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

VOLUME 2

CRS GI, ITEM 7-1

General Administration, Yap

1900 - 1907

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

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 C. 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 Y38BDI, 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 a 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.
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 G1, ITEM 217-2, Land Matters, Carolines, 1899 - 1905

Volume 14 - 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

Volume 15 - CRS G1, ITEM 219-2, Claim - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903

Volume 16 - CRS G1, ITEM 219-3, Claim - Portusach & Harrison on Pagan, Agrigan and Alamagan, 1903

Volume 17 - CRS G1, 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1, pp.</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Government: Spanish grant for coal depot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, p.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Acquisition by trader Bruggemann.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, pp.</td>
<td>54-62</td>
<td>Government land on Bilelatsch and Konolie.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20, pp.</td>
<td>115-124</td>
<td>Uncharted island sighted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31, p.</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>Tabelau Island (See also Vol. II, Doc. 10, p. 56)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35, p.</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>Plantation ownership.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35, p.</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>Administrative land--private ownership for enterprises only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION YAP

1900 - 1907
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: January 13, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, June 16, 1900)
Subject: Coal depot
Island: Yap

**Summarization:** 1. Request to send sketch of land reserved by Spanish Government for coal depot.

2. From: Governor von Bennigsen
   To: District Administration, Yap
   Date: June 19, 1900
   Sketch sent to Colonial Division, Berlin, November 19, 1899.

To be requested directly from there.

**Duplication:** 2 and 3.
Vol.: II
Ref.: CRS GI Item: 7-1 Document: 2 Page: 4 - 14
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Governor von Bennigsen
Date: August 3, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, December 8, 1900)
Subject: Year's report on administration in Yap
Islands: Yap - Palau - Tarang

Summarization:

1. Lack of communication with other districts.
   Relationship with natives satisfactory.
   Roadbuilding proceeds.
   Government garden: lack of seed.
   Difficulties with Malayan guards' pilfering and violence.
   Yap soldiers dependable.
   Climate: effect on coconut palms and blight.
   O'Keefe's brutality on Tarang.

LAND

2. Trader Bruggemann acquired a piece of land for a plantation on Runnung - Yap.
   Health conditions satisfactory.
   Lack of communication resulting in lack of food.
   O'Keefe's plea for pardon.

Duplication: pages 4 & 5, 6 & 8, 10 & 11, 13 & 14.
Sequence: pages (4) - 5 - 7 - (6) - 8 - 9
Yap, March 21, 1900

Honored Governor,

The first opportunity since August 9 of last century, i.e. for 15 weeks, presents itself to send mail. I hope that my reports will reach H. in good time before the release of the yearly report. The first mail arrived January 14 by sailboat via Ponape, taking three months, not containing ---- matters. I received the most satisfactory news from Hahl and others in Ponape concerning the attitude of natives vis a vis the German administration. I am sorry not to have heard again from Saipan since the arrival of the KUDAT. I would like to know how my colleague Fritz fares over there. Hahl writes briefly and in the subjunctive about Germany's acquisition of Semsar (?). We are impatiently waiting for reliable news.

Prof. Volkens has recovered quickly from the hardship of the long journey and attacks of fever, and deploys a busy activity; he will carry away half of Yap. The typhoon was followed by a severe drought. The heavens opened their locks in the last two days. The long drought has resulted in a delay...
of copra production of 4 - 5 months. Those of optimistic inclination hope however that the dry spell caused the slow disappearance of the palm virus. There are indications that this is correct.

The quiescence in the district has not been disturbed by the natives as far as news from islands other than Palau has been received. I have them all under my control here in Yap and have the closest relationship through monthly meetings and my visits to them. They undertake nothing important without prior approval.

Road construction makes good progress; 10 km. have been built to judge from the general report.

The Government's garden has been leveled into terraces and awaits now seed. Nothing but coffee and corn could be obtained here.

The Malayans again give us trouble. The investigation of a break into the warehouse of the District Administration revealed that the two guards themselves were involved, one of them, Mandur, decorated with two Dutch medals. He took off into the bush, defending himself from arrest with dagger and rifle. I have had him now put into the stocks to tame him.

It is a necessity to have also other people within the police force as counterbalance, otherwise the question may rightfully be asked: who finds protection from the protecting force?

