RECORDS OF THE GERMAN IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF THE SOUTH SEAS PERTAINING TO MICRONESIA AS CONTAINED IN THE ARCHIVES OFFICE, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CANBERRA

Volume 7
CRS G1, ITEM 9-1
General Administration, Caroline Islands
1899-1907

Property of
Division of Lands and Surveys
Department of Resources and Development
Trust Territory Government
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
ALLGEMEINE VERWALTUNG
KAROLINEN

1899-1907

(GENERAL ADMINISTRATION CAROLINE ISLANDS)

FILMED FOR COMMONWEALTH ARCHIVES OFFICE
CANBERRA
1969

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The two main sources for land records and documents relating to the Administration of Micronesia by Germany (Marshalls 1885-1914; Carolines and Marianas 1899-1914) are the Commonwealth of Australia Archives Office in Canberra and the Central German Archives at Potsdam in East Germany.

The German records in Australia were acquired by the Australian Military Administration of New Guinea between 1914 and 1922 from Rabaul, the former German capital of German New Guinea and the Islands Sphere (Micronesia). These records are voluminous, and James B. Johnson, Senior Land Commissioner, Mariana Islands District, was sent to Canberra for ten (10) days in August 1969 to examine these records. By letter dated September 1, 1969 (serial 1968/328) K. Penny, Chief Archivist (Commonwealth Archives Office) provided to the then Director of Land Management, Trust Territory Government (William A. McGrath), a listing of preliminary inventories for only two (2) of the record series of German New Guinea (reference numbers G1 and G2). A copy of this document appears at the front of Volume I of this series of translations.

It was considered that certain of the records in this listing were of interest to the Trust Territory lands program and microfilms were purchased of the following:

**Series No. G1:**

All of files 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 29, 121, 126b, 217, 219 and No. illegible (Laws and Ordinances) and only folios 235, 236 and 237 of file 171.

**Series No. G2:**

All of files G. 25 BD. I, W21, W30, W32, W33, and only folios 245-254 of A.16 BDI, only folios 19-25 of A. 16BD2, only folios 64-67 of A.21, only folio 116 of C16 BDI, only folios 48 and 48a of Y15, only folios 177-179, 181-183, 193-196, 198-200 and 205, of Y36, only folios 3-16, 19-24, 26-37, 49-57 and 235 of Y38EDI, only folios 23, 24, 34-36, 74-77, 80, 82-135 and 148 of Y40, and only folios 13-30, 80, 108-117 of Y44.

A great deal of research remains to be done at Canberra to obtain microfilm copies of the balance of the German records still there.

The German land records of Micronesia that are in the Central German Archives at Potsdam (East Germany) are voluminous and likewise present a formidable task even to sort, list and index them. As far as it is known, these records on German Micronesian have never been examined and evaluated by a staff member of either the Trust Territory Government or
the Department of the Interior. It is known that a Dr. J. Leyser of the Law School of the University of Melbourne, Australia, has done a considerable amount of research on the records in Potsdam on behalf of the Government of the former Trust Territory of New Guinea.

In the main, the records for Micronesia are mixed with the records of the Reich Colonial Office for Africa and Oceania.

Documents in the following volumes may be significant to us in Micronesia:

- Mining and Land research 1886-1942, 255 volumes
- Borders and surveying 1884-1939, 281 volumes
- Surveying 1886-1938, 14 volumes
- Carolines 1889-1913, 3 volumes
- New Guinea 1880-1886, 22 volumes
- Pacific 1880-1914, 12 volumes
- Foreign Colonies, Pacific, 1872-1909, 21 volumes
- Jaluit Company of Hamburg, 1887-1945, 2 boxes

In 1975, funds became available to translate the records that were obtained on microfilm. However, it was realized that a goodly portion of the records were not related to land, and therefore it was decided to have summaries made of all documents to determine their relevancy to land. Upon firm determinate that a particular document was of interest, a full translation was made.

The summarization and translation of the documents was performed by Susanna R. Moyal of San Francisco, California, under contract to the Trust Territory Government (Contract No. 176-2 dated July 28, 1975, as amended). The work extended from 1975 until 1979.

The completed summarizations and translations are presently bound in twenty four (24) volumes with general subject matter as indicated in the following listing. It should be noted that the general classification should not be relied upon to reflect the true content of the volume. A full review of all volumes would have to be undertaken to get an accurate understanding of the material as no attempt has been made to sort documents by subject matter or by separate index.

The summarization and translations appear at the front of each volume with a microfilm printout of the German documents at the rear of the volume. The German document may be readily identified first by the Item number and then by the sequential numbers stamped at the bottom of each page. Summarizations and translations were performed by full documents and not page by page.
RECORDS OF THE GERMAN IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
SOUTH SEAS PERTAINING TO MICRONESIA
AS CONTAINED IN THE
ARCHIVES OFFICE, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
CANBERRA

Volume 1 - CRS Gl, ITEM 4, Transfer of the Caroline Islands to the
German Empire, 1899 - 1902

Volume 2 - CRS Gl, ITEM 7-1, General Administration, Yap, 1900 - 1907

Volume 3 - CRS Gl, ITEM 7-2, General Administration, Yap, 1900 - 1907

Volume 4 - CRS Gl, ITEM 8-1, General Administration, Ponape, 1900 - 1907

Volume 5 - CRS Gl, ITEM 8-2, General Administration, Ponape, 1900 - 1907

Volume 6 - CRS Gl, ITEM 8-3, General Administration, Ponape, 1900 - 1907

Volume 7 - CRS Gl, ITEM 9-1, General Administration, Caroline Islands,
1899 - 1907

Volume 8 - CRS Gl, ITEM 9-2, General Administration, Caroline Islands,
1899 - 1907

