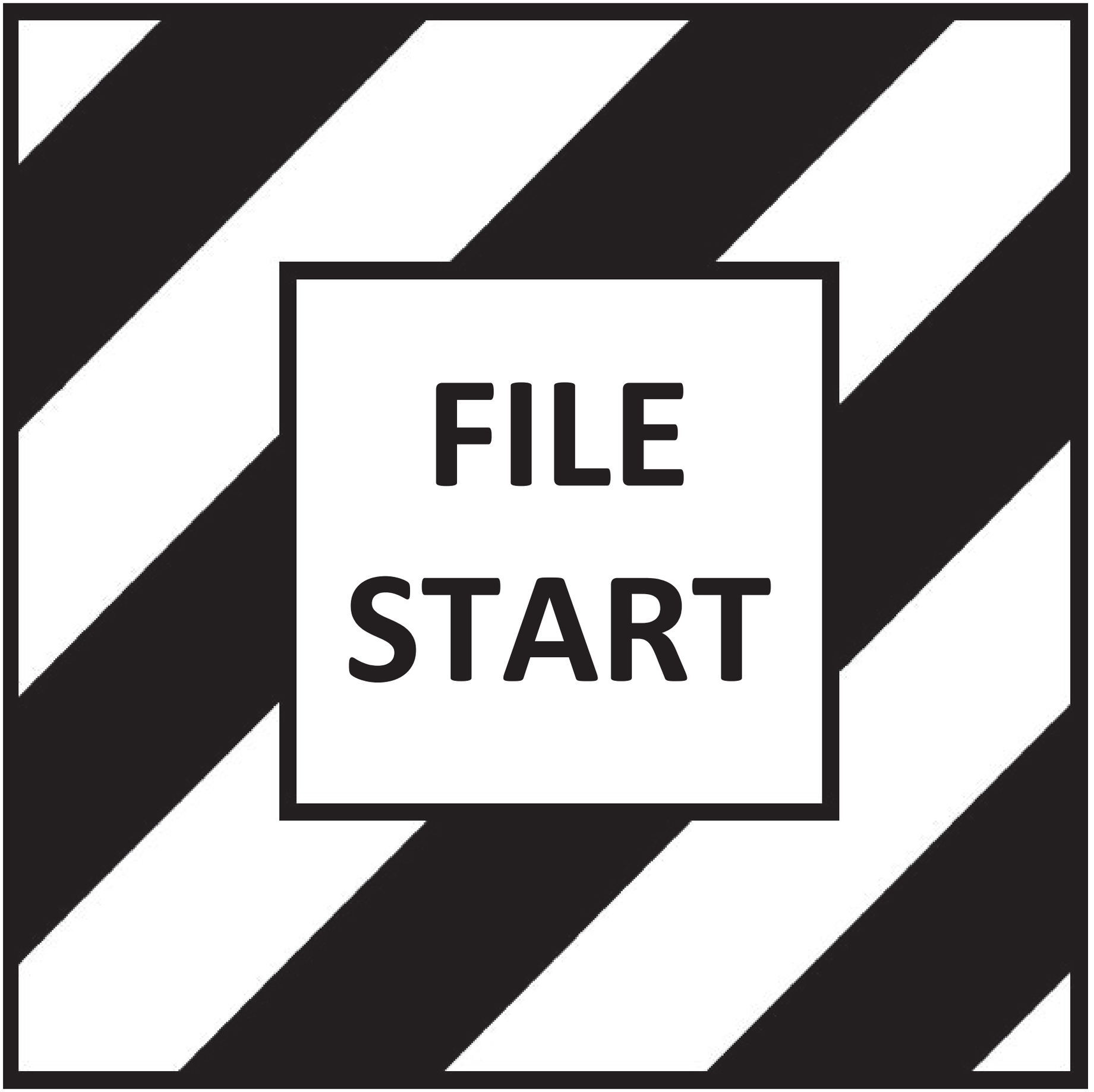

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CERTIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY
TRUST TERRITORY ARCHIVES PROJECT
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

I hereby certify that the documents appearing on this roll of film were photographed on 6 October; that they are true and correct copies of the documents contained in the record file described on the accompanying computer identification form(s).

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6 October
Date

Chairman, Archives Committee

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY
TRUST TERRITORY ARCHIVES PROJECT
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ives Committee.

October
Date

Chairman, Archives Committee

Computer #_____

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS--ARCHIVES SURVEY FORM

Primary Branch, Department, Bureau, or Office producing materials:
RE

Subgroup of the above:
LA

Author/Title/Date of publication (if any) of specific materials:

Subject of materials: (See schedule in TTPI Files System Manual)
LAN 6-1-3

Brief description: Historic Land Data - Truk
Ha steen - Future Land in Truk and 5 Districts

Geographic area dealt with in materials:
TTPI at large:
Individual districts: ✓
Individual governments:
Individual islands:
Other:

Span of years covered by materials: 1950's

Format of information:
Correspondence: ✓
Reports: ✓
Clippings:
Other:

Physical arrangement of materials: (How are they organized within the file?)
Geographically:
Chronologically: ✓
By subjects: ✓
By organization:
Other:

Physical location of materials: (Area where presently located)
Office: HQ
Subgroup:
File cabinet number: 972 5 LAN
Drawer number: 1
File folder number: 178.20.6
Estimated quantity of materials: 1 ea

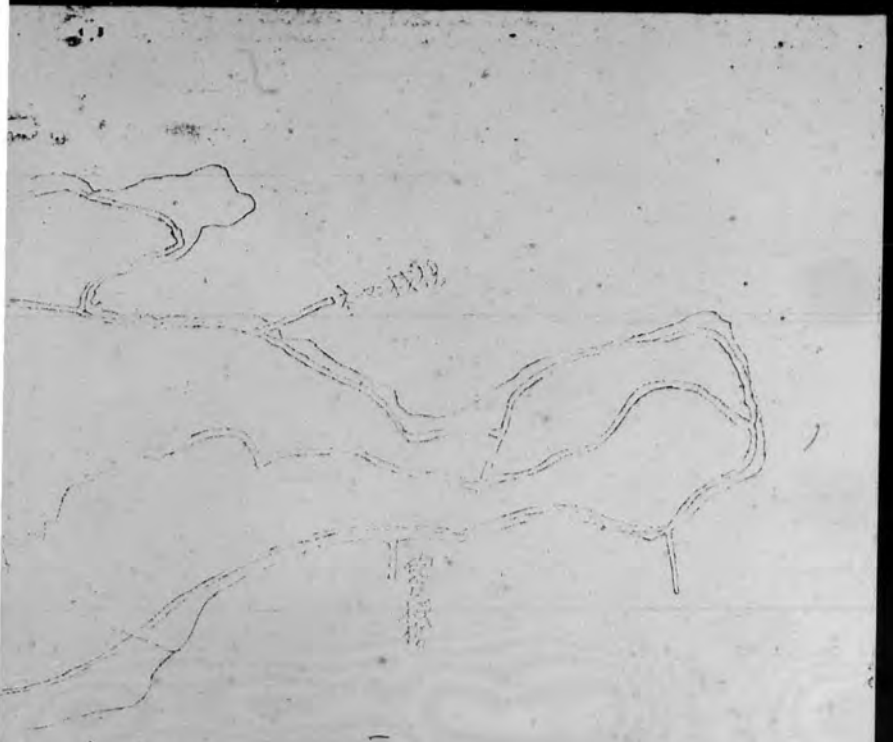
Recorded by:

Date: 81

Disposition of originals:

Microfilm roll No.: 3 Frame #:


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[redacted]

29 December 1945.

MEMORANDUM:

To : The Commanding Officer.

Subj: Nanyoku Kogyokabushiki Kaisha - Report of.

1. Certain large farms at Koza and Yokkaichi, and smaller ones at Saipoku and Kuyuko were investigated as to ownership, as was the actual ownership of the corporation which operates said farms, and which is known as the Nanyoku Corporation (Nanyo Takushoku Kabushiki Kaisha Corporation, Ltd., South Seas Agricultural Colonization Company).

2. Questioning of Japanese civilian and military personnel on both Koza and Koza revealed that the land constituting said farms is owned by the Japanese Government, and leased to them from the Imperial Household.

3. The Nanyoku Corporation itself was to be considered as government owned, inasmuch as 50% of the stock is owned by the Japanese Government.

4. The Nanyoku Corporation was given a more liberal or permissive by the Japanese Government to use the land involved for farms, by will the natives [illegible] by the Japanese Military Forces on Koza, and to realize a certain profit thereby.

5. Accordingly, since this land is public property (enemy-owned) it may be taken over and used by the United States, without payment of any compensation therefor. However, pending the legal conclusion of the war and the execution of the final peace treaty, said land may not be sold or seriously impaired in value, or leased to anyone for a period longer than the duration of the war.