The Yapese solders are very obedient, dependable, and skilled. The four people from Palau, somewhat clumsy, are fairly adjusted excellent
rowers. The son of ----- Gibbon in Koror is also ----- and an exemplary soldier. The honorable D. O'Keefe with his honor people (honor guard?) on Tarang has kept all Yap in suspense with his brutalities and the criminal records revealed details. His arrest on Tarang caused great disturbance. His two depraved ----- have also been taken and fined: one 120.- and the other 150.- Mk. The legal proceedings have made a deep impression on the horrible conditions on Tarang; it was necessary for the upholding of the German Administration to penetrate with all force into the wasp's nest. All the rabble who used to work with fist and cudgel have become tame.
II

I have encouraged trader Bruggemann, a diligent and honorable man, to cultivate and acquired for this purpose a piece of land on Rummung-Yap, his residence. Due to the scarcity of his means, he works with only a few people. I am thinking of making penal labor available to him at a low price should be require it.

Health conditions are satisfactory. Copra enterprise is now at a standstill and will begin again in 5-6 months.

The central interest is the question of communication. At this time there is hardly anything to be bought here in this place. Would I not have been acquainted with South Sea conditions, I would not have today a piece of bread nor corn-rice. Everywhere is the most shallow of ebb. Would I but be acquainted with connections, I would ask the concerned consulate to open an account for District Administration's acquisitions, as I wish to avoid the middleman as much as possible. I still have approximately 12,000.- Mk. in the account and would have liked to procure much of the essential under these favorable circumstances, and would not be in the strange situation, not to be able to rid oneself of one's money.

I have repeatedly roamed through Yap, but have not had the opportunity to acquaint myself with other islands of the district.
O'Keefe has just now submitted a request for pardon in which he elaborates that he had refrained from an appeal against the judgement of March, 1900 to gain time for this request. He asks to, perhaps, change deprivation of freedom into a fine. I will include copy of my submitted report if time before departure of the ship is available.

I would be most grateful for information, should you have received already news on Counselor Koch's intended visit to the Carolines. I would also feel happy to know how soon we may again expect your arrival.

With the request to transmit my compliments to the gentlemen of the government, I remain with assurance of full loyalty to your honor,

Yours obediently,

Senfft.
Subscription to periodical in Oriental languages

Summarization: Periodical does not contain essays on South Sea Islands.

Duplication: Pages 15 & 16.
Summarization: Three natives from Uluthi have been delivered in tribute to Chief Gaetschbar. Responsibility for their return transport has been assumed.

Duplication: pages 17 & 18.
From: Imperial District Administration
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehne
Date: August 3, 1900 (Herbertshoehne, December 8, 1900)
Subject: Tribute payment to chief
Island: Ulithi - Yap

Imperial District Administration
Yap, Aug. 3, 1900

Yap.
No. 20

To Order of July 24, 1900 J No. 262

Three islanders from Ulithi were delivered here the 30th of last month by H.M.S. SEE ADLER (Sea Eagle). They have been transferred to the chief of Gaetschbar (Gatjapar) to whom Ulithi pays tribute. Their return journey will be taken care of as I had the honor to describe on June 21 of this year under No. 19.

Senfft.

To the Imperial Governor, the right honorable von Bennigsen

Herbertshoehne
F, No. 250 or.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Yap
Date: August 3, 1900 (Herbertshoehe December 8, 1900)
Subject: Coal Reserve
Islands: West Carolines

Summarization: Notification that, contrary to information to commander of S.S.SER ADLER, supply of coal reserve is plentiful in Yap.

Imperial District Administration, Yap

Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshohe

August 6, 1900 (Herbertshohe December 8, 1900)

Arrival of Ugoi Islanders

Yap - Palau - Ugoi - Fais - Philippines - Kiuwan - Ngoli

Islanders from Ugoi arrived in Yap after sea journey of approximately 2000 miles. Repatriation to be made when transportation available.

Summarization:

Duplication: Pages 21 and 22.
Imperial District Administration
Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
August 22, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, December 8, 1900)
Deportation of Malayan guard
Yap

Summarization: The Malayan guard, arrested for stealing, had to be subdued repeatedly and constantly guarded. He had to be eventually deported by one of O'Keefe's ships to Mapia and from there to Macassar.

(See Document 2, page 6).

Duplication: pages 26 & 27.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: September 8, 1900 (Herbertshoehe December 8, 1900)
Subject: Arrival of Ugoi Islanders
Islands: Yap - Matelotas - Kiwu - Ugoi

**Summarization:** Arrival of four further canoes of Ugoi islanders, and information on their knowledge of astronomy and sailing skill.

**Duplication:** pages 29 & 30.
From: Imperial German Consulate, Manila
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: December 26, 1899
Subject: Shipwrecked islanders
Island: Falalep (Yap)

Summarization: Lengthy exchange of information on repatriation of islanders.

