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OF THE
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1. CRS G1
ITEM 219-1
Claim - Portusach and Harrison on Pagan,
Agrigan and Alamagan
1903

2. CRS G1
ITEM - Illegible
Laws and Ordinances, Carolines
1899 - 1907

Property of
Division of Lands and Surveys
Department of Resources and Development
Trust Territory Government
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
ITEM 219—/

ANSPRUCH PORTUSACH & HARRISON AUF PAGAN, AGRIGAN UND ALAMAGAN

1903

(CLAIM - PORTUSACH & HARRISON ON PAGAN, AGRIGAN AND ALALAGAN)

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Vol.: XIV

Item: 219-1


Doc.: 2 Page 46 - 61 " "

Vol.: XIV

Item: Illegible

Doc.: 4 see page 55 Regulations: ownerless land Island District

Doc.: 7 see page 64 " " " "
CLAIM - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan,

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1903

Temporary regulations of Administration and legislation, Carolines - Palaus - Marianas, of September 26, 1899.

Decree of July 10, 1899.

Communication of the Governor, October 11, 1899.

Instruction to regulation of September 26, 1899 and October 1, 1899.

Ports open to foreign traffic: Carolines, Palaus, Marianas, as of October 14, 1899.

Trade with Foreign Ship in Carolines, Marianas, and Palaus of October 14, 1899.

Currency conditions and payments: Carolines, Palau and Marianas, October 16, 1899.

Weapons, munitions, alcoholic beverages to natives in Carolines Palaus and Marianas of October 17, 1899.

Cancellation of Spanish regulations: Carolines, Palau, Marianas, November 12, 1899.

Port regulations for Ponape, Kitl, Lot, and Metelonim of November 11, 1899.

Credit to natives and contracts of greater value on April 10, 1900.

Prohibition of trepang fishing in Ponape on April 10, 1900.

Registration of foreigners residing in the East Carolines: April 18, 1900.
Index of Files: "Laws & Regulations, Carolines"

Inclusive of 1900.

1. Laws and regulations concerning Carolines and Marianas, and relevant amendments.

12.VI.131 24.221 Temporary regulations of Administration and legislation, Carolines - Palau - Marianas, of September 26, 1899.

13 - 16 Decree of July 18, 1899.

17 - 18 Communication of the Governor, October 21, 1899.

25 - 30 Instruction to regulation of September 26, 1899 and October 1, 1899.

31 VI.134.225 Ports open to foreign traffic: Carolines, Palau, Marianas, as of October 14, 1899.

32 - 33.VI 135.163 226.251 Trade with Foreign Ship in Carolines, Marianas, and Palau of October 14, 1899.

34 Currency conditions and payments: Carolines, Palau and Marianas, October 16, 1899.

35.V.2.7. Weapons, munitions, alcoholic beverages to natives in Carolines Palau and Marianas of October 17, 1899.

36 - 37 IV 119.125 Cancellation of Spanish regulations: Carolines, Palau, Marianas, November 11, 1899.

39.40 V 4.8 Port regulations for Ponape, Kiti, Lot, and Metalonim of November 11, 1899.

69.70 V 50.58 Credit to natives and contracts of greater value on April 10, 1900.

72.V.51.58 Prohibition of trepang fishing in Ponape on April 10, 1900.

74.75.V 55.61 Registration of foreigners residing in the East Carolines: April 18, 1900.
Vol.: XIV
Ref.: CRS GL Item: Illegible Document: 1 Page: 2-4

CONT. -2

Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin

To Governor, Herbertshohe

77 Decree of April 30, 1900 #22.

80.80* Decree of June 25, 1900, #154.

82 Decree of June 24, 1900, #149.

83 - 99 District Ponape of May 8, 1900 F #179.

100 - 101 District Ponape of September 4, 1900 F #434 and (?).

121 - 122 District Ponape of November 20, 1900 F #602.

123 Taxable ships in East Carolines: November 20, 1900.

124 - 125 Decree of December 24, 1900 #360.

126.127 VI Prohibition of Palmwine: December 30, 1900.

181.268

The English Ambassador submitted a memorandum of August 21, 1900 with claim of the British national J. Turner Harrison for the islands Pagan, Agrigan, and Alamagan. Evidence of the Governor of the Spanish Government does not bear out complaints by Harrison and Fergusson. Their claims have to be made through regular judicial means.

On January 21, 1902 the English Ambassador was sent information to which he has responded by a note of February, 1903. Copy is attached.

