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2. The land tenure systems of the Mariana Islands District are the simplest least complex, most straightforward of any in the Trust Territory. The Chamorros follow a system of land tenure they developed during their period under Spanish Administration and it is so much like the Anglo-American system it is easily understood by Americans. The land tenure system of the Carolinian population is a simplified version of the various systems found in the islands from Ulithi to the Marshalls. Land is held in the maternal line and is seldom divided except by unanimous consent of all concerned. Lacking the inclusion of chiefs in the system it can be readily understood by Americans with a little study.

Nearly all of the privately owned land was the subject of title determinations during the Navy Administration and these are all of record. Therefore, a Land Commission established under Public Law 2-1 should be able to function with a minimum of difficulty in this district.

3. In planning for the Exchange Agreement Program, Navy officials attempted to design the work to wipe out all claims for post-secure damage and use and occupancy. The Exchange Agreement documents contain provisions to do this. Former Navy officials who worked in the program state they made every effort to insure that land given in exchange for land in retention areas or land which was damaged beyond economical use was far enough in excess of the owner's original land to compensate for post-secure damage and for use and occupancy up to the time of the Exchange Agreement. However, present feeling of the people of Saipan is that they were not compensated for post-secure damage, neither were they compensated for use and occupancy by Military Forces. Nearly every pre-invasion landowner has filed a claim for use and occupancy of land and for post-secure damage. These claims total over \$2 million.

4. One agricultural homestead was found in the fourth year of development that had been abandoned for at least three years. The homesteader went to Guam to work shortly after the Entry Permit was granted. He is still there but comes back to Saipan on short visits about once each year. The homestead was inspected once each year and received grades of good with indications of substantial progress toward completion of the planting program. This was the only case of over 100 agricultural homesteads and over 100 village lot homesteads inspected in company with a team where there was gross exaggeration of the progress of development.

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23. The District land records have suffered from over 20 years of neglect. Many are beyond saving at this point. All need careful, thoughtful attention to index properly and store them to safeguard them against the elements. A concrete vault is in process of construction to give the records a minimum of care and protection.
24. Total land area of the district is 117,000 acres. Of this private ownership accounts for some 12,000 acres. The remainder is public land.

Military Retention Areas in the District total 14,000 acres, of which 5,000 acres are in areas located on Saipan and the remainder, some 9,000 acres, with exception of 3 acres on Nafutan Rock, is on Tinian. The Trust Territory Government is allowed to use all of the Military Retention land on Saipan except the small tract used by the Coast Guard and the Isley Field area. However, none of the Military Retention land on Tinian can be used by the Trust Territory at this time. Tanapag Harbor and Kobler Field are examples of use of Military Retention land on Saipan.

25. The land on Saipan and Tinian was utilized almost 100% by the Japanese Administration. Principal crop was sugar cane. Some 25,000 Japanese nationals, mostly from Okinawa, cultivated the islands by hand labor. Roadways were built to reach each of the small parcels - mostly in 6 hectare tracts. These roads still exist in many cases. Some were improved by U. S. Military Forces. During recent inspection of over 100 agricultural homesteads on Saipan the team had to walk short distances in three cases to reach the land to be inspected. The roads are not visible from the air and they require a person familiar with the area to reach the correct destination. But they are there and still in remarkably good condition. A person in a jeep can reach any point on Saipan with little or no walking. They can get within mile or less of any point by a public access road - most of them paved.
26. Approximately 30% of the agricultural homesteads involve encroachments on private or public lands.
27. Agricultural homesteads have never been inspected more than once each year. None have ever received rigid inspections by the Agriculture Department aimed at improving the agricultural practices of some homesteaders who have little if any knowledge or proper methods of cultivation.
28. Qualifications for Agricultural and Village Lot homesteads are so loose that approximately 50% of the homesteaders who have received Entry Permits have been more interested in land speculation than they have in using the land as a homestead.