- pp. 33-35 Islanders found on open sea and brought to Manila by S.S. URANUS. Request for repatriation to their island, Falalep.
- pp. 36-40, 42 Interview of the islanders.
- pp. 41-44 Departure for Herbertshoehe with S.S. STETTIN.
- pp. 45-46 Advice that islanders leave for Yap.
- pp. 47-53 Confirmation from Foreign Office, Berlin: Cost allocation and German concern for welfare of islanders to be brought to attention of native population.

Duplication: pages 39 & 40, 45 & 46, 47, 48 & 49, 51 & 52

Sketch 1: Blelatsch: criss-crossed areas are properties of foreigners--mostly Tagalen. Other buildings stand on land of the administration, erected with permission of the Spanish government. The southeast corner has been gained through fill and is usable for business purposes. The island is not suitable for living quarters for whites.

Blelatsch borders on the east onto the island of Tabelau and belongs to Mrs. Bartola Beck, nee Garrido. It is in neglected condition and a few Chamorros live there; all access passes through to District Administration. The acquisition of Tabelau would enclose the seat of the administration in all directions. Arrangements have therefore been made with the owner that the administration would have first option to buy, as others have shown interest in this property.

Sketch 2: The erstwhile gardens of the Spanish Government. These are now terraced and used as research stations.
Sketch 3: The land south of Cloister Way: extends from Kolonie to and inclusive of the Francisco Mission (Capuchin), falling steep into the ocean. Not suitable for plantations, however very suitable for housing. On the ocean are a few Tagalen and Chamorro huts, also the boathouse for the mission. A stone dam (which serves no purpose) extends to the district of RUL. It serves as a meadow for the cattle.

Sketch 4: The piece of land in RUL: it is situated at the harbor between the factories of R. Friedman and the Widow Gonzalez. Suitable for small factories or a coal depot. The latter most suitable as it is close to the anchorage and the ocean is deep enough for heavily loaded ships.

Sketch 5: Real estate in NGOF (south of Yap): Was entered in Spanish Land Register in the name of Carl Blechert, trader and skipper, with the remark that it would become government property in case of emigration or death. As he was murdered several years ago, the Imperial Administration has been entered into the register as the owner with the consent of the previous owner, the native Kilion. It is not adjacent to the ocean, but is suited for a small plantation.

Duplication: page 54 & 55.
Imperial District Administration  

Yap, May 19, 1900  

Yap  

No. 15  

5 Enclosures  

Filed Oct. 2, 1900  

I.G., R.v.B.  

The Imperial Administration possesses six lots of land in Yap: sketches, drawn by me, are attached.  

The following is to be remarked, in particular:  

1. The Island Blelatsch, and  

2. The settlement-named Kolonie.  

Blelatsch is the seat of the District Administration and its buildings.  

The island does not present a suitable place for further housing for whites. Land property of those houses in the Kolonie which are hatched, belongs to foreigners, mainly Tagalenes. The other buildings are situated on land of the Administration. They have been erected with the permission of the previous Spanish Government without having stipulated duration of usage. Enough room was lately gained for a business enterprise by fill of the South-East corner.
The island Tabelau borders in the East onto Blelatsch. It belongs to Mrs. Bartol-Beck, nee Garrido from the Marianas. Tabelau is a thorn in the side of the Administration; it is in rather a delapidated condition and is now inhabited by some Chamorros. Their total traffic passes through the District Administration. If Tabelau were its property, the seat of the District Administration would be closed off on all sides. Therefore the Administration is not master of its own home. In consideration of this and of several parties who have registered interest in this favorably situated island, I have caused the owner to give the administration priority rights.

3. The previous garden of the Spanish Government.
It is the same as the lot of land mentioned under #1, known to your excellency from your own review. I have had it completely terraced to be used for research cultivation.

4. The land South of Cloister-path.
It extends from Kolonie to behind the Capuchin cloister and descends steeply to an inlet of the ocean. It is not suited for a plantation of large extent, however for the erection of a row of residences, all of them magnificently situated. There are a few huts of the Tagalenes and Chamorros, and the boathouse of the Capuchins. It is uselessly connected by a stone dam to the land of Rul. It serves up to now as a pasture for cattle and goats.
5. Lot of land in Rul.

Situated on the harbor between the factories of R. Friedlaender and of the widow Gonzalez, and suitable for a small factory or coal depot, for which it is especially suited as it is situated close to anchorage and the ocean there is deep enough for heavily loaded ships.