The English Ambassador of May 21, 1903 confines itself to information on judicial provisions open to the complaints of Harrison.

The Administrator of Saipan is excluded from judicial proceedings. District Administrator Senfít has been acquainted with this material while on vacation.

Fergusson has accepted the decision.
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: Governor, Herbertshohe
Date: May 15, 1903 (Herbertshohe, July 3, 1903)
Subject: Claim--Portusach & Harrison

Islands: Pagan - Agrican - Alamagan

Summarization: Submits copy of release of May 15, 1903 to the District Administrator, Saipan: The English Ambassador submitted a memorandum of August 21, 1900 with claim of the British national J. Turner Harrison for the islands Pagan, Agrican, and Alamagan. Evidence of the Governor and the Spanish Government does not bear out complaints by Harrison and Portusach. Their claims have to be made through regular judicial means.

On January 25, 1902 the English Ambassador was sent information to which he has responded by a note of February, 1903. Copy is attached.

Answer to the English Ambassador of May 21, 1903 confines itself to information on judicial provisions open to the complaints of Harrison.

As the Administrator of Saipan is excluded from judicial proceedings, District Administrator Senfft has been acquainted with this material while on vacation.

Portusach has accepted the decision.
Notes concerning the complaint of Jose Portusach in Guam and his brother-in-law F. T. Harrison in Yokohama against the German Administration in Saipan, who leased several islands belonging to the Mariana group:

The islands Pagan, Agrigan, and Alamagan in the Marianas were leased under certain conditions by the Governor General in Manila on April 2, 1898 to Jose Portusach from Guam according to attached copy of a letter by the Spanish General Directory of the Civil Administration of the Philippines of April 13, 1898. Portusach did not fulfill the stipulated conditions. On May 14, 1899 Acting Governor Blanco suspended the lease as per attached provision of June 22, 1899, and concluded a new lease-contract with three natives of Saipan.

The German Government assumed transfer of the Marianas from Spain in the fall of 1899. The Imperial District Administrator recognized the lease concluded between Governor Blanco and the three natives of Saipan and requested Portusach on November 27, 1899 to desist from exploitation of the islands, to repatriate the laborers, and to surrender all fruit harvested since June, 1899. The new lessees took possession of the three islands. Portusach and Harrison disputed the procedure and declared that the islands had been planted and exploited since 1883 by reason of a concession registered in Agana (Guam) by the Spanish Government.

Enquiries have resulted in discrepancies concerning the claim by Portusach and Harrison. The island Alamagan is mentioned the first time by the
Governor General on April 2, 1898 and exploited by Portusach and Harrison only from that date. Attached letter by Portusach of December 22, 1899 mentions only the islands Pagan and Agrigan.

If Pagan was exploited by Portusach since 1883, and Agrigan since 1886 by Portusach and his sister, wife of Harrison, this was done without grant of concession by the Spanish Government, as declared by Portusach.

In the year 1892 the islands Pagan and Agrigan were publicly offered for lease by the Spanish Government, which is proof that Portusach's claim was not legal. Furthermore, Portusach applied for a four-year lease on June 26, 1892 for these two islands. As he received no answer to his application he applied again to the Government in Madrid on April 17, 1895. His request was related to the Governor General of the Philippines, but was left pending, most probably due to the American-Spanish war.

The Spanish Government confirmed that Portusach was not granted a concession. He continued to exploit Pagan and Agrigan without compensating the administration. On April 2, 1898 only, the Governor General of the Philippines granted a four-year lease to Portusach for the exploitation of Pagan, Agrigan, and Alamagan under stipulated conditions. Even if he had no other claim than that of lessee, on April 18, 1898 he applied for permission to formally take possession of the islands. April 29, 1898 his request was rejected, as the lease dispositions were not fulfilled. Copy is attached. In June, 1899 the lease for the three islands was cancelled. Portusach's claims were therefore invalid and void.

Signed: Fritz
Portusach's declaration that Pagan and Agrigan were transferred to him for usufruct and entered into the Guam land register is not correct; neither can he justify his claims to the German Government. The registration which he knew to obtain was denied and contested by the Spanish Administration, as per attached copy of complaint. The German administrator declared the registration nul and void on February 12, 1900, which formally concluded the case.

The case Harrison cannot be solved as his name cannot be traced with the Spanish Administration, nor by entry into the register of Guam. As a result of the examination of the complaint by Portusach and Harrison, their claim could not be considered by the Imperial District Administrator in Saipan. They may make claim against the Land Treasury of the Island Districts of the Carolines, Palau, and Marianas, and carry their complaints through the Imperial Courts in Saipan. The Land Treasury would thus also have an opportunity to claim back payment for exploitation of the islands.