6. The buildings on the said farms, which appear to be of flimsy and cheap construction, may be pulled if desired. They are owned by the Nanyoku Corporation and therefore, in effect, by the Japanese Government.

7. The main office of the Nanyoku Corporation is in Tokyo, where final corroboration of the above statements as to ownership may be secured.

RICHARD J. BRADLEY, LT.(jg), USNR.,
Legal Officer.

[redacted]

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Legal Officer.

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See page 5-

TRUKESE PERMANENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 26 - 30, 1955

Members present at opening meeting: Ring Puas, Lukunor Island· Ichiro Moses, Uman Island: Chief Lorenzo, Pata: Chief Marecheong, Udot: Chief Ennis, Fefan Island: Chief Romulo, Pulusat Island. District Administration members present at first meeting included District Administrator, Sictus. office of Assistant Distad: Keske, office of Assistant Distad· Dr. Richardson, Public Health· and Dick King, Education.

Opening Remarks: District Administrator, who served as conference chairman, opened first session by welcoming PAC members and reviewing briefly purposes of PAC meetings. He also pointed out that Chief Alivis from Ulul, who represents the Western Islands of the Truk District on the PAC could not be present, so Chief Romulo, from Pulusat is acting in his place.

Review of Agenda: First item of business· PAC reviewed proposed agenda which had been prepared by District Administration after consultation with several members of the PAC. The only item added was a discussion of a possible worker income tax.

Disposition of Namochis Island Copra Tax Receipts: District Tax Collector Sictus Berdon requested guidance from the PAC regarding what he should do with the taxes from copra collected from Namochis Island. He pointed out that ownership status of this island has not yet been settled, and he does not know if taxes should be paid to Fananu Island or Murillo. Decision: copra tax receipts should be held in a special account by the District Tax Collector until the ownership of the Island is determined. At that time, money will be paid to the island owning Namochis.

Parole Procedure Changes: Distad reviewed with the PAC members Mr. Nucker's letter dated August 22, 1955, Ser. 3166 regarding proposals to change present parole procedure in such a way that a prisoner must serve one-third rather than one-half of his time before he may be considered for a parole.

In parole discussion, PAC members all agreed that most Trukese people believe that life in the District Brig is too easy. They say that people put in their home island jails want to be transferred to Moen, where they get better food and have an easier life. PAC members made following specific suggestions:

1. Prisoners should never talk to people while they are working.
2. Smoking for prisoners should be restricted according to a set of rules.
3. Cut down visiting time of relatives to a few hours a week.
4. If relatives bring any money or food for a prisoner, that money or food should be turned over to the Sheriff's office for issue according to the brig rules.

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5. Prisoners should be permitted to play a ukelele or other music on Sunday only.

6. Prisoners must be given much harder work to do when they are on the job. This, the PAC said, is the big punishment for the prisoner. At present their work is too easy.

PAC was asked whether, in the Trukese Culture, the custom is followed to punish prisoner's family in addition to punishing the prisoner by making his family pay damages to the injured man's family. PAC reply: prior to the advent of courts this was the practice. Trukese families still expect the agressor's family to pay for property damaged. They believe there should be written into the Trust Territory Code a provision for restitution for damages by the aggressor's family to the injured person's family.

PAC was asked whether they believe that prisoners' punishment is in two parts, (a) the actual sentence by the court and the disgrace related to receiving such a sentence and (b) the actual serving of a sentence. PAC reply: these are two separate punishments, but the actual serving of the sentence is by far the most important and the greater deterrent.

PAC recommended that parole policy should be changed so that a prisoner must serve only one-third of his sentence before he may be considered for parole. Throughout the discussion they emphasized that in order that this recommendation be effective, it is imperative to tighten up in the administration of the Brig and the control of the prisoners.

Recommendations by District Education Board: Education personnel present at this session were Dr. Gibson, Mr. King, Napo Defange, John Santi, Ray Gosda. Napo Defange, reporting for the District Education Board, submitted the following list of proposals to be considered by PAC for approval. The action taken by the PAC on each proposal follows:

1. Proposal: A pay increase for all elementary school teachers so that the minimum pay for a teacher not certificated would be $20 a month, and minimum pay for a certificated teacher would be $25 a month. The increases should go into effect March 1, 1956.

PAC ACTION: APPROVED

2. Proposal: Annual pay increments for elementary school teachers should be $2.50 a year for certificated teachers.

PAC ACTION: Approved annual pay increment of $1.25 for certificated teachers.

5. Prisoners should be permitted to play a ukelele or other music on Sunday only.

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PAC ACTION: APPROVED

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PAC ACTION: Approved annual pay increment of $1.25 for certificated teachers.

PAC, in approving items one and two above, decided to reduce pay of all elementary school teachers by $5 a month during the three months of the year when the elementary schools are not in session.

3. Proposal: In any school with three or more teachers, the principal of that school should receive $1 a month extra for serving as principal.

PAC ACTION: APPROVED

4. Proposal: PAC should establish a maximum pay level for elementary school teachers. This subject had been discussed at D&B meetings in the past. Some Education Board members had recommended a maximum of $50 a month, but there was not general agreement on this subject.

PAC ACTION: Maximum pay for elementary school teachers is to be established at $45 a month.

5. Proposal: Establish a new school for the students of Onari Island and Ono Island at one or the other of these two islands.

PAC ACTION: Decided to defer action on this until later.

6. Proposal: School year for intermediate and elementary schools should be shifted so that it begins on March 15 and runs until December 15 each year.

PAC ACTION: Approved on a trial basis.

7. Proposal: Sixteen elementary school teachers should be employed as soon as suitable teachers are available to provide the additional elementary school teaching staff needed under the authorized ratio: one teacher for each 35 students or less.

PAC ACTION: Approved expenditure of funds.

The education department provided the following in connection with the discussion of proposed elementary school pay increases:

a.	Largest monthly payroll, 1955 (February, 72 teachers)	$1,597
b.	Annual Salary Bill	19,064
c.	Same payroll under proposed pay plan (monthly)	1,770
d.	Yearly rate	21,176
e.	Additional teachers authorized under 1-35 ratio (16 teachers at $20)	3,840
f.	Maximum possible yearly cost (1956-57)	26,000

The following figures summarize the additional cost of the elementary school program due to the actions taken by the PAC during this session:

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a.	Annual elementary teacher payroll bill prior to the pay increases (approx.)	$19,000
b.	Pay increases for present elementary staff (approx. 70 teachers)	2,076
c.	Yearly cost of adding 16 new teachers at $20 each total	3,840
d.	New annual pay bill (when 16 teachers added)	24,916
e.	Less reduced summer pay for staff of approx. 86 teachers	1,300
f.	Estimated total teacher salaries beginning March, 1956,	$23,600

Wholesale Licensing Policy for Truk District: Distad reviewed developments regarding license policy at Truk to date. He asked Sictus to read the general license policy approved by the PAC in May 1954 after proposed policy had been discussed and approved in the Truk Atoll Council of Chiefs. Distad called attention to fact that last year's Annual Chiefs' Conference had discussed this subject but had not completed the discussion to the point of making a firm policy recommendation. The Chiefs' Conference asked the PAC to consider this subject further and submit a recommendation to the next Chiefs' Conference.

PAC reviewed the Chiefs' Conference discussion on this subject. After further discussion regarding wholesale licensing, which lasted several hours, PAC decided to make the following specific recommendations to the Chiefs' Conference of 1955 for approval:

1. Permit outside wholesale companies to come in to the Truk District and be licensed, but not for the next several years. The reason for this attitude is that the PAC believes the Trukese people should be given the first opportunity to develop their own trading companies and gain sufficient business experience and grow and become strong so that they will be able to successfully compete with outside firms. Four more Trukese wholesale companies should have opportunities to start. Not more than one new wholesale company license should be issued to a Trukese firm for each of the next four years. Thus, one new wholesale company license should be issued in 1955 calendar year if there is an applicant who meets the requirements for licensing. One would be issued under similar conditions in 1956 calendar year and one in 1957 and one in 1958. A new license each year should be given to the first person or group of people presenting themselves to the Office of District Administration showing that they can meet the licensing requirments. The PAC believes it would be unwise to license four more companies all at one time because it would cause too much confusion and would probably result in such a division of the new business that none of the new companies would have an opportunity to grow strong enough to become truly competitive.

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If each one is given a year's time in which to get its feet on the ground before additional new stores are licensed, they believe that a more orderly development will take place.

2. A new applicant for a wholesale license must have at least $5000 for beginning capital. This capital may not be simply trade goods received from a trading company in another district to be sold on a commission basis. The wholesale license applicant must actually have $5000 with which he will buy his original stock, obtain land and erect a building for the purpose of conducting the business.

3. An existing wholesale company may not obtain a license to start a new wholesale company in the Truk District.

4. Land of the availability of rented land and the actual possession of a building suitable for a wholesale store should be prerequisites for obtaining a wholesale license.