6. The land of Ngof.

It was entered into the Spanish land register under the name of trader and skipper Carl Blechert with the remark that it would become property of the Government, if he would leave Yap indefinitely or in case of his death. As he was murdered several years ago, I have taken possession and entered the land in the name of the Imperial Administration with the approval of the native Kilion, the previous owner. It does not border onto the ocean as all remaining land of the administration; it is covered by dense brush and, in my opinion, suited for a small plantation.

Senfft.
Vol.: II
Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 7-1 Document: 11 Page: 63 - 70 (Incomplete)

From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: June 19, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, September 26, 1900)
Subject: Report on Agriculture - Trade - Nutrition
Island: Yap

Summarization: Drought conditions affect all harvesting on island;
islanders live exclusively on wild taro (Hathosoma).

Export of copra has ceased, affecting all traders. The blight, attacking the palm trees and other plant life, adds to the difficulties.

There is a general lack of food on the island for the white population. This is due to the lack of foresight of trader O'Keefe, who, aware of the situation, brought mainly beer nevertheless and very little else.

Harrisons' schooner brought relief at long last.

Repeat request for motor schooners to improve communication between islands.

Absence of German warships does not enhance German presence in the eyes of the islanders.

Road leading south to north completed. New crops, as yet unknown in the islands, have been imported. (Report incomplete.)

Report from Herbertshoehe to Berlin: Governor intends to visit Yap.

Duplication: pp. 63 & 64, 69 & 70.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: June 21, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, September 26, 1900)
Subject: Shipwrecked Islanders
Island: Uluthi - Fais

Summarization: 12 canoes caught in a typhoon (Document incomplete)

Duplication: page 71 & 72.
Vol.: II
Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 7-1 Document: 13 Page: 73 - 86
From: A paper published in Berlin in 1901:
A Special Print of Treatese of the Society for Geography
"On the Carolines - Island Yap" by Prof. Dr. G. Volkens
(With maps: pp. 83 - 86)
Subject: Publication: evaluation
Island: Yap

Summarization: Geographical description
Minerals on map: quartzite
Vegetation: land fertile
Animals: only 3 kinds of mammals, few birds & insects, reptiles, sealife: fish & shellfish.
Climate: healthy--dry and wet seasons with tropical rains--
typhoons at irregular intervals. Drought during dry season.
Water obtained by sinking deep wells.
Population: 8000 of mixed racial composition. Description of appearance, characteristics, dress ornaments, customs.
Agriculture and preparation of food: mainly by women.
Diet: little protein.
Building of canoes and boats.
Stonewalls: built as fortification fallen into disrepair.
Trade: barter or with exchange of monies. More commonly, stone money: "Fa" of all sizes, as well as shell money.
Settlements: under rule of chiefs--family homes and community houses, in which men and unmarried women mingle freely, women returning home without loss of reputation. Community house artistically designed. Good road construction.
Caste system.

Duplication: page 73, 74 & 75.
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin

To: Governor, Herbertshoehe

Date: July 11, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, November 18, 1900)

Subject: Publication: "Kubary, Ethnographical Contributions to the Knowledge of the Caroline - Archipel"

Island: Yap

Summarization: concern requisition, order, and payment of the above.

Duplication: pp. 87 - 88.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: November 15, 1900
Subject: Shipwrecked Ugoi Islanders
Island: Ugoi

Summarization: permission granted to natives of Ugoi to return to their islands in 10 canoes with all safety provisions provided. (See Vol. II, Document 6, pp. 21-25).

Duplication: page 92 & 93.
Vol.: II
Ref.: CRS G1 Item: 7-1 Document: 16 Page: 95 - 102
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
Date: June 28, 1900 (Herbertshoehe, September 26, 1900)
Subject: Ordinances
Island: Yap

Summarization: regulations concerning 1) quarantine for contagious disease.
2) vagrancy - non-residents.

Page 97: From: Governor Bennigsen
To: Administration, Yap
Date: January 1, 1901
Summarization: caution to apply regulations.

Page 98: From: Administration, Yap
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: January 15, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, April 13, 1901)
Summarization: refers to "Beachcombers Paradise" and regulations concerning vagrancy on the island


Duplication: page 95 & 96
98 & 99
100 & 101
From: Commander of SEE ADLER, Northern Pacific Ocean
To: His Majesty the Emperor
Date: August 3, 1900 (Copy Herbertshoehe, September 26, 1900)
Subject: Report on Conditions
Island: Yap

Summarization:

- Orderly take-over by new administration.
- Cooperative attitude of islanders.
- Germanization.
- Changes needed in Spanish Mission's attitude to improve attendance at school and worship.
- Effects of drought and blight of plant life on trade.
- Consideration to be given to use Yap Administration as pilot project.
- Lack of communication.
- Shortage of coal reserve--investigation of Palauan coal deposits.