SPANISH DOCUMENTS of the year 1898 relating to the case Portusach.

Conclusion: Entries #80 to #92 into the land registers of Saipan - Rota - Pagan - Agrigan - Alamagan - Anatagan are declared invalid. They were registered by the acting district Judge Vicente Herrero Roberto in Agana (Guam) at a time when this island was already in American possession. The Spanish civil servants were not authorized to execute transactions on June 20, 1898. Saipan: February 12, 1900. The Imperial Court - Saipan.

Signed: Fritz
Subject: Intervention by the British Government on behalf of J. Turner Harrison (Document in ENGLISH)

Islands: Agrigan - Pagan - Alamagan

Summarization: Claim by Harrison against the Imperial German Government, seeking compensation for deprivation of his rights and property in the islands of Agrigan, Pagan, and Alamagan. In partnership with Portusach, he held concessions to the three islands since 1891. Conditions of concession were rendered difficult because of the American-Spanish War, when application to change the flag of the ESMARALDA, owned by Harrison, could not be fulfilled. Portusach has filed a joint claim for $250,000 through the American Governor in Guam.

From Von Richthofen, Berlin to Sir Frank Cavendish Lascelles, April 21, 1903: Judicial and legal proceedings in Saipan will assure Mr. Harrison a fair hearing.

IN ENGLISH: From Frank C. Lascelles, Berlin to Von Richthofen, February 23, 1903: Submits copy of statement by Mr. Harrison, in which Mr. Harrison questions the possibility of obtaining a fair hearing at Saipan Court of Justice.

From the Governor, Herbertshoehe, to the Imperial District Court, Saipan, July 6, 1903: Requests immediate communication if the case Portusach - Harrison is presented to the court, in order to designate a chairman for the proceedings. If a representative has already been chosen while Administrator Fritz is on vacation, approval will not be necessary.
LAWS & ORDINANCES, CAROLINES
1899 - 1907

...
Vol.: XIV
Ref.: CRS Gl Item: Illegible Document: 2 Page: 5-7
Subject: Regulations
Date: September 12, 1908
Island: Ponape

Summarization:

Employment contracts with natives have to be in writing and translated to the natives.

Duration of contract must not exceed three years. Workers have to be informed about the work in detail. Contract may be extended. The declarations have to be deposited with the authorities.

The hired workers have to be presented to the administration together with two copies of the contract. Workers hired for work outside the East Carolines will also have to be presented to the administration where they are to work.

If contract is approved, the workers will have to undergo medical examination. The employer is responsible for treatment in case of illness.

At expiration of contract, the workers will have to follow regulations #6.

The employer will have to pay Mk. 5.- to have each worker entered into the register. Other entrances will be charged Mk. 3.-.

Employment for exhibition is prohibited.
Contravention to these regulations is punishable with a fine of up to Mk. 500.0.

These regulations are valid as of the day of publication.
Transfer of consular authority: May 23, 1890.

Legislation in the Protectorate: June 5, 1886; July 13, 1888.

Jurisdiction: November 1, 1885; August 3, 1888.

Property acquisition and taxation: July 20, 1887.

Decree by the Chancellor.

Property acquisition (Marshall Islands: June 22, 1889).

Decree.

Permit for exercise of crafts.

Currency accounting in Marks: January 10, 1887.

Exercise of Imperial regulations of June 5, 1886 concerning Legislation of November 11, 1886.

Prohibition of Weapons, dynamite, opium, liquor as well as abduction of natives: January 13 and 27, 1887.

Upkeep of discipline between colored workers: October 22, 1888.

Health controls of workers: November 19, 1891.

Police registration: March 15, 1887.

Police registration, indigent foreigners: June 5, 1889.

Police registration, advisement of non-German ships.

Port regulations, Jaluit: January 26, 1887.

Port of advisement (?): June 28, 1888.

Acquisition of real estate: January 8, 1887.

Contracts with natives of immobilia: June 28, 1888.

Credit to natives: January 25, 1887 and August 14, 1887.

Contracts with natives on objects of value: October 16, 1889.

Penal regulations for natives: March 10, 1890.
From: Imperial Governor, Herbertshoehe
To: 
Date: September 19, 1899
Subject: Regulations concerning temporary establishment of the administration and jurisdiction in the Carolines, Palau and Marianas.