In discussing this subject the PAC agreed that it is important for the people of this District to have good strong competition at the wholesale level. They pointed out that this is lacking at this time. They emphasize that they do not wish to exclude wholesale companies from other districts from coming into Truk and competing, but because of the great lack of experience of the Trukese business firms at this time, they believe it is sensible for them to give Trukese firms an opportunity to get started and become experienced in business before having to compete with experienced and well-financed outside companies.

Establishing Fair Values for Trees Which the Trust Territory May Purchase from the Trukese People: Wednesday Morning, September 28 PAC joined with American members of the Land Advisory Board in a meeting of the LAB (the six members of the PAC are the Trukese members of the LAB). The Chairman pointed out that the tree values to be established in this discussion were not intended to apply between one Trukese and another, but were for the Trust Territory to pay Trukese for purchases of trees now within the retention area or elsewhere in the District. The Chairman suggested that the LAB members keep in mind the past experience of Trukese in placing values on trees: (a) past transactions between one Trukese and another, (b) past transactions between Trukese and Japanese, (c) experience and policy of other districts (Ponape policy on coconut trees was cited). District Agriculturist, John Smith, participated in the discussion as a member of the LAB and pointed out the different factors which were important for determining tree values. These include (a) whether the tree was naturally reseeded or planted, (b) present condition of the tree, (c) location of the tree and (d) food value and lumber value of the tree.

Chief Ennis: In Japanese times, the diameter and circumference of the tree was measured in order to determine value.

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Smith: A planted tree is always worth more than one that is naturally seeded.

Chief Petrus: Hasn't talked with Moen Island people about tree values and wishes to do so before expressing his opinion before the LAB.

Chief Ichiro: Suggests highest price $5.00 then downward.

Chief Ennis: Suggests $5.00 average price. When tree first flowers, worth $3.50 when produces good nuts, worth $5.00.

Several PAC members argued that Truk has much more pressure on the land and thus land values here should be higher than they are on Ponape Island. Several PAC members also agreed that Trukese have in the past commonly paid each other $5 for a good coconut tree.

Chief Ring: Suggests that prices be $1 higher on low islands because of the great importance of trees to the low island people. Other Trukese members of LAB agreed.

After considerable further discussion, the LAB agreed on the following:

1. No firm recommendation on the subject will be made until after Chief Petrus has an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Moen Island Council and Moen land owners in the Retention Area and to present the petitions to LAB.

2. Breadfruit Trees: There should be a scale of tree values with the scale divided into four age groups, 1 - 5, 5 - 10, 10 - 20, and 20 - upward. The average price on this scale would be $2.50 for trees in the 1 - 5 age group; $5. for the 5 - 10 age group; $7.50 for the 10 - 20 age group; and $10 for the 20 - upward age group, with a maximum price of $15 for any breadfruit tree.

3. Coconut Trees: There should be a charge of $2.50 for a coconut at time it begins to flower, with price moving downward according to younger age. The price of coconut trees should move upward from $2.50 at time of first flowering to $5 when the tree is at the peak of production.

4. Trees on outer islands should be $1 higher priced than those on the high islands of the Truk Atoll.

5. All of these recommendations, including those which will come from the Moen Island Office, will be reviewed at a special meeting of the LAB at the time of the Chiefs' Conference and a final recommendation on tree values will be made at that time.

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Chief Ennis: Suggests $5.00 average price. When tree first flowers, worth $3.50: when produces good nuts, worth $5.00.

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Chief Ring: Suggests that prices be $1 higher on low islands because of the great importance of trees to the low island people. Other Trukese members of LAB agreed.

After considerable further discussion, the LAB agreed on the following:

1. No firm recommendation on the subject will be made until after Chief Petrus has an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Moen Island Council and Moen land owners in the Retention Area and to have sent the petitions to LAB.

2. Breadfruit Trees: There should be a scale of tree values on the scale divided into four age groups, 1 - 5, 5 - 10, 10 - 20, 20 - upward. The average price on this scale would be $2.50 for trees in the 1 - 5 age group: $5. for the 5 - 10 age group: $7.50 for the 10 - 20 age group: and $10 for the 20 - uprard age group, with a maximum price of $15 for any breadfruit tree.

3. Coconut Trees: There should be a charge of $2.50 for a coconut at time it begins to flower, with price moving downward according to younger age. The price of coconut trees should move upward from $2.50 at time of first flowering to $5 when the tree is at the peak of production.

4. Trees on outer islands should be $1 higher priced than those on the high islands of the Truk Atoll.

5. All of these recommendations, including those which will come from the Moen Island Office, will be reviewed at a special meeting of the LAB at the time of the Chiefs' Conference and a final recommendation on tree values will be made at that time.

Police and Court Problems: Mr. Muller, Sictus Berdon, Iuanis, Sheriff Keigo, Mr. Freeland, Mr. Robson, and Mr. Ross were present at this discussion. Sheriff Keigo presented the following list of questions to the PAC members, and the answers are indicated below:

1. How do the people feel about putting Constabulary men in the outer islands?

PAC REPLY: Police should be assigned to islands which are the greatest trouble spots. It does not help if policeman is present in a trouble-spot island part-time, because when he moves on, they resume dynamiting fish and other forms of misconduct. PAC believes people on islands where police assigned would be happy to provide food and house for his family and him.

2. Sheriff Keigo: Does PAC approve the plan of having District Court trials on various islands around the District rather than always being held at the Court on Moen Island?

PAC REPLY: It is a good idea to move around.

3. Sheriff Keigo: What is the attitude in the Trukese culture toward rape?

PAC REPLY: It is contrary to the cultural pattern.

4. Mr. Robson: How much resistance is required by the girl in order for it to be considered rape?

PAC REPLY: In trukese culture, women normally would not strongly resist. A few might fight. The PAC gave the following specific criteria for determining that the incident was actually rape:

1. The girl cries.
2. She calls for help.
3. She has torn clothing.
4. She fights the attacker.
5. She runs away from him as soon as possible.

5. Mr. Robson: Should she tell some one immediately?

PAC REPLY: The custom is that this depends upon how the woman feels about it. Mr. Robson says that it is considered very important to the court that she tell some one that she was attacked.

Mission School Store Licenses:

Question: Should retail licenses be required for schools and school stores?

PAC DECISION: No license is required unless people other than the students connected with mission buy from the store. PAC pointed out that school or mission store may be used as a learning situation.

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Problem of Controlling Homemade Trukese Liquor: Chairman pointed out this problem has arisen at every Chiefs' Conference and PAC meeting. Summarized briefly attitudes of Trukese leaders in previous discussions.

Chief Ennis: There are these objections to homemade liquor:
1. Too expensive
2. Very unsanitary
3. Easy to get homemade liquor any time: thus the people break the island rules.

Chief Ichiro: It is bad that no license is required to make Sakau.

Chief Ennis: Repeated emphatically throughout the discussion his belief that if the Trukese people were allowed to drink imported beer and liquor, the Trukese would no longer make homemade liquor. All five other members of the PAC disagreed with this point of view. They agreed that there would simply be imported beer and liquor along with the present homemade Sakau.

Distad: If homemade Sakau is as unsanitary as the PAC members assert it is, recommends PAC take some action to clean it up.

Distad: Referred to proposal made by the P.C at their May 1954 meeting for a vote throughout the district on whether or not to have liquor. Distad said he would agree to that proposal if (1) women were permitted to vote on the issue and (2) if liquor were excluded and they voted only on the question of whether to have beer. He further stated he would consider having the chiefs, themselves, decide this issue if each chief discussed the question in advance with all adults on his home island and the majority of those people, including women, agreed on the point of view of that island on this issue.

Chief Lorenzo: He would accept that point of view.

PAC DECISION: Discuss the liquor question no further at this session but bring the matter up at the forthcoming Annual Chiefs' Conference.

Medical Problems: Hospital Administrator Emily Nestle and her assistant Koichi (Dr. Richardson on leave) commented on the following subjects:

1. T.B. Rest Houses: If the islands build the T.B. rest houses, the Government would be willing to follow the pattern already set for the T.B. rest houses on Moen island. The Government will furnish food for outislanders but the people of the Truk Atoll would be asked to furnish food for Truk Atoll patients.

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2. A discussion followed regarding the Hansen's disease patients now temporarily residing at Ponape. All members of the PAC strongly asserted their desire to see a building constructed in a village on Moen Island to house these people and asked that they be brought to Truk as soon as possible.

Chief King: People on Lukunor plan to build a T.B. rest house in the near future.

Income Tax for Workers: Chairman opened this discussion by pointing out that last year's Annual Chiefs' Conference agreed, while discussing this subject, that any island that wanted a worker income tax should enact its own island tax. He added that any tax should be based on (a) ability to pay and (b) ease of collection.