Summarization: Report attached to letter stating that tests made on Palauan coal sample were negative—coal not suitable for economic exploitation (contrary to O'Keefe's report after tests in Hong Kong that coal might be suitable for gas works).
From: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
To: Governor, Herbertshoehe
Date: November 24, 1900
Subject: Coal deposit
Island: Palau

Concerning order No. 130 of June 20 a.d.

I hereby submit respectfully to your honor a copy of a report of the local Geological Land Institute of November 14 on the Palauan coal.

The Imperial Vice Governor in Ponape and the Imperial District Administrator in Yap receive the same communication.

Foreign Office, Colonial Division

February 24, 1901
notice: discussed with Senfft

to be filed R.v.B.

To the Governor
Herbertshoehe.
The coal sample and the esteemed letter of July 11 a.d. from the islands of Palau have arrived here by the carrier Rohde & Joergens in Bremen and have been examined. The result is the following: the material is not affected by hot chloroform, however by hot potassium brine; it assumes from this an intensively dark color, water escapes first upon heating; then appear ill-smelling and not burnable gasses with sulphuric acid if penetration of air occurs. 61% of ash remains after burning. The main matter is formed of small pieces of mica (?). 16.5% of the water disappears at the heat of 200°C. Crystallized bundles of needles of sulphuric acid magnesia are to be found in the separated matter.

Asphalt and similar matters are lacking in the coal, which can be deduced from the counter comportment of the chloroform and the potassium brine. It is therefore not pit coal. Furthermore, the same may be said of the previous sample (J no. 1519:00); in yielding 61%, it yields even more ash. That such a material could be used in gas-establishments, as stated by the merchant O'Keefe, based on a finding by specialists in Hongkong, seems totally unjustified from an economic point of view.

Signature.

To the Foreign Office,

Colonial Division

Local.
From: Foreign Office, Berlin
To: Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehne (in French)
Date: May 24, 1901 (Herbertshoehne July 29, 1901)
Subject: Coded message in numerals

Duplication: page 110 & 111.
Vol.: II  
Ref.: CRS G1  
Item: 7-1  
Document: 20  
Page: 115 - 124

From: Captain Knoth, S.S. KORMORAN (?)  
To: Herbertshoehe  
Date: received Herbertshoehe June 28, 1901  
Subject: Sighting of uncharted island  
Island: --

Summarization: Island northeast of Mupia--uncharted--was sighted.  
Request to hoist German flag.

pp. 117 - 118: Secret message from Herbertshoehe to Foreign Office to dispatch ship to hoist German flag on island.

pp. 119 - 120: From Foreign Office (?) Report on sighting of island.

pp. 121 - 123: Telegram from Berlin (in code) to German Consulate, Port Said, dated April 19, 1901.

p. 124: From Herbertshoehe to Foreign Office (Berlin), May 24, 1901, execution of directives contained in telegram pending arrival of warship.

Imperial District Administration, Yap

Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe

February 2, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, April 13, 1901)

Population count

Island: Yap

Summarization: Decrease in number of population. Increase in deaths over births.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Foreign Office, Colonial Division, Berlin
Date: January 9, 1901 (Copy: Herbertshohehe, April 19, 1901)
Subject: Tax levy
Island: Yap - Palau

Summarization: recommendations:

- Tax exemption for the time being for plantation.
- Custom levy viewed favorably.
- Individual taxation viewed favorably on Yap, questionable for Palau.
- Collection of taxes to be function of administration, and neither that of Jaluit Co. nor O'Keefe.
- Taxes to be paid in kind: copra.
- Suggested trade and business tax: estimated tax levy for traders including O'Keefe, who holds practically a monopoly in the Western District.

Duplication: page 126 & 127.
Summarization: It has not been determined which cultivations suitable for plantations. Recommends that Jaluit Company establish trade to compensate for loss.

Palauans averse to foreigners—afraid to be driven from their land.

Difficulty in establishing plantations without firm administrative guidance, however fertile the land.

In Yap, land acquisition by the Jaluit Company could be encouraged and assisted by the District Administration as well as construction of roads. Yap islanders dwell on most fertile land close to ocean. Slaves live scattered in the interior of the island.
Yap

The Company may do well not to confine itself exclusively to plantations. It is not determined at this time which cultivation seems recommended. Prof. Volken's collected plants and soil samples, as well as notes on rain and wind conditions, would in this instance enable the specialists to come to a conclusion. Plants in question, such as coffee, cacao and cocos, demand several years before yielding produce. The Company may meanwhile compensate part of the expenses through establishment of trade.