(There are three preliminary and similar drafts, i.e.: #1: page 10; #2: page 15; #3: page 25. Summarization which follows is of pages 47-57, and is identical with #3, page 25.)

Summarization:

#1

The island district is separated into three districts:

1. East Carolines
2. West Carolines and Palau Islands
3. The Marianas.

The administrations have their seats in Ponape, Yap, and Saipan.

#2

The first district is under the Vice Governor. The second and third are under the District Administrators. The District Administrators are independent of one another, and take their orders from the Governor, who is responsible for the administration of the island districts.

#3

The Governor and his representative, the Vice Governor, are authorized to release police and other administrative regulations. The administrators have to inform the Governor, who may cancel or change these regulations.
The administrators have to inform the German consulates on questions related to seafaring personnel.

The administrators may perform marriages and document births, marriages, and deaths. The law recognizes as natives: 1. Those belonging to the Protectorate's home tribes, and 2. those belonging to other colored tribes.

The three districts are considered court districts. The administrators assume the function of judges of first instance. The superior court has its seat in Herbertshoehe.

For the purpose of execution of jurisdiction, the administrators may represent each other or call upon their administrative representative. Representation of the Governor of German New Guinea as Superior Judge is regulated by law.

Jurisdiction concerning the penal, civil and bankruptcy regulations follow the German law. Nomination of assessors and lawyers is assumed by the District Administrator.

The judge is not obliged to follow the German law in native affairs.
The Civil Law of August 18, 1896 is to be applied in civil cases. Commercial cases follow the German commercial legislation.

Criminal jurisdiction is to follow the German penal code. In case of application of the penal law for the natives, customary laws are to be observed.

The exercise of crafts in the protectorate of the New Guinea Company is under the jurisdiction of the administrator.

Acquisition of ownerless land, or conclusion of contracts with natives, are exclusively the rights of the government. Administrators are authorized to sell land up to 500 ha. to private persons or companies. Larger sales are to be submitted to the Governor for approval.

Claims to land originating before the validation of the regulations are to be reported by October 1, 1900 to the court, with documentation; otherwise rights to land will be lost.

The court of first instance will keep a land register in which all land titles are entered without consideration of its right to title. Lost titles, mentioned in #13, are excluded.
The present regulations will be valid the day of publication.

From: The Chancellor, Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin

to: Imperial Judge, Dr. Hahl, Genua

Date: July 18, 1899

Subject: Guidelines on transfer of the island districts

Islands: Carolines - Palau - Marianas

Summarization: Dispatch of draft of documents to be transmitted to the Governor for publication. Information on the signing of the documents will be given by telegram.

From the Foreign Office, Berlin to the Governor, Herbertshohe: July 18, 1899:

Concerning regulations of administration and jurisdiction:

1. As the representative of the Government, consular jurisdiction has to be regulated until January 1, 1901 by the Governor or the Vice Governor. Copies of procedures are to be submitted immediately as well as preparation of later regulations for introduction on January 1, 1900. Of greatest importance are regulations concerning real estate. Approval of transactions by the administration has to be considered.

It might be advisable not to follow the Prussian civil code, which will be changed as of January 1, 1901 and included into the Civil Law.

2. It is recommended to follow the jurisdiction of the Protectorate of the New Guinea Company concerning administration and the law. The Vice Governor and the District Administrators will assume responsibility of jurisdiction of first instance, and the Governor, jurisdiction of second instance. They are also authorized to document: marriages and other personal documents.
It is ordered that civil servants represent each other in the exercise of their function. As the island district is for the time being part of German New Guinea, it does not follow that all regulations concern also the newly joined territory. It would therefore require special mandate.

In the future, all new regulations, which do not include the Island District, will have to be especially exempted.

Information is requested when the regulations have been published in the different districts, and when the transfer from Spanish administration has taken place.
Subject: Remarks to final draft of regulations

Islands: Carolines - Palau - Marianas

**Summarization:** The basic regulations are worked out with the eventual unifications of the Protectorate and German New Guinea.

The regulation concerning labor and recruiting will be incorporated upon return from the Protectorate to German New Guinea.

Concerning shipping regulations of October 12: All ships having their home ports in the Marshalls, German New Guinea, and the Island Districts, have equal rights in order to facilitate trade in the German Protectorate. Tax and custom duty are not yet introduced into the island district, as the Spanish Government had not levied taxes. Suggestions will be forthcoming upon return.

