

FOR AD

U.S. Wants Spain Ties Parallel To Those With NATO Nations

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WASHINGTON, March 3—A high-ranking State Department official told the Senate today that the Ford Administration's new treaty with Spain on military bases was designed to develop a relationship with Madrid "comparable to that with NATO members."

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Ambassador Robert J. McCloskey said that the treaty's further aim was to ease Spanish entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Mr. McCloskey was the chief American negotiator for the five-year treaty that was signed Jan. 24 in Madrid. It provides for continuing American use of military bases in Spain in return for a \$1.2 billion package of aid and credit.

'A New Era'

He said the treaty would open a "new era in United States-Spanish relations" and added: "it specifically looks toward eventual Spanish entry into NATO." The United States has been pressing for Spanish entry into the 15-member alliance for more than a year.

Mr. McCloskey pointed out that the treaty's provision for a Spanish-American military coordination and planning staff would serve not only to link Spain to NATO planning but also to help develop contingency plans for "a Spanish role in the event of a general attack on the West."

However, he emphasized that the treaty did not expand American defense commitments to include Spain in the security guarantees available to partners in the Atlantic alliance.

Mr. McCloskey testified that the American bases—a naval station at Rota on the Atlantic gateway to the Mediterranean and air bases at Torrejon and Zaragoza — provided essential logistical facilities for American forces in NATO.

Praise and Criticism

Some senators welcomed the pact, expressing satisfaction that it was being presented to them for approval instead of the executive agreements that preceded and that did not require legislative acceptance.

Others, among them Jacob Javits, Republican of New York, voiced rejections. Mr.

Javits pointed out that by presenting the Senate with a five-year treaty that includes a considerable amount of aid, the Administration had confronted Congress with a new situation with regard to aid appropriations.