From my enquiries in Palau, coffee and cacao thrive in some areas. We have not seen any examples, as the ship was situated too far from the plantations (of small scale). A large part of the islands of the whole district are without doubt suited to coconut palms. I cannot determine the attitude of the natives to land sales of larger proportions in Palau. I have not returned since my two days' stay during my journey out here. From all I hear, the establishment of plantations can scarcely be given consideration before a local administration has been introduced. The
Kanakas rob and are against planting (?) by foreigners, fearing that they will be eventually driven off their fathers' land. They have already acted in that fashion with the small beginnings of traders, and would reinforce this with larger activities if an official would not restrict them. Palau is preferable to Yap for plantations.

The natives of Yap are established along the most fertile coast on the ocean. In the interior only a few --- places are to be found. It is however not necessarily to be said that all fertile land has been allocated. It should not be difficult for a skilled farmer to find larger tracts of land which are usable. It is however desirable, because of transportation, that the establishment be as close as possible to the coast.

The Company will be able with my help to acquire useful land, and I may eventually have roads constructed, if the situation of the plantation necessitates it. Other islands cannot be in any case considered for cultivation other than coconut. I am, however, basing this on the judgement of others. I have ---- reason because of other cases to doubt ---- lack of judgement.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Herbertshoehe
Date: Herbertshoehe, April 19, 1900
Subject: Report Index
Islands: West Carolines

Summarization: Index of reports rendered December 7, 1899 to December 27, 1900.
From: Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe
To: Captain Muhle
Date: January 3, 1901
Subject: Repatriation request
Island: Yap

Summarization: Native of Yap to return to her island. Compensation to be paid.
From: District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshohe
Date: January 3, 1901 (Herbertshohe, April 19, 1901)
Subject: Plant disease
Islands: Yap - Saturval - Lamutrik - Elato - Oleai

Summarization: Request to obtain information from Java and Berlin on disease affecting coconut palms and other plants.

Disease affects copra trade and presents nutritional problem as coconuts are staple diet for the islanders. Blighted samples attached.

pp. 141 - 142: Request from Herbertshohe to send diseased plant sample in alcohol.

pp 143: Herbertshohe, September 8: sample dispatched to Batavia.

Duplication: page 141 & 142.
Beached steamer

**Summarization:** S.S. MUENCHEN was rescued after three months on coral reef--towed to Hong Kong for repair.
Imperial District Administration, Yap

Imperial Governor von Bennigsen, Herbertshoehe

May 25, 1901 (Herbertshoehe September 7, 1901)

Beaching of S.S. OCEANA

Yap

Summarization: S.S. OCEANA rescued off reef. Mail and passengers for Hong Kong transferred.
Summarization: Two buoys have been anchored at entrance of harbor. Seafarers to be informed. Sketch attached.
Summarization: Request to test enclosed rock samples with metal seams.
Subject: Quarantine
Island: Yap

Summarization: Regulations concerning quarantine and connected expenses.

LAND: page 152—arrangements were made for one year's lease of the island of Tabelau connected with main island by a stone roadway, with option to buy.

Request for government consent to negotiate acquisition of the island for approximately Mk 4,000. Stresses importance of Tabelau for administrative purposes (See Vol. II, Document 10, page 56).
Imperial District Administration

Yap, June 2, 1901

Yap

Copy

No. 44

To the order of March 30, 1901 No. 12 K 2040 24079

In the report of February 26, 1901 and April 17, 1901, No. 129, a request for appointment of a medical doctor is submitted. Before his arrival, and for want of a medical expert to the order of the regulations, (the appointment) will have to be delayed even though no local difficulties present themselves.

Furthermore, I submit the following remarks:

To Paragraph 1: Quarantine regulation of June 27 of last year, decreed March 29 of last year by the Governor for the whole Protectorate, has been accepted. Health security control for each ship coming from abroad has been ordered; those of the Protectorate and the Marshall Islands only when contagious disease was found on board ship. I would prefer this interpretation, as telegraphic communication is lacking and in most cases it is unknown whether a contagious disease was present in the original port of departure. This skipper will obtain release of his ship by presenting a clean health pass, or submit himself to control.
To Paragraphs 6 and 13a: The treatment of shipped-in patients causes expenses for board, medication, nursing, and linen, as well as disinfection of ship and apparel, etc. The regulations do not specify responsibility for these expenses. I request therefore respectfully to make a decision concerning this matter. Quarantine regulations of March 29, 1901, include also punitive determination for those contraventions not yet covered by the Imperial Code.