Volume 9 - 1. CRS Gl, ITEM 9-3, General Administration, Caroline Islands
1899 - 1907

2. CRS Gl, ITEM 11, General Administration, Saipan, 1900 - 1907

Volume 10 - 1. CRS Gl, ITEM 29-1, Information about Buildings, Land and
Vessels in the Carolines, 1903 - 1905

2. CRS Gl, ITEM 121, Reports, Carolines, 1899 - 1907

Volume 11 - 1. CRS Gl, ITEM 29-2, Information about Buildings, Land and
Vessels in the Carolines, 1903 - 1905

2. CRS Gl, ITEM 126B, Annual Reports, Saipan, 1900 - 1906

3. CRS Gl, ITEM 171, Trade and Shipping in the Carolines,
1899 - 1908

Volume 12 - CRS Gl, ITEM 217-1, Land Matters, Carolines, 1899 - 1905
Volume 13 - CRS GI, ITEM 217-2, Land Matters, Carolines, 1899 - 1905

Volume 14 - 1. CRS GI, ITEM 219-1, Claim - Portusach and Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903
2. CRS GI, ITEM - Illegible, Laws and Ordinances, Carolines 1899 - 1907

Volume 15 - CRS GI, ITEM 219-2, Claim - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903

Volume 16 - CRS GI, ITEM 219-3, Claim - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903

Volume 17 - CRS GI, ITEM 129-4, Claim - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903

Volume 18 - 1. CRS G2, ITEM A16 BD.1, General Administration, Saipan, 1907 - 1912
2. CRS G2, ITEM A16 BD.2, General Administration, Saipan, 1912 - 1914
3. CRS G2, ITEM A21, General Administration, Anguar, 1908 - 1914
4. CRS G2, ITEM C16 BD.1, Hospital Grounds and Buildings, Jaluit, 1911 - 1914
5. CRS G2, ITEM G25 BD.1, Land Register Affairs in the Island Territory, 1912 - 1914

Volume 19 - CRS G2, ITEM W21-1, Land Matter, East Carolines, 1907 - 1914

Volume 20 - 1. CRS G2, ITEM W21-2, Land Matters, East Carolines, 1907 - 1914
2. CRS G2, ITEM W30, Land Matters, West Carolines, 1909 - 1911
3. CRS G2, ITEM W32, Land Matters, Marianas, 1908 - 1914

Volume 21 - CRS G2, ITEM W30-1, Land Matters, West Carolines, 1909 - 1911

Volume 22 - CRS G2, ITEM W33-2, Land Matters, Marshall Islands, 1908 - 1914
Volume 23 - 1. CRS G2, ITEM Y15-1, Jaluit Company, 1905 - 1914
2. CRS G2, ITEM Y36, Commercial and Plantation Enterprises in the West Carolines, 1910 - 1914
3. CRS G2, ITEM Y38 BD.1, New Mariana Company, 1911 - 1912
4. CRS G2, ITEM Y40, Marshall Plantation Syndicate, 1911 - 1914

Volume 24 - 1. CRS G2, ITEM Y15-2, Jaluit Company, 1905 - 1914
2. CRS G2, ITEM Y44, East Caroline Enterprises, 1911 - 1914
INDEX OF LAND REFERENCES

Document 1 pp. 2-11 Marianas Case of Jose Portusak
Document 8 p. 27 Ponape - Kusaie Land for immigrants
Document 14 p. 40 Protectorate Land sale to foreigners
Document 15 pp. 51-52 South Sea Territory Land Sale
Document 16 pp. 61/65 Protectorate Land Sale and Grant
Document 21 p. 86 Protectorate Decree: Acquisition of Land
Document 22 p. 93 Truk Island Special Privileges
Document 26 p. 112 Truk Island Native Land
Document 29 pp.122-132 Helen Riff - Tobi Island Claims by German Empire
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
CAROLINE ISLANDS
1899 - 1907
Summarization: Imperial Ambassador in Madrid reports that no evidence has been found in files of Spanish Colonial Ministry on the grant of concessions to Jose Portusak. Search for evidence to be continued.

August 10, 1899, from Imperial Ambassador in Madrid: Claim by Jose Portusak denied by Spanish Finance Ministry.

pp. 4-6 Copy of translation of Spanish document: Jose Portusak of Agana, Marianas residing in Barcelona applied June 26, 1892 for the usufruct of Agrigan, Pagan, and Alamagan, however never received answer to his application. He therefore requested approval of his application for 4 years, stipulating:

1. He would provide communication by sailingship between these islands and Saipan, Tinian and Rota four times per annum, weather conditions permitting.
2. He would provide without charge transport of administrative correspondence and passengers as well as freight.
3. The flag would be raised from sunrise to sunset.
4. He would pay 500 Duros (Dollar) per annum, half to be deposited security.

The application was submitted on September 17, 1895 to the Governor General of the Philippines with no reply received, so that, without doubt, the concession was not allocated.
July 19, 1899: Further inquiries concerning Jose Portusak's claims have been made. Colonial Division reserves right for further decisions.

pp. 9-10 June 23, 1899: Copy of letter in English by Jose Portusak in partnership with Captain J. F. Harrison, a British subject, petitioning the Government that concession of three uninhabited islands has been held and occupied since 1883, that communication between islands and Saipan, Tinian, Guam and Rota had been provided, that islands had been cultivated, and that the concession from the Spanish Government had been duly registered in the Registry of Property Office in Guam via the authorities in Washington as per attached copy of a communication received from the Department of State, and that they had deposited $1000 in Agana Public Treasury in guarantee of contract.

As these islands are under the German Government, the petitioners request notification of recognition of their concession.