Duplicate: Pages 42 & 43
REGULATIONS

1. Temporary regulations on administration and jurisdiction: September 26, 1899.
2. Instructions to these: October 1, 1899.
3. Foreign traffic in open ports: October 12, 1899.
4. Trade of foreign shipping: October 14, 1899.
5. Labor and recruitment in the Protectorate of German New Guinea, and connection to the Island Districts of the Carolines, Palau, and Marianas.
7. Prohibition of distribution of weapons and alcoholic beverages to natives: October 17, 1899.

See Vol. XIV, Doc. 4, pp. 10-33.

Instructions relating to regulations of September 26, 1899:
To #1 and 2: The districting of the islands into three units does not rule out cooperation between these districts. It is desirable that all districts keep informed and support each other. A detailed report is to be submitted to Herbertshohe in May by all districts, and a budget submitted for the following year.

The authority given to all districts should impress upon the natives that the German administration endeavors to administrate in their well being. Punitive actions are only to be taken when peaceful means are of no avail with tribes and in villages. Necessary expeditions have to take place...
early so there is no doubt why they are undertaken. Instructions are to 
be given to police and soldiers that women and children are to be spared.

To #5: Chinese and Malayans are of colored origin, but not the Japanese.
Mixed bloods of Christian faith are not to be considered native or colored.
Administration of jurisdiction should inspire natives with confidence to 
bring their disputes to the administration. Chiefs should be made part of 
the administration and receive gifts to emphasize their honor. Their 
influence, and also the prevalent traditions and inheritance rights related 
to their power should be studied. The choice should fall to natives who 
can strengthen the government's power.

Jurisdiction is applied by the Civil Law.

Licenses for mother-of-pearl fishing is granted to smaller districts with 
reservation of yearly notice. Tax is based on yearly lease, with reservation 
of yearly notice. Tax is based on yearly lease, and a yearly report is to 
be submitted. Mother-of-pearl fishing is to be encouraged in the protectorate.

The taxing of trepang fishing is divided into three classes.

Requisition of ownerless land and land acquisition has to be restricted to 
leave enough land for the natives. If land is sold to Europeans, the land 
area has to be limited or the buyer or company will have to dispose of 
sufficient capital to work the land. In order to discourage land speculation 
all areas above 100 ha. are sold with a limited time factor with stipulation 
that the government reacquire uncultivated land for the original price.
Chinese may lease land for 10 years only. Furthermore, it is preferred to sell land rather than lease land. The development of the protectorate has to be kept in mind concerning all land transactions, and the price of land has to be kept low in order to encourage trade. Settlers have to be advised by the administrators' expertise with the choice of land, and encouraged to cultivate as soon as possible. The price should be flexible, between Mk. 2.- and 20.- per ha. Favorably situated land along the coast should be Mk. 50.-.

It is important to register rightful title and enter it into the land register, as well to process land disputes in court. Notification of land titles may be extended to October 1, 1900.

The Administration may establish regulations which are not taken care of by those of September 26, 1899, or other regulations established at the time of transfer.

Freedom of movement should not be unnecessarily limited.

The District Administrations are authorized to enter documentation of birth, marriage, and death retrospectively to May 4, 1870, when this law was established.

The District Administrators are responsible for their budgets in the coming year which will be kept separately for the districts East Carolines, West Carolines with Palau, and the Marianas. Budgets are:

- East Carolines: Mk. 42.850
- West Carolines: Mk. 24.175
- Marianas: Mk. 24.725
Foreign traffic between the ports of the islands districts of the Carolines and the Marianas:

1. Ponape, Yap, and Saipan are the sole foreign ports of the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas.

2. Captains of foreign ships have to use the harbors, as mentioned in #1. They will have to report to the administration within two days of arrival, and also must report their departure.

3. Report of arrival has to be detailed, giving full information as requested.

4. Departure has to be reported in detail as requested.

5. Reports have to be signed by the Captain.

6. Duties will have to be paid for the report, as stipulated July 1, 1872.

7. Ships belonging to companies of the Marshalls or German New Guinea are admitted free of charge.

8. Contraventions are punishable with fines up to Mk. 300.0 or prison.

Ponape, the 12th ? 1899

Imperial Governor v. Bennigson
Trade with foreign ships in the island districts of the Carolines, Marianas, and Palau:

1. Ships which are part of the service of the districts of the protectorate wishing to trade in the island districts will have to obtain approval as of the regulation of October 12, 1899.

2. Approval will be given for one year by the administration.

3. A fee will have to be paid according to the ship's tonnage. If permission is granted for more than one year, the fee will be increased commensurately.

