

PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

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BOARD MAINTAINS COPRA PRICE

Marianas

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, June 19 . . . At its semi-annual meeting Friday, the Copra Stabilization Board voted to maintain the current price level for all copra purchased in the Trust Territory. The present district purchase price per ton is \$102.50 for the first grade; \$92.50 for the second grade; and \$82.50 for the third grade. However, prices in the outer islands are slightly lower because of transportation costs.

Truk

Ponape

Present at the meeting were: Chairman Eusebio Rechucher; Treasurer, Lorin Anderson for Leslie Arentzen; and members; Deputy High Commissioner Martin P. Mangan; Director of Agriculture Manuel Sproat; Samuel Mitchell, Acting Staff Economist; Don Tindal,

Marshalls

Assistant Attorney General; Chiro Albert, Truk; Kasiano Joseph, Ponape; Shiro Kiyota, Palau; and John Ranganbay, Yap. Also present were Russell Curtis, Manager of UMDA (United Micronesian Development Association); Raymond Carpenter, Agriculture Economist, Nathan Team; and Tatasy Wainit, Management Intern. Representatives from the Marshalls and the Marianas were absent.

Yap

Palau

The meeting also focused on the following major points: the possibility of marketing copra in the United States, South America and Europe; improvement of district copra warehouses; transportation of copra from

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the outer islands; feasibility of encouraging co-operatives on some of the larger outer islands; and increasing control of rats and beetles as well as other insects harmful to the coconut tree. Buying copra from outside the Trust Territory by the United Micronesian Development Association was not recommended by the Board.

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