November 18, 1898 from Department of State, Washington to Jose Portusak and John T. Harrison, Yokohama: Acknowledging receipt of undated letter, requesting confirmation of concession by Spanish Government of three islands of Agrigan, Pagan and Alamagan.
From: Justus Scharf, Sydney
To: Imperial Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: September 1, 1899
Subject: Dispatch of Oregon Pine
Island: Carolines

Summarization: Notice of dispatch of Oregon pine with attached list of specification.
Vol.: VII
Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 9-1 Document: 4 Page: 15
From: Ponape
To: Government, Herbertshoehe
Date: January 4, 1900
Subject: Correspondence
Island: Ponape

Summarization: Dispatch of numbered mail to Herbertshoehe.
Summarization: Message concerning compensation to Merchant Zarza to be sent on to Vice Governor in Ponape.
From: "German Empire's Reporter" & "The Royal Prussian State's Reporter"

Date: January 23, 1900

Subject: Decree

Island: Micronesia

Summarization: Imperial Decree on Administration of Islands.

Article incomplete--page 17 only.

See Vol.: 1, CRS GL, Item 4, Documents 2 & 3, pp. 3 - 7.
From: Ponape
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: February 27, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, April 12, 1900)
Subject: Warships' presence in Ponape requested
Island: Ponape

Summarization: Copy of letter to Commander of Cruiser H.M. SEEADLER requesting cruiser's presence in Ponape Harbor from December to February to keep American whalers at bay and to avoid arms smuggling to the island.
From: Ponape
To: Governor, Herbertschoehe
Date: March 3, 1900 (Herbertschoehe, April 12, 1900)
Subject: Immigration from the Philippines
Islands: Ponape - Kusaie

Summarization: Copy of letter to Imperial German Consulate in Manila suggesting that, after the uprising in the Philippines, discontented Filipinos might wish to immigrate to the German South Sea Districts. Emigrants would obtain admission to Ponape and Kusaie.

Government would make available land grants, hereditary land grant, or sale as well as work permits.

Duplication: Page 25 blank
Ponape, March 3, 1900

J No. 98

Imperial Government

Herbertshoehe

rec'd April 21, 1900
J No. 415
to files R.v.B.

To the Governor in Herbertshoehe is the enclosed copy of a letter of the 3rd of this month J No. 98 to the Consulate in Manila obediently submitted.

The Imperial Vice Governor

signed: Hahl
Ponape, March 3, 1900

J No. 96

Confidential

It is to be expected that there are many discontented Philippinos, but otherwise very useful elements, to be found with the defeat of the rebellion, whose emigration to the poorly-populated lands of the Southsea Territory would seem desirable. The future connection of a steamer with Hong Kong, Ponape, Herbertshohe, and Sydney would offer travel opportunities to these people. There is now no difficulty to settle 1000 people in Ponape and Kosrae. Emigrants would however have to provide themselves with food (rice) for at least three months until the return of the steamer with provisions. It is desirable to bring along breeding cattle. I would humbly leave it to you to make it known whenever possible that emigrants would find admission in Ponape and Kosrae. The government would be ready to assign land through lease, hereditary lease, or sale and (to grant) permits for work opportunities.

The Governor has received copy of this letter.

The Imperial Vice Governor

signed: Hahl

The Imperial German Consulate

Manila
From: Ponape
To: Imperial Government, Herbertshoehe
Date: March 8, 1900 (Herbershoehe, April 12, 1900)
Subject: Name of seat of Government
Island: Ponape

Summarization: Islanders' name for Government seat: Messenieng (Mesieng), spelled Mejenien. Request that this name be officially established.

April 14, 1900, from Governor to Dr. Hahl (Ponape): Informing him that the seat of government of the East Carolines has been designated as Ponape on his suggestion.
From: Ponape
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: March 29, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, April 12, 1900)
Subject: Extension of deadline of Spanish coins
Islands: East Carolines

**Summarization:** Discontinuance of circulation of Spanish coinage to be extended. Jaluit Co. credit of cash monies to the government.

April 14, 1900: from Governor, Herbertshoehe to Imperial Vice-Governor Dr. Hahl, consenting to extended deadline of April 1, 1901.

March 29, 1900: From Ponape to Imperial German Consulate, Manila, requesting information on American regulation concerning circulation and value of Spanish, Mexican and Philippine coinage.
Vol.: VII
Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 9-1 Document: 11 Page: 34 - 35
From: Ponape
To: Imperial Government, Herbertshoehe
Date: April 14, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, April 12, 1900)
Subject: Correspondence
Island: Ponape

Summarization: Correspondance reference numbers dispatched by H.M.S. SEEADLER to Herbertshoehe.

Page 35: Blank
From: Herbertshoehe  
To: District Administration, Ponape, Yap, Saipan  
Date: 1900  
Subject: Shipping regulation  
Islands: Carolines - Marianas  

**Summarization:** Shipping regulations to be applied as customary in home ports.

Document partly illegible.
From: Herbertshoehe
To: District Administration, Ponape, Yap, Saipan
Date: April 25, 1900
Subject: Decree
Islands: Carolines - Palau - Marianas

Summarization: Order to rescind decree concerning recruitment of labor.
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: March 1900 (Herbertshoehe, April 23, 1900)
Subject: Response to administrative and judicial proposals
Islands: German Protectorate

Summarization: Unification of the protectorate under German New Guinea not opportune as the Caroline Islands economically closer to Marshalls. Contract with Jaluit Co. commits Government as Company's interests are not to be damaged. District Administrations to be maintained. Custom policies also to be administered by Districts.

Order related to the selling of native land to foreigners to be rescinded pending current negotiations with Jaluit Co. and detailed information from Vice-Governor in Ponape. The first land sale in Ponape to benefit an English firm, competitor of Jaluit Co., not viewed with favor.

