

(HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE MEETING)

SAIPAN, DEC. 9 (MNS)--MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA MET WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON LAST WEEK ON THE HOMESTEAD ISSUE IN THE MARIANAS.

ACCORDING TO A RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, THE MEETING, HELD ON WEDNESDAY (DEC. 4) OF LAST WEEK, BROUGHT TOGETHER THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOMESTEADING POLICIES AT THE TRUST TERRITORY (TT) HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S STAFF AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE MPSC.

THE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND THE TIMELY PROCESSING OF MORE THAN 130 TINIAN HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS AWAITING DISPOSITION AND MORE THAN 1600 UNPROCESSED APPLICATIONS ON SAIPAN AND ROTA. THE HOMESTEAD ISSUE ON TINIAN, THE NEWLY FORMED HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE OF THE MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION INSISTS, WAS OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.

ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, THE HOMESTEADING PROGRAM GENERALLY FOR THE ENTIRE MARIANAS NEEDS ADDITIONAL FUNDING. DISTAD ADA INDICATED THAT HE WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INDICATIONS BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND THE MPSC THAT TINIAN'S HOMESTEADERS ARE ONE OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITIES.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE RELEASE STATES, WILL MAKE SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE FROM THE HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS WHICH, TOGETHER WITH ON-GOING FUNDING PROGRAM,

WILL MAKE THE HOMESTEADING PROGRAM IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT CURRENT. DISTAD ADA PROMISED ACTION WILL COMMENCE NO LATER THAN THE FIRST OF JANUARY, 1975.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE: JOSE R. CRUZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE, MPSC CHAIRMAN EDWARD PANGELINAN, U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS AND HIS DEPUTY JAMES WILSON, AND KOZO YAMADA, CHIEF OF THE LANDS AND SURVEYS DIVISION.

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