4. Any disputes with natives arising on board ship must be reported to the district administration.

5. Weapons and dynamite are not permitted on board ship, except those for the defense of the ship or those needed for fishing.

6. Contravention is punishable by up to 3 months' prison sentence, or a fine, which may be coupled with the limiting of free movement. In case of repetition, the ship might be requisitioned.

7. Permission may be cancelled in case of contravention.

Ponape, October 14, 1899

Imperial Governor
Currency regulations and means of payment in the island districts of the Carolines, Palau, and the Marianas:

1

The German Mark is the currency for the Carolines, Palau, and the Marianas.

2

Lawful means of payment: coins of various values, treasury notes, and bank notes.

3

Cancelled.

4

Public pay offices are obliged to carry English pounds in gold at Mk. 20.30 pf.

5

The regulation is enacted with the day of publication.

Ponape, October 16, 1899

The Imperial Governor v. Bennigson

Mexican and Spanish dollars (peso = 2 Mk.)

| 50 centimos | 1 Mk. |
| 20 centimos | 0.40 Mk. |
| 10 centimos  | 0.20 Mk. |
| 1 Engl. Shilling | 1 Mk. |
Prohibition of weapons and alcoholic beverages to natives in the Carolines, Palau, and the Marianas:

1
Distribution to natives of guns, munitions, and dynamite, and alcoholic beverages is prohibited without special permission in the Carolines, Palau, and the Marianas, or in other island districts.

2
Weapons and alcoholic beverages not usable by Europeans must be surrendered within four weeks.

3
Contravention is punishable by a three months' prison sentence, or by a fine of up to Mk. 1,000.0. Weapons found in amounts not needed by the accused may be requisitioned by the courts.

4
The regulations will be enforced as of the date of publication.

Ponape, October 17, 1899
Imperial Governor v. Bennigson

Sequence of pages: 59, 58, 60.

Duplication: Pages 61 & 62.
Subject: Spanish administration

The Spanish Administration applied regulations which had been released for the Philippines. The different governors issued instructions for their own districts.

Governor's regulation of November 4, 1899 concerning suspension of Spanish dispositions in the Carolines, Palau and the Marianas:

1. Regulations and instructions issued by the Royal Spanish Government and Spanish Governor are hereby cancelled.

The regulation is enacted as of the date of publication.

Duplication: pages 81 & 82.
Summarization: Harbor regulations for the port of Ponapte (Langor), Kiti, Lod, and Metalanim:

1. All foreign ships not stationed in the protectorate are to admit a pilot on board ship at the entrance of these harbors.

2. Pilot fee: Mk. 6.- per meter and Mk. 2.- per foot depth. All fees for other services must be arranged with the pilot.

3. Change of location within the harbor: Mk. 10.- for pilot's services.

4. The Captain of each trading ship arriving or leaving any of these harbors will have to report arrival and departure to the district administration according to the regulation of October 12, 1899.

5. #3, 4, 5, and 6 apply to the regulation of October 12, 1899.

6. The location of the ship for loading, etc. is left to the captain of the ship. Other assignments are left to the pilot or, in the harbor of Ponape,
to the harbor master.

7

All traffic between arriving foreign ships and land is prohibited until ships have been inspected.

8

The Captains will have to permit review of the ship's papers, and, if asked, deposit them with the District Administration until departure.

9

The Captain is obliged to burn the required number of lights on his ship at night.

10

It is prohibited to jettison larger objects over board while in port.

11

Contraventions are punishable with fines up to Mk. 300.0 or three months in prison.

12

This regulation is in force the day of publication.

Ponape, November 23, 1899

The Imperial Vice Governor Hahl
Subject: Currency regulations
Islands: Marianas

Summary: Regulation concerning the withdrawal of Spanish currency is approved in retrospective even though a regulation had already been released.

From Imperial District Administrator Fritz, Saipan to the Imperial Governor von Bennigson, Herbertshoehe, February 10, 1900: Several traders have attempted to circulate monies which were withdrawn currency in Guam.

Regulation concerning circulation of old Spanish silver and copper coins and import of foreign coins.

1. The public pay office will not accept as of this day "moneda Borrosa", withdrawn Spanish silver, and copper coins.
2. Import of all foreign monies, with the exception of gold, is prohibited.
3. Import of foreign coins into the Marianas is punishable by a fine of up to Mk. 300. - Coins may be requisitioned if imported.

Saipan, January 9, 1900