Request to submit draft for new regulations in time to be published in Ponape, Yap and Saipan by January 1, 1901. Regulations concerning foreign shipping and higher license fees to be established for these in order to favor local firms.

Inter-island labor recruitment to be rescinded. German currency regulations to be limited to accounting in German Mark. Established exchange for L. sterling to be decreased to Mk. 20.

Pearl and trepang fishing rights of islanders to be safeguarded.
Consent given to grant land in the Northern Islands of the Marianas with established rules of payment.

Export duty on palm brandy to countries outside Protectorate; prohibition on palm brandy within districts.

Regulation on mining to be delayed pending results of surveys.
Summarization: Reiterates recommendation to unify German Southsea Territory with unified legislation exclusive of Samoa; cancelling contract with the Jaluit Co. of January 1, 1888 for political reasons.

The proposal for unification essential for development of the territory.

Regulation of January 20, 1900 and September 26, 1900 coincide: contracts with the islanders on land and land rights in perpetuity would have necessitated guidelines to District Administrations that, for the time being, no land be sold. District Administrations agree that this regulation is unfortunate and would even prohibit land acquisition by the administration. Confirms reception of telegram of August 28, 1899 prohibiting land sale to foreigners. The Englishman Bishop living on Ponape is a wealthy and independent man and not connected with the English competitor of the Jaluit Co.

Shipping fees established in the Marshalls are not in the interest of general trade, but that of Jaluit Co.'s monopoly. Fees are low and led to complaints by local firms. High fees charged by Americans in Guam eliminate trade with that island.

Encouragement of free and open trade with Japanese, English and Americans.

Recommends unification of shipping fees within the Territory.
The worker recruitment regulation rescinded; however it is evident that natives' characteristics do not encourage them to work on their own island. During Spanish Administration, people from the Carolines were transferred to the Marianas; some islands are overpopulated.

Arms smuggling into islands is under control.

Exchange rate for L. sterling is at Mk. 20.20 as against Mk. 20.40 in Sydney and Singapore.

Mining regulations are required as the search for minerals is evident. Possibilities are promising.

Duplication: Pages 47 & 48, 54 & 55.

Concerns:

The Administration of the Island District of

the Carolines, Palau, and Marianas

Refers to the order of March 4, 1900 No. 60

K 361
14548

Report No. 100

To the Foreign Office

Colonial Division

Berlin

I

To begin this report, I would like to emphasize my point of view, finding it absolutely necessary for the development of the German Southsea Territory itself, exclusive of Samoa, (which is) to establish a unified administrative district with an identical administrative legislation. Such a procedure would form the basis (and) would also make it requisite
to give notice for political reasons to the contract concerning the Marshall Islands as of paragraph 11 of January 21, 1888. It is not conclusive that the Carolines somehow gravitate (?) towards the Marshall Islands. If this would be the case, the Jaluit Co. would have entertained stronger trade connections while the exploitation would have been very easy even under Spanish rule. However, the same has shown very little concern for the Carolines to the detriment of German trade, and has now not even been in a position to deliver and hold coal in readiness for the navy when in transit according to the agreement. The Carolines' trade has gravitated (?) to Manila, China (and) Japan. The same happened recently (?) under German rule with the Marshall Islands, whose trade gravitates moreover to Australia, which will be at least useless for the German trade and without any doubt not (?) Captain Sch---- (H.M.S. SEEADLER) who ---- (?)) conditions in the Marshall Islands ---- (?) simply untenable, and reported to that effect in reports to the Imperial Navy with a special complaint about the Jaluit Co., and I assume that this report will reach the Foreign Office. If the contract on the Marshall Islands cannot be otherwise liquidated, it would be advisable in the interest of the development of the German Southsea Territory to reach in any case the termination of the contract with an ---- (?) even though it would have been to the company's greatest benefit. To my understanding of local conditions I can only support ---- (?) a large unified administrative district. I cannot take responsibility for
another measure which would delay perhaps for decades the development of the German Southsea Territory. For these reasons I wish also to request that regulations made by me along these principles be considered for review by the Foreign Office, should this be necessary, as I cannot submit further proposals.

I wish obediently to add at this point that on the occasion of the transfer of the island district the negotiations and orders have led me to believe that in a short time a unified administrative district would be organized. In any case it might be necessary to arrive (?) soon at a clarification in this direction as all partial measures concerned with the future must be -------(?) and without secure prospects to the -------(?) development.

The requisite definition on the creation of crownland ------(?) of the land, forest ------(?), etc. have been submitted by me in their outline to the Most Esteemed (?) and been applied in such a regulation. I may obediently draw attention to the Imperial Chancellor's ordinance of January 20, 1900 which agrees in itself with the ordinance of September 26, exclusive of one article that the administration ----(?) own or acquire land; as also here contracts with natives on land and land rights have been prohibited in perpetuity. It would have been necessary for me to give secret instruction to the District Administrations whereby for the time being, absolutely no land be sold. But I consider such a regulation a misfortune for the district in agreement with the District Administrators
of the Island District. In practice it could have a very suitable effect and that henceforth the administration itself would also be cut off from any land acquisition. I may add obediently that the $12 of the telegraphic order of August 28th of last year, prohibits sale of land by natives to foreigners.

The Englishman Bishoff of Ponape is a wealthy independent man and plantation owner who has nothing in common with an English competitor of the German Jaluit Co. The Jaluit Co. seems to consider simply everyone who would be active in the German interest of development and penetration of the Island District a dangerous competitor who must be kept at a distance by all means. It will therefore be difficult to prove that the Jaluit Co. guards the concern of German interests.