Chief Manuo: Stated what appeared to be the opinion of the entire PAC regarding this subject when he said that the people on each island pay 50¢ for each day that they do not work on the island work days: thus it is reasonable to ask each worker away from the island to pay a tax.

Sheriff Keigo and Koichi from Public Health were present as representatives of the Government workers. Keigo stated that he represents one-third of all the Government workers. He stated further that the workers have one word for their opinion on this type of tax: "No." The reason for this opinion, he said, is that they do not understand the tax.

Sheriff Keigo: The Government employees believe that if the PAC wants to establish a policy for the Kiokai they should not set up a District Order but should let each island decide for itself.

The Chairman: Pointed out that the present yearly income from the import tax and copra tax combined amounts to roughly $35,000. There are approximately 400 Government workers (including construction) and wholesale company workers combined and they pay a 5% import tax on most of the estimated $200,000 cash income which they earn each year. This would total roughly $10,000 a year, which the workers pay for import tax as they buy trade goods. On the other hand, perhaps 5000 to 7000 Trukese people throughout the District make $250,000 worth of copra a year and they pay a 2% copra tax on those earnings plus a 5% import tax as they purchase trade goods from the earnings. This would amount to roughly $20,000 a year. Speaking very roughly then, the average wage earner pays around $60 a year for import tax while the average copra producer pays less than fifty cents a year for combined copra and import tax.

The PAC, after further extensive discussion, decided to table the subject of the proposed worker income tax and to put it on the agenda for discussion at the Annual Chiefs' Conference.

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A Date for Annual Chiefs' Conference, 1955: PAC agreed with the District Administration that the Conference should be held during the period November 14 - 18, 1955.

Agenda for Annual Chiefs' Conference: PAC recommended the subjects shown on the attached proposed agenda for the Annual District Conference of Chiefs and recommended that this list should be circulated to every island and that each Chief should discuss each subject with his own people in community meetings so that when he comes to the conference this year he will be able to speak for all of his people.

Trukese Chairman for Next PAC Conference:

Chairman: Recommended that PAC members consider having their own Trukese Chairman for PAC Conferences beginning with their next meeting. PAC agreed that in the future they will elect their own Trukese Chairman.

Conclusion: Distad stated his belief that the conference held throughout the past week has been one of the best that PAC has yet held, and outlined eleven specific actions taken by the Permanent Advisory Committee during the week's conference.

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END OF REPORT

T. T. C file

Edward P. Furber
Chief Justice

Recorded Oct. 16, 1951 2:40 P.M.
F. Soukichi, Clerk of Courts

Transfee of Land

I Roberd, a resident of Moen Island in the Truk District, in consideration of three hundred sixty-six dollars and fifty cents ($366.50) to me paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell and conney to the Truk Trading Company, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and having its usunl plase of business on Moen Island all that tract or parcel of land located in Nepukos Village on said Moen Island, bounded and described as fellows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of the land hereby conveyed at a cement boundary marker, thence running easterly by land of the Catholic Mission about two hundred fortypone and one-half feet (241½ ft.) to a cement boundary marker at land now or formerly of Chonkas; thence running Northerly by said land now or formerly of Chonkas; and land now or formerly of Nason, a total of about two hundred fifty-five and one-half feet (255½ ft.) TO A CEMENT BOUNDARY MARKER AT LAND of Rinis, thence running in a direction South of West by said land of Rinis, land of Kristi and other land of mine, a total of about two hundred twenty-eight feet (228 ft.) to a cement boundary marker at land of the Trust Territory Government; thence running in a direction slightly west of south by said land of the Trust Territory Government about two hundred four feet (204 ft) to the point of beginning; containing about fifty-two thousand seven hundred seventy-six (52,776 sq. ft.) square feet.

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Nantaku file
Moen + Dublon

Investigation regarding land titles on Moen (Dec. 16, 1945)- NANTAKU
CORP. Correct name of Corp. is South Seas Agricultural Joint Stock
Co. Manager of Nantaku is MAGATA (located on Dublin, Paramga Village (Near
Army Hdqt's.).

Questioning of Japanese Military and civilian personnel on both
Moen and Dublon revealed the following:

After the Japs had taken over the Truk Islands under a mandate from
the League of Nations, at the end of the first World War, they bought from the
Trukese natives the major half of Moen (as shown by the attached map.) Part
of this land on Moen was used by the Japanese Government for military installa-
tions, and part of it was used for farms, to produce food for military Per-
sonnel.

These farms on Moen were placed by the Japanese Government at the
disposal of the Jap Navy. The Jap navy in turn gave a license to operate these
farms to the Nantaku Corp. (the full name of Nantaku Corp. is Nanyo Takusholu
Kabushiki Kaisha Corp.) This corporation, also known as the South Seas AGRICULTURAL
JOINT STOCK Co., Inc., is owned, so far as its stock goes, ½ by the
Japanese Government ~~(former Gov't now)~~ and ½ by private persons.

In return for operating the farms, the Nantaku Corp. was allowed to
sell the produce therefrom to the Jap Navy as food for Navy personnel,
and was also furnished with Korean labor. Thus Nantaku Corp. was able to
pay the salaries of the Korean laborers and also to make a profit on the
enterprise.

It appears that the Nantaku Corp. had only a mere license, or permit,
to operate these farms on Moen, and did not possess any title or other
interest in them. The only function of said corporation was to produce food
for the Jap Navy personnel.

There fore, the Japanese Government still owns the farms on Moen, which
they originally purchased FROM the natives.

The land documents pertaining to these farms were in the custody
of the Nantaku Corp., but were destroyed by fire as the result of a bombing
raid. Duplicate records were at one time possessed by the Jap Navy at Dublon
but these records have been removed to Tokyo. The main office of the
Nantaku Corp is in Tokyo.

The Nantaku Corp. owns two farms on Moen, called No. 1 and No. 2
farms. No. 1 farm is about twice as large as No. 2 farm, and is located on
the present military reservation, directly in back of the bay on which
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(cont'd p2)

Moving Of Trukese Natives From Military Reservation on Moen to New Locations on Moen. (December 23 to December 30, 1945)

The ownership, location, and extent of land involved in the above described moving of Trukese was ascertained (see attached maps, etc.) (the extent of land is approximate).

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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Office of Land Management, Truk District

Report to the U. N. Visiting Mission, February 27 - March 1, 1956

Introduction:

This District is 300 miles wide and 600 miles long, having a water area of 180,000 square miles over which are scattered approximately 100 islands, thirty-seven of which are permanently populated. Most of the rest are used for raising food crops and pigs. Total land area of the District is 49.18 square miles. Present population density averages about 400 people per square mile. Population increases at a rate of nearly 3% per year, indicating if the increase continues at this rate Truk's population will be larger than that of American Samoa in a decade.

Land is the most valuable commodity in the Trukese eyes. The Trukese have always depended upon agriculture for their primary source of subsistence and are consistently interested in having at hand additional cash crops. The advent of Europeans brought breadfruit and taro, and their subsistence is supplemented by bananas, pandanus, arrow root, sweet potatoes, wild oranges, limes, and sugar cane and rounded out with sea food.

Cash crops in the District are trochus and copra, with copra being the crop of constant concern with 75% of the total being produced within the Truk Atoll, 15% in the Mortlocks, and 10% in the islands in the northern and western parts of the District.

Agricultural Land:

Constant interest has been evidenced in the amount of arable land in the Truk District. At the outset it must be understood that the word "arable" is not applicable because in this District tillage is not an agricultural technique. Rather, we must think of land which is potentially productive and, in another light, land which is likely to be used for production.

Although no survey of productive land has been completed, it is estimated that potentially productive land throughout the District would encompass about 90% of the total area. However, it is unlikely that this percentage of productive land will be used due to the inaccessibility of approximately 1/4 of that amount. However, the Japanese, during their occupation, did make use of higher and more marginal land on the slopes than the islanders will ever be expected to do in the foreseeable future.

Land Types and Values: (See attached Exhibit No. 1)

The most valuable land, by islander concepts, is that which is good, porous soil, suitable for raising breadfruit, and good swamp land, suitable for raising taro. These two crops are highly productive but the amount of land which can be used for them is limited. From descriptions made and sample tracts located by the District Land Advisory Board, the attached schedule of values was compiled.

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Of the total 49 square miles of land area in the Truk District it is estimated that 1/16 of the total area is swamp, which is good for raising taro, a staple food; 3/8 is suitable for raising breadfruit, another staple, and 5/16 for growing copra.

Land Management Program: (See attached Exhibit No. 2)

One motivating factor in the program of this office is the desire of the administering authority to return to the owners all lands which are no longer needed for administrative purposes, consistent with full protection to all parties, and to compensate those owners for periods when the tracts were used, occupied, or controlled by the Government since the beginning of the Allied Occupation.