Great caution is to be applied against importation of pest and pox. The mailboat of the Asian-Australian Line takes 7 days from Hong Kong to Yap. Time of incubation is 12 days for the pest, and 17 days for the pox. Detailed definition about the latter disease is not contained in the regulations. With regard to the fact that the pox is prevalent along the Chinese coast, an addition in this matter would be worthwhile.

At this time, the incidence of the pest is very great in Hong Kong, and until recently the pox caused many victims. I was therefore obliged to leave the steamer WONG KOI, coming from Hong Kong to support the stranded mailboat MUNICH, for three days in quarantine with its Chinese crew. I permitted traffic between the two ships, and the MUNICH submitted itself voluntarily to the quarantine and the removal of all Yapese people.

The island Tabelau, adjacent to the seat of the District Administration and connected by a stone wall, has been leased for the time being for one
year. Some time ago, the District Administration obtained option to buy. It has been arranged as a quarantine station to eliminate delay for the Lloyd Line through difficulties with the quarantine and the dispatch of transport from Hong Kong.

The clearance of the mailboat which arrived the 16th of this month has been arranged in such a way that the traffic took place only between the ship and the control station. The passengers wanting to land had to first bathe in mercuric chloride, and to dress in clean clothing. Goods destined for Yap were landed and only surrendered after disinfection. All traffic between ship and land was eliminated, and a police sergeant commanded on board ship. These arrangements have well succeeded. The space is excellently suited, and would be the given place for the doctor's residence. I obediently request authorization to begin transaction of acquisition with the owner. I believe that the island will be available for appr. Mk. 4000.-. In my opinion the Spanish Government committed a sin of omission not to have acquired Tabelau when buying the island Blelatsch, the seat of the Administration, in order to obtain a self-contained property. I have already reported in my first statement to the Government, indicating Tabelau as a thorn in the side of the fiscal land property. I request to consider the qualification of this statement from the attached sketch.
To follow directions for construction, a house for the accommodation of patients, also a disinfection space and room for nursing personnel would be necessary. Furnishings would have to be provided: 3 large iron bedsteads with 8 mattresses, pillow and sufficient linen, 6 spittoons, 6 mosquito nets, 1½ dozen towels, 2 bottles of 100% carbolic acid, and two water tanks, each of cubic M. with two reserve taps (?). I am sending by sample mailing a quantity of quick-lime with the request to have it examined for use as disinfectant. If not suitable, the dispatch of chlorine carbolic (?): 10 cans of 1 lb., or in similar measure of content.

The Imperial Legal Code to which the decree refers has not yet been transmitted to the District Administration. I beg therefore its dispatch to be ordered. Copy of the report has been sent to the Imperial Government.

Signed Senfft

To the Foreign Office
Colonial Division
Berlin
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap

To: Imperial Government, Herbertshoehe

Date: August 1, 1901 (Herbertshoehe, September 7, 1901)

Subject: Declaration, Ugoi Islanders

Island: Uluti - Terras - Lillemai

Summarization: Islanders lost at sea make deposition about their hazardous journey.
Summarization: request for new survey of harbor of Yap denied for time being. Denial based on memo from Navy that survey for navigation ongoing in other districts.
Summarization: Spaniard and his Chamorro wife, residents of Yap, leave to take up permanent residence in Guam.
From: Imperial District Administration, Yap
To: Imperial Government, Herbertshohe
Date: October 21, 1901
Subject: General Information
Islands: West Carolines - Palau

Summarization:
- Settlement of whites.
- Climate and health conditions for whites.
- Population on Yap.
- Transportation.
- Schools.
- Medical doctor.
- Women.
- Housing.
- Taxes.

LAND page 164:
- Trade and produce: ownership of plantation exclusively held by islanders.

LAND page 165:
- Real estate: land is cheap and acquired by District Administration. White ownership confined for business purpose only. Good roads circle the island and new settlement area easily built.

- Workers.
- Work implements.
- Peasant farmers.
- Artisans.
- Palau Islands.
- Final remarks.
Imperial District Administration, Yap, October 21, 1901

No. 66
1 Enclosure

To the order of September 10 a.d. No. 878 (?)

I have the honor to submit attached the ordered copy of "General Information on the Western Carolines and Palau," with the announcement that the original report has been sent directly to the Foreign Office.

Signed Senfft

to be filed H. November 29

To the Imperial Government

Herbertshoehe
GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE WESTERN CAROLINES AND PALAU

The islands of Yap and Palau are the only settlements in question for whites at this time. The other islands are already settled with those persons who are in the service of a merchant and who communicate abroad through him.