I did not see myself at the time in a position to raise the fee concerning foreign ships as (stipulated?) in paragraph 3 of the regulation. This fee in the old Protectorate of New Guinea intended this established amount to encourage trade in the Island District. The exhorbitant (?) fees in the Marshall Islands have without doubt not been fixed in the interest of trade and development of the Marshall Islands, but to damage the trade in the interest of monopoly of the Jaluit Co. The fees are certainly rather low and have already caused complaints of local resident firms. While in the Island District there prevailed however already amongst the smaller trading skippers a great excitement
about the high fees which the Americans levied in Guam and which makes trade impossible with that place.

One should not fail to recognize the importance of trade with Japan for the Island District and should try at first to secure this trade on a natural (casual?) basis, not to deter but to encourage it. It is always a daring enterprise to discourage trade development artificially. I may also assume that, with the position of the Island District and with their good administration, the Japanese, English, and American firms will settle and thus contribute to the development of the District without (our) being able to prevent it. I would therefore present the question if one should for the time being wait with an increase of tax of Paragraph 3 (to obtain) further experience. The increase will best be established in the same time as the new (?) taxation and based on those in the old (?) District of German New Guinea and similarly in the Island District.

Furthermore, based on local experience, the presence of a number of firms trading from (board of) ships in the Island District is scarce since the transfer of sovereignty (?). Once such a trade license granted at high fee, it would (always?) also give a (pretext?) to concealment. With the expansion of the old Protectorate of New Guinea and the Island District it is possible for me to find the guilty and bring them to trial.

Following (your?) order I have once again enforced the worker ordinance in the Island District. I can however not assume (responsibility) for
this measure. The reason for the total worker ordinance in the Protectorate of German New Guinea and the Island District is not at all the transportation of inhabitants of the Island District to German New Guinea as a first consideration. The Vice Governor Dr. Hahl feels however that such a change in small measure is good as most of the inhabitants of the Island District share with the larger part of the Southsea's inhabitants the characteristic not to work in their native islands. I believe that nothing would be gained by recruitment as seen from previously presented experience. The Island District's inhabitants in which malaria seems only to be endemic in few places, cannot endure the local climate. The reason for the ordinance was first of all rather the Island District's recruitment of (?) in the old Protectorate of German New Guinea and to make possible recruitment of workers within the Island District for distant areas. I would add to this that under Spanish rule hundreds of people from the Carolines were imported to the Marianas and that some islands of the Island District are actually overpopulated. How the repeal of the (?) will be replaced by the administration in the Island District (?) is not within my cognizance. (?) establishment of and handling of the ordinance in the Protectorate of (?) New Guinea, to which (?) I hold well-considered reservations.

Caution of punishment (?) of Paragraph 2 of the ordinance concerning prohibition of weapons' distribution may be superfluous as this paragraph
consists of a transitionary regulation and has meanwhile been taken care of through ------(? and administrative controls.

The quote of the English pound is fixed at a very low rate of Mk. 20.30.- It corresponds with the recently-introduced quote. The quote for the navy is Mk. 20.40.- The exchange is said to be moving on the average at the same rate in Singapore and Sydney. The quote of Mk. 20.- would be incomprehensible for the trade interests. The exclusive license for the fishing of pearls and trepang is always drawn up only in such a manner that it would not touch the industry of the natives, whose prevention would moreover also damage trade.

I believe that mining regulations are most essential as I must be in a situation to give orientation to people in search for minerals in the Island District. As there are now no regulations in existence concerning repair of damage (?) in the Island District, nor laws or -----(?) in the mining regulation there will -----(?) for minerals or property acquired -----(?) to come to an understanding with -----(?) owner. I request to be provided with telegraphic instructions in this direction and may express the opinion (that) the geological formation in the Island District is certainly not sufficiently -----(?). From all I have heard and seen in the Island District, I believe it a question of -----(?) that valuable minerals are to be found there.
To close may I obediently remark (that) the Supreme Ordinance of July 13, 1899 (?) and the Chancellor's Ordinance of July 24, 1899 had already -------(?) during my presence in the Island District.

II

To be resubmitted after dispatch.

I.G. R.v.B.

From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: 
Date: January 24, 1900
Subject: Administration and Jurisdiction
Islands: Carolines - Palau - Marianas

Summarization: Decrees of 1) July 18, and 2) July 24, 1899 regulating administration and jurisdiction in the districts. 3) Decree of January 20, 1900 concerning acquisition of islanders' real estate property, published in the Imperial Advertiser on January 23, 1900 to be subsequently announced in district. The new decree of the Imperial Chancellor effects the annulment of the decree of September 26, 1899 concerning the regulation of acquisition of islanders' land; this pending a final decision on the most expedient economic utilization of the newly acquired island district with regard to the Marshalls and its peculiar aspects of management not yet decided; and to be formulated upon receipt of comments by the Governor and District Administrators. It is to be considered that there is little native or ownerless land available for plantations and other economic establishments, which has to be determined before sale of land or land grant and protection of forest land proceeds. Request to inform what real estate has been changing hands from islanders to whites. It is therefore ordered that no sale take place after receipt of this message.

Native islanders not to be transferred to other districts.
The legalization of personal registrations by District Administrators is not binding under the present law, and marriage contracts would not be legal in the German Empire.

Request to use caution and restraint in the exercise of judicial and administrative regulations.
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: 
Date: January 24, 1900
Subject: Administration and Jurisdiction
Islands: Carolines - Palau - Marianas

I submit to Your Honor enclosed copy of the "German Imperial Advertiser" of January 23rd of this year.

1. The Highest decree concerning temporary measure of administration and legal proceedings in the Island District of the Carolines, Palau, and the Marianas of July 18, 1899.