Another factor is the desire of the administering authority to parcel out those tracts now considered Government land, as the result of its purchase or confiscation by the Japanese or Germans during their periods of occupation in this area. The Trust Territory Code makes provision for such parceling out in an orderly fashion through a homesteading program, which may be set up in each district so that eligibility is in accord with cultural patterns of the individual areas.

Advice and recommendations are received by the Administration, in forwarding the land program, from a Land Advisory Board comprised of six Trukese leaders, appointed by the District Conference of Chiefs, and four members of the Administration.

Concerning the first factor noted above, it must be stated that the Land Advisory Board played a large part in the establishment of values, amounts to be paid, and in the methods to be used in returning the land to private owners. (See attached Exhibit No. 3, a summary of the Land Advisory Board Meetings.)

Concerning the second factor, it must be stated that homesteading in this district is just now being taken into consideration. The Land Advisory Board has been asked to have proposals for homestead regulations to be considered at the next Board meeting. This Board will advise the District Administration on the establishment of Government Land Homesteading policies and patterns.

It should be understood that Truk does not have the large amounts of Government land found in other districts of the Trust Territory. What little there is, is located on only a few islands with the largest percentage of holdings being in the Halls and Northwestern group.

It is anticipated that establishment of a homestead policy in the strictest sense will be extremely difficult since there are many who would be eligible but few who could be chosen.

An indication of the spread of Government owned land throughout the district will be noted in Exhibit No. 4 and Exhibit No. 5.

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One motivating factor in the program of this office is the desire of the administering authority to return to the owners all lands which are no longer needed for administrative purposes, consistent with full protection to all parties, and to compensate those owners for periods when the tracts were used, occupied, or controlled by the Government since the beginning of the Allied Occupation.

Another factor is the desire of the administering authority to parcel out those tracts now considered Government land, as the result of its purchase or confiscation by the Japanese or Germans during their periods of occupation in this area. The Trust Territory Code makes provision for such parceling out in an orderly fashion through a homesteading program, which may be set up in each district so that eligibility is in accord with cultural patterns of the individual areas.

Advice and recommendations are received by the Administration, in forwarding the land program, from a Land Advisory Board comprised of six Trukese leaders, appointed by the District Conference of Chiefs, and four members of the Administration.

Concerning the first factor noted above, it must be stated that the Land Advisory Board played a large part in the establishment of values, amounts to be paid, and in the methods to be used in returning the land to private owners. (See attached Exhibit No. 3, a summary of the Land Advisory Board Meetings.)

Concerning the second factor, it must be stated that homesteading in this district is just now being taken into consideration. The Land Advisory Board has been asked to have proposals for homestead regulations to be considered at the next Board meeting. This Board will advise the District Administration on the establishment of Government Land Homesteading policies and patterns.

It should be understood that Truk does not have the large amounts of Government land found in other districts of the Trust Territory. What little there is, is located on only a few islands with the largest percentage of holdings being in the Halls and Northwestern group.

It is anticipated that establishment of a homestead policy in the strictest sense will be extremely difficult since there are many who would be eligible but few who could be chosen.

An indication of the spread of Government owned land throughout the district will be noted in Exhibit No. 4 and Exhibit No. 5.

Present Status of the Land Program:

Money has been made available for this district to settle all known claims for damage, use, occupation, or control of privately owned land from September 1945 to date, and funds have been made available to continue payments on the small amount of privately owned land which the Administration must continue to use. These payments will be made until the full "use right" value of the land has been paid. The Government is not purchasing the land, and even though "use right" is retained, the islanders are still permitted to gather the fruits from trees which were planted by them within the areas retained prior to their formal notification of its retention in 1954. It is expected, insofar as plans can now be projected, that all such payments for use to date will be completed within the next 90 days.

No firm homesteading policy or procedure has been established in this district, and it is anticipated that before a homesteading program can be properly implemented many problem situations must be overcome. However, it must be understood that the Trukese people are not suffering from the delay in parceling out Government land. On such tracts are available to them for their use on a revocable permit basis, and such use is without charge. Such revocable permits are given with the understanding that all persons within a designated municipality may gather the produce of those lands and may continue to plant them for their own profit. However, any cash income from such produce must be made a matter of record in the municipality and 10% of the income paid into the municipal treasure to assist in compensating elementary school teachers in that municipality and the municipal officials.

Alienation of Land:

Private land presently in use by the Administration, on "use right" agreements totals 199.32 acres, for which islander owners will be compensated as above.

The total Government land indicated as 1870.25 acres includes 391 acres held by a foreign national prior to Japanese purchase, the true ownership of which is presently in dispute. This acreage has been and is now assigned on a revocable permit basis to the people of the municipality within which the area is located.

Our Goal:

The attached Exhibit No. 6 more eloquently indicates the end for which we are striving.

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EXHIBIT NO. 1

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
TRUK DISTRICT
Office of Land Management

DESCRIPTION OF LAND TYPES AND RECOMMENDED VALUE SCHEDULE
*(Land Use rights, government purposes only)

Type	Description	Indefinite Use Rights Value Per Acre	Annual Rental per acre
Business	a.-Location only is deciding factor. Must be easily accessible and in close proximity to flow of local trade.	$350.00	$21.00
No. 1	a.- Good soil, near water, for garden crops, copra and housing. b.-Good soil, not near water, for garden crops, copra, housing and fair for breadfruit. c.- Not good for housing or trees, but very good for swamp taro. d.- Excellent for breadfruit.	300.00	$18.00
No. 2	a.- Poor soil, but very good for housing. b.- Good soil, far from water, on a hill, but good for upland gardens and trees.	250.00	15.00
No. 3	a.- Poor soil for food crops, not on water, but fair soil for trees.	200.00	12.00
No. 4	a.- Salt water swamp, not good for anything but crabs and wood.	150.00	9.00
NOTE:	All prices and descriptions have been set after agreement reached by Land Advisory Board members, both Trukese and American; Moen Island officials; District Administrator, District Agriculturist and representatives of land owners concerned.		
*	These values are not intended to set a value or precedent for values in private land transactions		

Signed: _____
G. C. Shumard
District Title Officer

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NOTE
EXHIBIT #2
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"LAND REG. #1"

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17 May 1955

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Summary Report of Land Advisory Board Meetings - 4 December, 1954 to 15 April, 1955.

During a Land Advisory Board meeting on 4 December, 1954, various types of land on Moen Island were discussed, with special attention given to the areas used, occupied or controlled by the United States Government, or its agencies, or by the Government of the Trust Territory from 1946 to date or any period of time during that interval.

On 15 and 16 December, meetings were held with the Moen Municipal Officials, Village Officials, Clan Heads and owners of all land used, occupied or controlled, as noted above. Types of land and values were discussed and agreed upon by all concerned. A total of 108 interested parties were present.

Another Land Advisory Board meeting was held on 17 December, with the Moen Magistrate and three other representatives of the land owners attending. This meeting resulted in agreement, by the Trukese leaders on the Board, land owners representatives and District Administration representatives, on firm descriptions of the land types. Also, firm use values were established, all being based originally on values per taube, (35.55 sq. ft.). These figures were then converted into acre measurements and final values computed. Samples of each land type were pointed out.

On April 15, 1955, the final meeting regarding these points was held. During the course of this session, the Trukese members of the Land Advisory Board, three representatives of the land owners, the District Agriculturist and the Title Officer went over the areas to be considered in claim settlements and designated individual land types by blocks.

It was later agreed, by the Magistrate and a majority of the Trukese Board members, that the Government should pay the annual rentals only until such time as the total use values had been paid, or until such time as the land was released to the owners, whichever date should be earlier.

Investigation points to September, 1945, as the month of the Japanese surrender in Truk. Trukese state that actual United States occupation started in November, 1945, but all agreed that claims should be computed beginning with 1 December, 1945.

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Signed: _____
George Shumard
District Land Title Officer

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(2)

FF12(9)/HB/my
Serial: 448

16 June 1950

From: Civil Administrator, Truk District
To: High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

Subj: Ex-Japanese Real Property in the Truk District

Ref: (a) HiComTerPacIs ltr ser 744 of 2 May 1950
(b) Interim Regulation 6-48
(c) Trust Territory Policy ltr P-1 ser 630 of 29 December 1947

1. In reply to reference (a), the following comments and recommendations are offered relative to the subject property.

2. It does not appear that it will be possible to institute the payment of rental on ex-Japanese lands in the district, as directed by paragraph 4 of reference (a), by the target date of 1 July 1950, nor, in some cases, does it appear feasible at all. The reasons for this are as follows:

a. Determination of what lands are to come under this heading is in many cases very difficult and would involve extensive investigations. For example, a good deal of land used and often improved (from the Japanese, though not necessarily native, standpoint) by the Japanese, was apparently acquired on a purely usufruct basis, payment being made only for trees, houses, etc., thereon. Where this is clear, title presumably remains with the original owner, but in many cases it is difficult to determine whether this was clearly the only basis of acquisition. In other cases (particularly airstrips) the land area was extended, though at the cost of destroying the productivity of the original land, by grading away topsoil, laying concrete, etc.; determination of the original shoreline is often impossible with any accuracy, and the question arises as to how much of the land should be subject to rental. A blanket assessment of rent on all those lands on which the Japanese had facilities, would, it would appear, leave the government open to liability for return of this rental if more complete investigation revealed that the Japanese did, in fact, not have title to it.

