid from the YOGL to an improvised fill-stand on the beach, but no segregators or settling tanks had been provided.

There were 4558 drums of 100/130 octane Avgas ashore in a dump near North Field and 186 drums of Avlube. To handle the available supply of Avgas and Avlube there were two (2) 2000-gallon semi-trailers with tractor cabs and six (6) 600-gallon trucks. The remaining trucks with a capacity of 14,400 gallons were aboard various ships either in Tinian Harbor, Garapan Harbor at Saipan or at Eniwetok. Because of the poor facilities at Tinian Harbor this badly needed gassing equipment could not be unloaded - possibly for as long as twelve (12) weeks from 1 Sept. 1944. It was foreseen that major troubles would develop if full dependency on the availability of Avgas was placed on the YOGL at Tinian Harbor, and therefore a simple gravity feed system was constructed on a ramp near North Field on which drum gas could be handled.

(5) There was a general shortage of all kinds of equipment.

(6) There was an acute shortage in personnel. It is believed that one of the major reasons for the need of additional personnel is the fact that the assigned complement for CASU-44 was based on previous CASU's which were stationed on small atolls. More work was necessary on Tinian than on an atoll. It was