2. The order of the Imperial Chancellor concerning measure of administration and legal proceedings in the Island District of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas of July 24, 1899.

It is not apparent from Governor von Bennigsen's reports, addressed here since then, whether the decrees ordered at the time and mentioned under 1. and 2. have been published in the Island District. Your Honor should therefore publish these in the usual local directive at the same time with the under number 3.-mentioned regulation of the Imperial Chancellor.

The new regulation of the Imperial Chancellor of January 20 of this year has the purpose to suspend paragraph 12 (?) of the regulation of the Imperial Governor of September 26th of last year, concerning the ruling of acquisition of native land. The suspension cannot (?) be avoided, as the final decision on the most suitable form of economic realization of the newly-acquired Island District cannot be arrived at. It should not yet be determined here before reception of the Imperial Governor's as well as the District Supervisors' detailed reports, taking into consideration the neighboring Protectorate of the Marshall Islands and their peculiar management.

In any case it seems urgently necessary to take steps to avoid for the time being sale of such native and, if at all available, ownerless land, considering the hardly overwhelming volume of plantation and other economic establishments. Also, should the occasion arise, it is recommended to determine first regulations on the creation and seizure as well as ways of dispensing of ownerless land, whether through sale or lease, and
furthermore on necessary protection of woodland, etc. In leaving it to Your Honor to submit to me as soon as possible through the offices of the Imperial Governor your well-considered remarks on all these questions under consideration. I also request of you respectfully to submit kindly a review as accurate as possible on that real estate which by reason of the Imperial Governor’s regulation of September 26th of last year might already have passed from the hands of natives into white ownership.

From the above, it hardly necessitates special mention that with the reception of this decree the Imperial Governor’s regulation of September 26th of last year, authorizing you to sell native land, has been rescinded; any sales already initiated are not to be carried out.

Furthermore concerning the regulation on recruitment of labor in the Island District of the Carolines, p.p. (?), Your Honor should avoid its application for the time being insofar as it does not deal with such transport of a modest number of natives of Pingelap to Jaluit as effected for years by the Jaluit Company. The whole Island District seems to be too sparsely populated to permit transportation of native labor to other districts.

The last sentence of paragraph 5 of the regulation of September 26th of last year, which permits application for authentification of personal identification to January 1900 through negotiation with the District Administration which is not compatible with existing laws as explained for
your -----(?) information. Such authentification which might meanwhile have taken place has no binding authority and every marriage contracted in this manner would be invalid in Germany.

Insofar as such acts of legal status are incompatible with the law of May 4th and therefore lack the force of law of January 1st of this year which has to be taken into account through effective repetition in the form of the designated law.

To end, I would like to give expression to the request that you make use only in most urgent case of paragraph 3 of the Imperial Governor's regulation of September 26th of last year, authorizing you to decree regulations concerning police and other administrative directives.

I will inform the Imperial Governor of this decree addressed to Your Honor with the first coming opportunity of mailing to Herbertshoehe.

To Mr. -------

in ----------
Subject: Dutch Consular Representation
Islands: Carolines

Summarization: Request to consider Dutch Consul, located in Manila, to represent his country's interests.

August 14, 1900: Agreement by Governor, Herbertshoehe.

Request (in French) that the Consul of the Netherlands of Manila take charge of Dutch affairs if intervention should be required.
Summarization: Application submitted to permit islanders from Ponape to be exhibited in Germany.

March 16, 1900: from Governor, Herbertshoehe: No objections to request.

August 16, 1900: from Vice Governor: Permission for transportation of Ponape islanders to Germany granted. Assistance by Chief Henry Nanpei assured.

Duplication: pages 74 & 75
Summarization: Submitted by Spanish Commissioner: three maps of locations of three Spanish coal stations.

Duplication: pages 76 & 77.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: January 14, 1901 (Herbertshoehe April 13, 1901)
Subject: Gravitation of trade
Islands: Yap - Carolines - Marshalls

Summarization: Information on trade within the territory: Traders in Yap: Jaluit Co., the American O'Keefe, two Germans Karl Blechert and Gustav Braun, the Tagaleen Pablo Antonio, and the Spaniard Gonzales.

In 1897, Groesser of the Jaluit Co. made a contract with O'Keefe and withdrew totally from the Western District, acquired by O'Keefe.

Jaluit Co. trade gravitated toward Australia, from which continent most merchandise is imported. Statistics demonstrate that between April 1, 1899 and March 31, 1900 copra was exported to Europe, and all other products to Hong Kong and Yokohama.

April 13, 1901: from Herbertshoehe to Berlin, submitting report of January 14, 1901 from Yap.

Duplication: pages 78 & 79.

Page 80: Xerox copy not well adjusted. Right side of lines incomplete.
Summarization: Temporary decree concerning the administration and jurisdiction of the island districts of the Carolines, Palau, and Marianas which, since the transfer to the German authority, are until further notice part of the Protectorate of German New Guinea.

The Imperial Chancellor has empowered the Acting Civil Servant to regulate the jurisdiction to which this decree relates. July 18, 1899 by Wilhelm I.R. and Graf von Posdowsky. (See also Vol. I, Document 2)

Paragraph 1: Decree concerning the acquisition of real estate of natives in the island districts of the Carolines, Palau, and Marianas: rescinding the temporary decree of July 18, 1899 and prohibiting, until further order, acquisition from natives in the Carolines, Palau and Marianas of real estate in any form, be it through purchase, barter, presentation, or other provisions.

Paragraph 2: Contracts contravening the decree of Paragraph 1 are illegal.

Paragraph 3: All decrees opposing this order are herewith rescinded.

January 29, 1900, the Chancellor, Duke of Hohenlohe.