(2)

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High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

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b. Due to these complicating factors and the tremendous number of individual plots of land involved, it has not been possible to date to make more than a beginning in listing and investigating the status of such lands, scattered over practically all the islands, of the district, inhabited and uninhabited. It was intended that this be the next major project of Mr. John L. Fischer, Anthropological Field Consultant, upon his completion of the draft code of land tenure during June, 1950. However, his transfer to Ponape has now been completed and even if a replacement for him is provided, it will be a matter of months before he is sufficiently versed in the language and culture to be able to undertake this project for which Mr. Fischer was preparing himself. As our Economics Officer has collaterally the virtually full time duties of Operations and Communications, this function has had to be combined with that of Political Affairs in the department of Native Affairs, leaving Mr. T. F. Gladwin, head of that department and the only other man qualified to undertake this study, without available time. It will thus be some months before the study can even begin, assuming a replacement is provided for Mr. Fischer.

c. The question of ability to pay is also relevant. On most islands, the occupants of the land should be able to pay at least a small rental. However, the three islands which contain proportionately the largest amounts of ex-Japanese land, Dublon, Eten and Parem, by virtue of the extensive Japanese activities on them, have been rendered so unproductive that they are practically destitute. The inhabitants of Dublon and Parem do not even have enough money to pay their head tax, leaving the municipal treasuries practically empty, while the people of Eten cannot even begin to provide for their minimum subsistence needs. Insistence upon rental payments on these islands could only lead to privation and an ever-mounting indebtedness or mass eviction. It would not, on the other hand, appear equable to charge rent on other islands but not on these.

3. References (a) and (b) provide for the sale of ex-Japanese real property. However, it would appear from reference (a) that the primary consideration in determining a tentative sale price should be an assessment of the current actual value of the property, irrespective of the price originally paid for it by the Japanese. Paragraph 13 of reference (c), however, permits the return to the former owner of all lands acquired after 27 March 1935 upon payment of such money as was originally received in compensation for it provided "the sale was not made of free will and that just compensation was not received." As these conditions can be readily demonstrated to have obtained in the great majority of cases, this would appear to provide the

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basis for a more equable and feasible means of disposition. A rate of exchange is provided therein, as well as the provision that unredeemed yen currency or Japanese postal savings may be applied.

4. Adherence to this procedure would not only have the advantage of providing a fairer basis for return of these lands, but would eliminate an enormous amount of investigation and delay. The former owner could simply submit a form certified by the municipal authorities, naming and, as necessary, describing the land, attesting to his former ownership and the date and amount paid him when the land was taken over. Allowance could then be made for destruction of, or genuine improvements on, the land, the amount due computed, and the form translated and submitted to the High Commissioner for approval. Many otherwise questionable cases could be disposed of in this fashion with a minimum of investigation, leaving only those actually requiring determination by the courts for more extensive study. Consideration of this proposal as an alternative to that set forth in reference (a) is respectfully requested of the High Commissioner. It is felt that the sums involved would be within the means of the majority of the former owners, and even when not, the incentive would be very great for relatives or others to assist in thus clearing the title to these lands.

5. For the information of the High Commissioner, the following may be listed as covering the means of acquistion of practically all of those lands of indigenous ownership used by the Japanese:

a. Payment made or promised for usufruct rights only, and based upon the number of trees and other personal property on the land. A great many payments were made in (unredeemed) Postal Savings or not at all, the latter being due to the loss of many records by fire before they had been processed. Use of much of the land on Moen Island was acquired in this fashion.

b. Payment promised for both the personal and real property involved, but only completed for the personal property. As it is customary for the Trukese in buying land to pay for the value of the trees in the first installments, with later installments applying to the land itself, it is possible if not probable that the Japanese did not in these cases have in mind any distinction between trees and land, the partial payments simply being so interpreted by the Trukese in terms of their own customs.

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The majority of cases would fall under (a) or (b), but it would often be difficult to determine which, without fuller investigation.

c. Full payment made, based on both personal property and land area. The island of Eten is a case in point here; the former inhabitants were told at the time of sale that they would no longer be permitted to return. As far as is known none of these sales were at the option of the former owner.

d. Land acquired by the German administration. There is very little of this in the Truk Atoll; any return of this to former owners would have to be on the basis of an assessment of current value, as it was paid for in full and any mitigating circumstances would be very difficult to determine.

e. Land taken without notification or compensation. The site of the former radio station on Moen is the only case presently known. Any other cases would also require special consideration.

f. Land purchased during the German administration by the Jaluit Gesellschaft and treated as government land under the Japanese. This is covered by separate correspondence.

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION DEVELOPED THUS FAR RE
LAND TENURE AND TRANSFERS

From checking with claimants to land located in what is commonly known as the Administration area, it has developed that they consider that the land occupied by the Japanese Government, directly or indirectly through Nantaku, is theirs. This attitude is also evidenced by Chief Petrus and results from statements made by the Japanese to the chiefs, as well as to some of the people, that the Japanese were just taking the land to use it during the war. The Japanese agreed to pay for the trees but in the great majority of cases allegedly did not pay the full amount and in most instances paid half or less than half of the amount agreed upon. However, in cases where the Japanese bought the trees ~~even if they had paid for the use of the land~~, they were doing it strictly on a limited use basis and in the minds of the local Trukese people, the land reverted to the original owner or his heirs at the end of the war.

It has been brought out that if the Japanese had made no such commitment and if they had bought the trees and the dirt then the owner would feel that he had absolutely no rights whatsoever. If, however, they had bought only the trees without making any ~~such~~ commitment as to length of time they would be used and if they had paid the full amount agreed upon for those trees, then the Trukese would feel that the land still belonged to them ~~by~~ but that the trees did not.

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Trouble would probably have developed in any event if this sale had been made without the consent of the elders of the family who are depended upon to pass the word down through possible heirs.

The Trukese feel that since the Japanese did not pay the full amount for the trees, the money which was paid has been "used up" by the Japanese occupancy of the land for approximately seven years.

Further it is understood that had the Japanese paid full amount for the trees and made no commitment as to the length of time the land was to be used then the Trukese would have ~~felt~~ that when the United States occupied the island the ownership of those trees would have passed to the United States and would have continued to pass from government to government so long as outside governments continue to occupy the island.

In cases where Japanese individuals or the government purchased dirt or trees ~~xixkixa~~ with the agreement of the seller and paid in full an agreed upon price, the Trukese do not feel that they have any rights to the trees or the dirt as the case may be.

One instance pointed out had to do with the people of Tunnuk having sold the trees on a large tract of land to a Japanese individual. This Japanese got into debt with a Japanese firm and upon his failure to make payment the Japanese firm took over the trees and the land to satisfy that debt. The Japanese ~~faikxiha~~ firm then sold this tract of land and the trees to the people of Eras and Mechitiu. The people of Tunnuk recognized this entire transaction but still feel that they have residual rights, eventually, to take back the land because they had not sold originally

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for the trees, the money which was paid has been "used up"
Japanese occupancy of the land for approximately seven years,
rther it is understood that had the Japanese paid full amount
trees and made no commitment as to the length of time the
s to be used then the Trukese would have felt that when the
States occupied the island the ownership of those trees
ave passed to the United States and would have continued
from government to government so long as outside govern-
ontinue to occupy the island.

cases where Japanese individuals or the government pur-
dirt or trees ~~xithhha~~ with the agreement of the seller and
full an agreed upon price, the Trukese do not feel that
ve any rights to the trees or the dirt as the case may be,
e instance pointed out had to do with the people of Tunnuk
sold the trees on a large tract of land to a Japanese in-
l. This Japanese got into debt with a Japanese firm and
s failure to make payment the Japanese firm took over the
nd the land to satisfy that debt. The Japanese ~~fakkxhha~~
en sold this tract of land and the trees to the people of
d Mechitiu. The people of Tunnuk recognized this entire
tion but still feel that they have residual rights, even-
to take back the land because they had not sold originally

the dirt to the Japanese individual. However, Trukese custom forces them to recognize the sale of the dirt and the trees to the people of Eras and Mechitiu. They know that the only way they will get the land back, by following their own custom, will be the result of all of the people of Eras or Mechitiu being killed off or driven away as a result of some diaster such as a typhoon, etc. They realize as long as even one person remains in any of the lineage in Eras or Mechitiu the land and the trees must be considered theirs ~~and that the people of Tunnuk can just look upon it as being too bad that the Japanese individual or firm with whom they first dealt was not trustworthy and failed to keep faith.~~