Climate and Health Conditions

Yap has a tropical climate. The temperature indicates only small variations: the average temperature in 1900 shows 27.75°C. The sojourn is made agreeable by strong sea breezes for most of the year. Rain level reached 3024 MM. in the year 1900; during 1901 from January to September 2385 MM. Tropical illness has as yet not been observed, especially no trace of malaria nor dysentery. Old settlers complain at times about rheumatism. Yap may be described altogether as a healthy place for strong Europeans. However, many natives fall victim to stomach and lung disease.

The island is pretty, the natives honest, polite and good to Europeans.

Inhabitants

Sixteen whites now live in Yap, of whom three are of the Government, six of trade, and seven of the Mission. There are also more than 100 Philippinos and Chamorros, and approximately 7500 Kanakas.
Communication:

Communication abroad is maintained by two steamers which travel four times to Hong Kong and 8 times to Sydney.

School

Education is provided by the Capuchin Mission in native and Spanish language.

Medical Doctor

A doctor is not yet available. There is however one German medical aide and two Tagalene hospital aides.

Women

White women were here repeatedly in previous times and have given birth. They supported the climate well.

Homes

Homes are usually built of wood with porches. A stone base is recommended to ward off the white ants. Stone and mortar is present on the island. At first a construction of island material suffices modest demands; houses of hardwood and pandanus leaves can be built for a few hundred marks.

Taxes

Taxes and duties have not yet been allocated. Public contribution will however not be so high that they would weigh heavily on a household.
Sources of Income

Trade and traffic depend entirely on copra production. The tree virus, prevalent for years, has destroyed more than half of the coco palms. The present amount is hardly large enough to feed exclusively more than the already settled traders. Foreigners do not possess plantations; all copra is traded by natives. It is quite possible that other cultivation can be undertaken with success for relatively small expense. Research with Manila hemp, Indian hemp, coffee, corn, and a fine kind of pea have produced results. Large tracts of land of fertile soil cannot be obtained. Plantations can be started in a small way and according to growth, slowly enlarged. A settler can, without damage to health, work himself for a few hours mornings and later afternoons. With a simple way of life, he can cultivate the larger part of home needs such as yams, taro, sweet potatoes, corn, beans, peas, cucumbers and other vegetables, and can also maintain cattle, pigs, goats, geese, chickens, ducks, and pigeons. Breadfruit, oranges, lemons, and fish can be obtained for little money from the natives. Buyers can be found among local Europeans and on ships: shoes, and clothing can be bought cheaply in Hong Kong and Sydney.

Real Estate

Real estate is cheap. It is bought by the District Administration as ownership by whites covers only that which they need to undertake business. Good roads circle the whole island, and connecting roads to new settlements are easily built.
Workers

The District Administration can obtain a small number of workers. Wages consist of Mk. 8.- monthly in merchandise; cost per day is appr. -.20 pf.

Labor - Tools

Agricultural tools such as plough, harrow etc. are not necessary. An axe, hatchet, spade, pick, and machete suffice for now, and all can be bought here. Ash of burned leaves may be used as fertilizer.

Small Farming

Suitable persons for these small establishments should be simple peasants, used to hard labor, and generally skillful. Women are also good to do this work.

Artisans

A white person would have difficulty to sustain himself with one trade. He would have to supplement it with some trading and farming or gardening, which is easily combined. Within this limitation should also be considered shoemaker, carpenter, taylor, and butcher.

PALAU ISLAND

Climatic and soil conditions on Palau, connected with Yap by four regular steamer trips, are similar; the latter may be even better as the island group is less inhabited; if even larger than Yap. Experiments with
coffee, cacao and cotton have been successful. There are only two Europeans and ten Japanese, and there is no opportunity for artisans. Little copra is produced on Palau, however there is a lot of Trepang to be found. Exploitation necessitates a seaworthy cutter and several boats. All necessary tools are obtainable on Yap.

Summary
Pre-supposition for each settler is sobriety, diligence, and persistence. He must be energetic enough to resist the danger of weakening and indifference, and understand to live in good relationship with the natives on whom he is in many ways dependent. He has to realize that to begin with, some time will elapse before his land will yield produce and that he is totally self-reliant, even if, with sensible behavior, he can rely on the other Europeans.

Finally, it has to be pointed out that persons without means may be refused to land in the district by the regulation of June 25, 1900. It would undermine the necessary respect of whites if other Europeans, forgetting their station, live together with Kanakas, and are maintained by them—which unfortunately happens so often in the South Seas.