Duplications: pages 82 & 83, 84 & 85, 86 & 88.
Concerning the temporary regulation of administration and legal proceedings in the Island District of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas.

We, Wilhelm, German Emperor and King of Prussia by the Grace of God, decree by virtue of the law concerning the legal proceedings of the German Protectorates (Imperial Law Publication 1888, S75) in the name of the Empire, that which follows:

1. The Island District of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas form part of the Protectorate of German New Guinea until further notice from the moment of transfer to Our Authority.

It is the Imperial Chancellor's concern to formulate the execution of the requisites of these directives.

2. Until the establishment of the Law of Consular Jurisdiction of July, 1897 (Imperial Law Publication S197) it is the Imperial Chancellor,
Decree

Concerning acquisition of real estate property of natives in the Island District of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas.

By virtue of theHighest Decree of July 18, 1899, concerning the temporary regulation of Administration and Legal Proceedings in the Island District of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas, the following is ordered:

1. It is prohibited for the time being to acquire real-estate property in any manner, be it by acquisition, barter, gift, or other legal transaction.

2. Concluded contracts, contrary to definition of #1, are illegal.

All contrary definitions of this decree are hereby rescinded.

Berlin, January 20, 1900

The Imperial Chancellor
Duke of Hohenlohe
or the officer authorized by him, who is to regulate the legal proceedings to which this law relates.

Documented by Our Very Own Signature and Imprinted Imperial Seal

Given Molde, July 18, 1899

On board of my yacht HÖHENZOLLERN

Wilhelm I.R.

L.S.

(Instead of seal) Count of Posadowsky
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: The Management, Jaluit Co., Hamburg
Date: August 8, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, October 8, 1901)

Subject: Traders
Islands: Truk Islands: Tefan - Namo(s) (or d'Urville) - Moen

Summarization: Report from Commander of S.M.S. CORMORAN: that traders are still present in the Truk Islands, either independent or working for accounts of other traders:

- the younger Hitchfield on Tefan,
- the Frenchman Nedele Peter (Pierre) on Namo,
- the brothers William and Fred Hartman, halfbloods and sons of a German,
- the German Ahlers,
- the German Karl Gierow on the Westside of Moen,
- the Russian Peter Andersen, also on Moen.

Requesting the management's comments concerning the business interests of these and what settlement might be appropriate.

November 14, 1901: from Herbertshoehe to the Colonial Division:

With the exception of Arthur Hitchfield, who arrived two years ago from Kusaie, the traders are old residents of the Truk Islands. Arthur Hitchfield is the brother of John Gordon Hitchfield, who relinquished his land claim to him. After their abjuration, he obtained the first trader position by the Jaluit Co. in the Truk Lagoon, buying copra at low price and
selling with profit, causing great displeasure to the people. The Director Groesser considered certain changes, not yet known.

Of the other traders only Karl Gierow and Nedele Pierre can be seriously considered. All have large families from wives of the Truk group, whose life security through land acquisition was of urgent concern to them. I would recommend confirmation of acquisition, rights of natives in the form of hereditary grants.

All the people would, without doubt, be satisfied if the trading districts exploited by each trader were granted modest land ownership rights.

The old Hartman was slain several years ago by natives. The five sons started a feud and had to flee to the Holl Islands, but returned under the German Protectorate. Two of these sons, Sam and William, are above average in intelligence. These five people have no secure property. At the time they were acknowledged as natives and promised land rights on Fefan. Lack of communication with Truk has not yet made it possible to proceed with useful administrative evidence.

Kataline Narruhn, widow of Karl Friedrich Narruhn (deceased on Ponape in 1897) settled lately with her family on Moen.

Duplication: pages 87, 89 and 90.
From: German Consulate, Port Said
To: Imperial Governor of German New Guinea, Herbertshoehe
Date: April 20, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, September 7, 1901)

Subject: Telegram

Summarization: Copy of telegram sent by mail via Port Said in code.
Subject: Japanese Trader

Summary: Japanese schooner with merchandise in Ponape harbor, formerly of the Southern Hiki Trading Co. and now owned by Minekichi Marutani in Tokyo.

Refusal to give trading license for sale of merchandise except for two days' sale of perishable goods under supervision of administration.

The ship will remain in harbor to await arrival of administrator to obtain permission to trade in the district, or sale of schooner to Jaluit Co. Outstanding debts by natives to the Japanese are collected without help of the administration as there existed an interdict against granting credit to natives.

September 9, 1901 from the Governor to Ponape: in agreement with administrative measures.

and to: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin, transmitting memo from Ponape and agreeing with the exclusion of Japanese traders, fearing introduction of weapons into Island district.
Summarization: Truk and Palau considered the most valuable assets within the German Island Possessions: good harbor facilities, coco and iron nut cultivation, and healthy unspoiled population.

Urgent need to disarm natives to sustain successful establishment in district: request for presence of two cruisers and government launch.

Recommends establishment of secondary administrative station to supervise shipping, suppress hostility, and maintain work in plantations. If inter-island communication made available, no assistant needed. Enforcement of disarmament requested.
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Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 9-1 Document: 26 Page: 106 - 117
From: Ponape
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: March 12, 1901
Subject: Report
Islands: Truk Group: Vela - Poluais (or Toluais) - Ouman - Fefan - Param - Nela (or Mela) - Udot - Eot - Romalum - Tol Group - Falabequeto

Summary:

Itinerary:
February 14: Meil on Vela.
February 15: Conferred about liquidation of South Sea Miki Trading Co., Trai.
February 16: American Board Mission, Poluais.
February 18: Ouman - Fefan & Param.
February 20: Settlement of land dispute on Nela.
February 24: Church of missionary Snelling on Nela.