Should a Trukese get land from another Trukese it must be thoroughly understood right at the beginning whether his acquiring land was a result of a gift or purchase. In ancient times the sale of land was unheard of. However, the people have come to understand it as long as the agreement made at the time the land was transferred was clearly understood by all parties concerned. If aTrukese bought the trees on land, it would be considered that those trees no longer beloned to the original owner but that the dirt still would belong to him and the original owner would have a right to plant on that land when such planting did not interfere with the trees already there, and the man who bought the trees could plant on that land, but only within the area of existing trees and could not plant on the land where trees were not already growing. These trees would pass from the purchaser to any other members of his family as long as he had, before his death designated

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the person he was giving the trees to. Should the purchaser be killed without having made such designation, then ~~his brother~~ THE BLOOD SIBLING; in Trukese custom, ~~either would approach or be approached by the individual who still owned the dirt and they would renew the agreement~~ WOULD TAKE THE TREES AND SHOULD THEN SHARE WITH HIS WIFE AND/OR CHILDREN. COULD HAVE THEM OR WOULD KEEP THEM FOR THEMSELVES and the circumstance would repeat itself through the years. If no brother or other member of the purchasers lineage was living then his wife would ~~make the contract with the seller~~ TAKE THE TREES and the ~~land~~ TREES then would pass to her brothers or sisters in the same manner as previously stated. If the man who was killed without designating the new person to hold this ~~land~~ TREES had no brothers, sisters, wife or children then the seller would again come back as owner of the land ~~because~~ SINCE there was no one who had a better claim to it and he ~~had been the original owner.~~ HAD A TRADITIONAL RIGHT SINCE HE STILL OWNED DIRT; ~~Strangely enough~~ if he had sold the rights he had bought to another Trukese, or to any other individual, the Trukese would recognize this sale ~~and even if he had sold the dirt which he did not own,~~ this transfer also would probably be recognized but he would have violated the faith and be looked upon ~~for evermore~~ with suspicion. The original owner of the trees would still consider that he had residual rights in the land ~~for~~ and for many years would still be watching so that if the new purchaser died without leaving someone behind to claim, he would step in and claim as the original owner.

This question has been raised having to do with a Trukese who bought trees and then got into a "blood war" with another Trukese and was killed. Would the winner of this blood war succeed to the rights of the loser? The answer to this would be yes but he would only succeed to the rights held by the loser, ie., ownership of the trees.

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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Office of the Deputy High Commissioner
Guam, M. I.

COPY

10 June 1949

FF12(1)/002
L22-3/65:jmb

Serial: 1224

From: [illegible] I Com TT of Pac Islds.

To: Civil Adm. , Truk

Subj: Homesteading in Outer Iglands of the Truk District; Comment on

Ref: (a) AG-132 despatch 300300Z May
(b) CivAd Truk ltr A14-2 Serial 354 dtd 22 May 1949

1. Both references (a) and (b) were, as the result of certain unfortunate delays, received too late for action to be taken and and transmitted to the Field Trip Officer prior to his departure from the islands in question. This circumstance is regretted; it is hoped, however, that all deatails of the land adjustment can b clarified so that the matter can be settled on the next Field Trip to the islands.

2. The DepHiCom is of the opinion that the "Homestead Agreement" proposed for use is not altogether adequate in its present form. Necessary revisions will be made by the Staff L Legal Department, and transmitted to the Civil Administrator, Truk, in the near future. However, in light of the evidence presented on the lands referred to, in reference (b), it is recommended that rights to the lands be given the lineages to whom they belonged in pre-german times by outright transfer of title rather than under a Homestead Plan. To this end, it is requested that the following data, or as many of them as are available in Truk, be submitted to the DepHiCom for the purpose of drawing up the corresponding deeds: for each island or tract to be transferred, nome of island, name of atoll in which located, name of individual tracts or plots to be included in grant, nam of lineage to whom described land is to be given, and the island on which they reside, and name of lineage head who will act as suctodian of the lineage rights.

3. This mode of transfer is recommended because of the special circumstances affecting the outer Truk islands, and is not to be regarded as establishing a precedent.

S. C. Anderson
Chief of Staff

Address reply to
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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Office of the Civil Administrator
Truk District

File FF12(9)/Al4-2/TFG:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

22 May 1949.

From: Civil Administrator, Truk District.
To: Deputy High Commissioner,
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

Reference: (a) DepHiCom ltr ser 791, undated.
(b) CAU Truk ltr ser 21 of 5 Jan'49.

1. In reply to reference (a) and in accordance with recent conversations between LCDR Miller and Mr. Gladwin, the following information is offered herewith in support of our request for authority to proceed with the subject transfers in accordance with the conditions here set forth.

2. The information requested by reference (a), paragraph 7, is set forth below, following the designation of the subparagraphs of that letter. These statements apply equally to all the lands listed in enclosure (B) of reference (b) except as otherwise noted, with the exception of Ulul, which now comes under separate correspondence.

3. (a) With the exception of Alet, all these lands are on ar comprise small islands with inadequate landings and mostly in unswept and untried waters. The possibility of their having any value for governmental or commercial activities outside of the copra production for which they are presently used is nil. Alet is larger, has a concrete pier suitable for small boats, and a lighthouse which could be made operative by relatively minor structural repairs and the replacement of the light itself and the enclosing glass. The airstrip on this island is no longer usable, but even if cleaned up appears to be unusually short. In view of the distance of this island from existing or projected administrative centers and shipping lanes, and the fact that the only available anchorage is in the open sea, out of the normal lee of the island, the possibility that this island might be used for any of the purposes for which these facilities might be considered to be adapted is remote. The possibility remains that Alet might be used eventually as a site for the relocation of populations from areas of high density, such as Tamatam, but this is not an immediate problem. Nor, if it were, would Alet provide an immediate solution, as the task of reclaiming the land from the ravages of the Japanese developments and the attendant second growth of brush are staggering; the land currently usable on Alet is scarcely adequate to the needs of Puluwat. Should the need arise in the future, it is highly probable that an equable arrangement could be made very readily.

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(b) As noted above, it does not appear advisable to retain any of these lands under Civil jurisdiction. It is intended that the people of Puluwat be advised informally of the possibility of the future relocation of the people of Tamatam to a portion of Alet, but it is not felt advisable to attempt the delineation of any section of it at the present time, when no adequate survey has yet been made of the resources and condition of the various parts of the island, and the future needs of both groups remains indeterminate.

(c) All the lands in question were originally acquired by purchase by the German government-sponsored Jaluit Gesellschaft. With the advent of the Japanese, all the properties of this company reverted to the Japanese government without further reference to the previous native owners. No rights were obtained to any of these lands by anyone else as far as can be ascertained from all available informants, with the exception of revocable permission to cut copra on them on a percentage basis. No claims whatsoever on them have come to our attention except those of the original owners from whom the lands were acquired by the Jaluit Gesellschaft.

(d) In the absence of any definitive studies of the systems of land tenure in effect in these islands (particularly the western ones), all evidence seems to point strongly toward its being essentially similar if not identical to that found on Truk. The complexity of this system is such as to preclude a full treatment of it here, but its essentials are as follows. All rights to land are vested both in the individual and in the lineage (as represented by its head, the eldest man); the degree to which each has jurisdiction is not clear-cut, and confusion not infrequently results from this lack of definition. The island chief, whose status has only emerged clearly as a result of continuing contact with administering powers, enters the picture only as the person most commonly called upon to arbitrate disputes (with varying degrees of success).

Both usufruct ("trees") and fee simple ("soil") rights to land are recognized. The former are relatively simply obtained and alienated, requiring, to be binding, only the consent of the individual concerned and of his lineage head. Upon alienation of such rights, however, reversionary rights, and particularly rights to the trees planted under this usufruct, remain. Fee simple rights, encumbered by the reversionary rights of previous holders of usufruct and of title, are also fairly readily passed along the normal lines of inheritance (which in this case are both matrilineal and patrilineal), but

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The Jaluit Gesellschaft representatives apparently purchased these lands by a lump payment of cash to the island chief, in at least one case to the chief of an island other than the one which was recognized to have jurisdiction over the land in question. These purchases were not in accordance with acceptable procedures because (1) they were not voluntary, (2) the chiefs did not have the right to alienate these lands as the Germans insisted they do, and (3) no cognizance was taken of the holders of reversionary or usufruct rights. In regard to coercion, it would be difficult to prove that it existed, although all the people are in agreement in stating that they did not wish to sell the land at the outset. A parallel can be drawn, however, with the acquisition of land by the military forces of occupation on Truk subsequent to the close of the war. It is obvious that the Trukese involved did not relish the thought of surrendering their lands without any compensation or consideration, yet there is no record of any of them having been driven from their land at gun point. Even though coercion was never more than implicit in the context of the situation, it appears justified to believe that the alienation of the land was no more voluntary in the first instance than in the second.