1) Meeting with all Chiefs of islands. Cooperation stressed between administration and Chiefs, particularly production of plantations. Chiefs assured of administration support in quelling warfare between the various island clans.
2) Document of agreement signed by Chiefs: registration of clans, missions, and traders drawn up.
4) Settlement of land disputes: Many natives ask for land registration. Difficulties to establish land ownership of many cases and to avoid
dividing up clan-owned land. No certificates issued for time being; asked Chiefs to settle cases. There is no ownerless land and even Riff islands have been claimed by the tribes. Possibility that Riff islands to the North of the Atolls, are uninhabited, and with the exception of Pis could be claimed as government land, to hold for possible immigration. The Islands of the Royalist Group, south of Truk Atolls, are claimed by the native missionary Moses of Ouman.

Land claims of the few colored foreigners, mainly natives of Ponape who teach at the missions, have been registered and property certificates issued, as customary in Ponape.

Law enforcement has been carried out.

5) All Japanese have left for Ponape. Import of munition and weapons as well as dynamite has ceased.

6) White traders on Truk: 2 Germans - Gierow and Ahlers
   2 Englishmen - Arthur M. Hitchfield and Knight
   1 Frenchman - Nedele Pierre
   1 Russian-Finn - Johann Andersen
   1 American - Peter Andersen

These traders have no bad influence on islanders and have to rely upon Jaluit Co. or Melander for imported merchandise.

Summary: Truk most important asset for copra production in Carolines, as natives of Truk are more industrious than those of the other islands.
Disarmament should not present difficulties. Stresses need for establishment of government station with an administrator and police force. Islanders could be employed on Truk, however it is doubtful whether they would want to leave for Saipan.
From: Ponaep
To: 
Date: September 1, 1901
Subject: Transfer of Administration
Island: Ponaep

Summarization: Transfer of office of Imperial District Administrator Wahlkampf to the Administrator Berg, and transfer of:

1. Archives
2. Logbook - Library - Maps and Register
3. Cash balance on hand
4. Outstanding funds
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: May 2, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, June 30, 1901)
Subject: Border
Islands: East and West Carolines

Summarization: Establishment of delineation of border between district administrations of Ponape and Yap at 148 degrees Greenwich.
Concerning report J No. 118

Responding to your request, delineation of borders of commercial trade spheres have been established at District Administrations Ponape (East Carolines) and Yap (West Carolines) of the 148th degree East Greenwich longitude.

The three District Administrations of the Island District will be informed from here.

Foreign Office, Colonial Division
Kuchel (?)

to files H.2/1/1

To the Governor in Herbertshoehe
Decoded telegram (?) in response to information from Yap administrator that an American warship was to claim possession of an island sighted by the barge CAMBONUDON. The United States has acquired the island group west of the 128th East of ...(?) Greenwich through the Paris Treaty of December 10, 1899, and is therefore hardly interested in islands too distant and insignificant. The island is probably not part of the atolls South of Palau, which have been seized recently, but is situated with the specification of the agreement concerning the Carolines and Palau in the German-Spanish Treaty of December 17, 1885: Equator 11 degree Northern latitude 133 and 16.49 (?) East longitude Greenwich. The island has therefore to be transferred according to the treaty of June 30, 1899 between the German Empire and Spain. Under these circumstances the administrator of Yap is charged to hoist the flag with the Commander of the CORMORAN. In case of signs of American sovereign rights to the island, the administrator is requested to desist and report back.

March 2, 1902 from Herbertshoehe to the Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin: reporting that the sighted islands are Helen Riff, Tobi, and others already claimed by the German Empire.

Duplication: pages 131 & 132.
From: Ponape
To: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
Date: July 7, 1902 (Herbertshoehe, September 14, 1902)
Subject: Currency conversion
Island: Ponape

Summarization: Submits two requests by Jaluit Co. concerning the circulation of Philippine and Mexican silver monies.

Appeal to the Chiefs has been sent out with the information that the Philippine currency will be withdrawn from circulation within a few months. Submits a proposal for approval, if appeal yields no results.

135 June 19, 1902 from Ponape Station of Jaluit Co. to the Imperial Vice Governor, Ponape: requesting that no currency but German Mark be permitted to enter the island. Information has been given that the American government in Manila considers excluding Philippine and Mexican currency from the exchange.

137 June 27, 1902: Jaluit Co. submits letter of June 23 from D. Etscheit to the effect that he would have to agree to exchange rate of Mk.1.80 to the Philippine dollar. As the injured party he would request the government to prohibit import of all foreign currencies except the German Mark. Davenport and Co. is known to import foreign currency, bought cheaply in Guam and Saipan to sell later at full market value in Ponape.
Decree prohibiting import and circulation of Philippine silver monies to the East Carolines.

1) Prohibition of import of Philippine silver coin.

2) Philippine silver coin may not be received or disbursed as of April 1, 1903.

3) Contravention punishable by fine of Mk. 300, or up to 3 months in prison.

Collection of received payment of seized monies will be recognized.

Xerox partly faulty.
Summarization: Memo sent to Ponape concerning trader Gierow: information from the Imperial Navy that he deserted ship in October 1873 in San Francisco and is a fugitive. He cannot be readmitted to German or Prussian nationality.
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From: Imperial Administration, Ponape  
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe  
Date: February 16, 1904 (Herbertshoeh, March 6, 1904)  
Subject: Assistance to missionary  
Islands: Truk - Tatu

Summarization: Assistance payment to missionary Snelling not recommended as it might antagonize American Board Mission in Truk, which has recently added a German-speaking member to its staff. If American Board Mission will be granted assistance, the contribution to Snelling would be of the same amount.

Meanwhile, it is tacitly agreed that Snelling will remain in Tatu, where he is well considered by some of the natives.