For these reasons, the people, though resigned to the loss of their lands, have never considered them irrevocably alienated, and have remained cognizant of the traditional ownership of these lands. If returned to them, the lands would be distributed in accordance with such ownership, probably in most cases by the chief to the lineage chiefs, and by them according to the now living members of their lineages in accordance with their needs. From this point onward, the traditional system of land tenure outlined above would be binding.

(e) The lands, as noted above, are to be returned to the people of those islands which had traditional jurisdiction over them, which are also those closest to them and therefore best able to use them to advantage. There is no question that all these people need more land. Though it might be demonstrated that there were other people in the district who were in greater need of more land, they would lie in most cases prohibitive distances from the islands in question, most of which are pretty small at best, so that the advantage to be gained by the abrogation of traditional rights of ownership and the attendant bitterness

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which would ensue would be negligible.

(f) The islands in question are all pretty small (with the exception of Alet and perhaps Magur), and planted primarily to coconuts. Some subsistence crops are harvested on some islands, but virtually the only revenue producing crop has been copra. Rent has consisted of a percentage (at first 50%, later 25%) of the sale price of the copra harvested on these islands. No records are available to indicate the sums which have been collected on this basis, as the funds have been lumped together and gone into general funds.

(g) If payment must be made for these lands, a percentage of annual production, as proposed in reference (b), seems the only feasible basis, as the other alternatives suggested in reference (a) require visiting the islands which could be hazardous and would certainly be more time-consuming than appears to be justified.

3. However, as discussed in the above-mentioned conversations, little or nothing except the actual revenue (which would reduce the badly needed income of the district) would appear to be gained by setting any price upon the land as a condition of its return. There is little doubt that the three administrations which have derived revenue from these lands have had an adequate return on the original investment to justify writing it off without further demanding the small additional sum the natives would be able to pay. Didactically it would certainly also be ineffective, if the intention were to demonstrate to the natives that a title is not something to be taken lightly. A title properly (in their terms) and voluntarily obtained and cleared is recognized by them without question as binding. Title to the lands in question, however, was obtained in violation of their precepts, and, at least in the eyes of the current generations for sure, involuntarily. Having been thus acquired, these lands have been in varying degrees denied to them over a period of over forty years. If it is to continue to be the policy of the Trust Territory to recognize local customs of land tenure, it appears far more advisable from the standpoint of making this policy meaningful to the natives to return as expeditiously and as simply as possible land which has been acquired by means not in accord with native custom, than it is to (in effect) reaffirm the validity of such a transfer by making the return contingent upon further payment.

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3. However, as discussed in the above-mentioned conversations, little or nothing except the actual revenue (which would reduce the badly needed income of the district) would appear to be gained by setting any price upon the land as a condition of its return. There is little doubt that the three administrations which have derived revenue from these lands have had an adequate return on the original investment to justify writing it off without further demanding the small additional sum the natives would be able to pay. Didactically it would certainly also be ineffective, if the intention were to demonstrate to the natives that a title is not something to be taken lightly. A title properly (in their terms) and volumtarily obtained and cleared is recognized by them without question as binding. Title to the lands in question, however, was obtained in violation of their precepts, and, at least in the eyes of the current generations for sure, involuntarily. Having been thus acquired, these lands have been in varying degrees denied to them over a period of over forty years. If it is to continue to be the policy of the Trust Territory to recognize local customs of land tenure, it appears far more advisable from the standpoint of making this policy meaningful to the natives to return as expeditiously and as simply as possible land which has been acquired by means not in accord with native custom, than it is to (in effect) reaffirm the validity of such a transfer by making the return contingent upon further payment.

Address reply to
Office of the Civil
Administrator,
Truk District
Truk, Caroline Islands
Navy No. 3410
% Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Office of the Civil Administrator
Truk District

File FF12(9)/A14-2/TFC:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

175

22 May 1949.

Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

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4. It is therefore requested that authority be granted for the return of the lands listed in enclosure (B) to reference (b) (with the exception of Ulul) in accordance with the proposal there submitted, except that subparagraph (h) of paragraph two (2) of enclosure (A) to reference (b) be deleted. In view if the fact that the departure of a field trip to these islands is imminent, and that this is the last field trip for some months which will carry personnel thoroughly conversant with the problems here involved, it is further requested that such authority, if granted, be transmitted by dispatch, with the U.S.S. ELBA (AG-132) as info adee, and the added notation "INFO ADEE PASS TO GLADWIN". It is anticipated that the first island concerned, Puluwat, will be visited by the CivAd party in the morning of 28 May.

5. In regard to the conditions set forth in enclosure (A) to reference (b), it is understood that a question has been raised in regard to the provision of paragraph three (3) that "The Civil Administrator shall have cognizance of this distribution of land (by the chief) only in the event of disputes arising therefrom which the homesteading chief is unable to settle." This provision is in keeping with our frequently affirmed policy of leaving all local land disputes in the hands of the local chiefs provided that they remain within the bounds of established policy; this distribution of land is of the same order, for it is based upon the historical ownership of the land which can readily be ascertained in the majority of cases by the calling of witnesses. This basis for distribution is clearly set forth in reference (b) and will further be affirmed to the people of each affected island in open meeting; it is more than likely that the people as a whole will already be aware of who gets what land before the chief has made his formal statement. The provision above quoted will come into effect in practice if (1) the chief assigns land not in accordance with its historical ownership or (2) conflicting rights are of apparently equal weight and a relatively arbitrary decision has to be made. This will be made clear to the people in their meetings.

M. C. KING
By direction.

Address reply to
Office of the Civil
Administrator,
Truk District
Truk, Caroline Islands
Navy No. 3410
% Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Office of the Civil Administrator
Truk District

File FF12(9)/A14-2/TFG:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

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M. C. KING,
By direction.

FF12(9)/A14-2/TFG:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

22 May 1949.

From: Civil Administrator, Truk District.
To: Deputy High Commissioner,
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

Reference: (a) DepHiCom ltr ser 791, undated.
(b) CAU Truk ltr ser 21 of 5 Jan'49.

1. In reply to reference (a) and in accordance with recent conversations between LCDR Miller and Mr. Gladwin, the following information is offered herewith in support of our request for authority to proceed with the subject transfers in accordance with the conditions here set forth.

2. The information requested by reference (a), paragraph 7, is set forth below, following the designation of the subparagraphs of that letter. These statements apply equally to all the lands listed in enclosure (B) of reference (b) except as otherwise noted, with the exception of Ulul, which now comes under separate correspondence.

3. (a) With the exception of Alet, all these lands are on or comprise small islands with inadequate landings and mostly in exposed and untried waters. The possibility of their having any value for governmental or commercial activities outside of the copra production for which they are presently used is nil. Alet is larger, has a concrete pier suitable for small boats, and a lighthouse which could be made operative by relatively minor structural repairs and the replacement of the light itself and the enclosing glass. The airstrip on this island is no longer usable, but even if cleaned up appears to be unusually short. In view of the distance of this island from existing or projected administrative centers and shipping lanes, and the fact that the only available anchorage is in the open sea, out of the normal lee of the island, the possibility that this island might be used for any of the purposes for which these facilities might be considered to be adapted is remote. The possibility remains that Alet might be used eventually as a site for the relocation of populations from areas of high density, such as Tonoten, but this is not an immediate problem. Nor, if it were, would Alet provide an immediate solution, as the task of reclaiming the land from the ravages of the Japanese developments and the attendant second growth of brush are staggering; the land currently usable on Alet is scarcely adequate to the needs of Puluwat. Should the need arise in the future, it is highly probable that an equable arrangement could be made very readily.

FF12(9)/A14-2/TTC:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

22 May 1949.

From: Civil Administrator, Truk District.
To: Deputy High Commissioner,
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

References: (a) DepHiCom ltr ser 771, undated.
(b) CAU Truk ltr ser 21 of 5 Jan'49.

1. In reply to reference (a) and in accordance with recent conversations between LCDR Miller and Mr. Gladwin, the following information is offered herewith in support of our request for authority to proceed with the subject transfers in accordance with the conditions here set forth.

2. The information requested by reference (a), paragraph 7, is set forth below, following the designation of the subparagraphs of that letter. These statements apply equally to all the lands listed in enclosure (B) of reference (b) except as otherwise noted, with the exception of Ulul, which now comes under separate correspondence.

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22 May 1949.

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(b) As noted above, it does not appear advisable to retain any of these lands under Civil jurisdiction. It is intended that the people of Pulusat be advised informally of the possibility of the future relocation of the people of Tonoten to a portion of Alet, but it is not felt advisable to attempt the delineation of any section of it at the present time, when no adequate survey has yet been made of the resources and condition of the various parts of the island, and the future needs of both groups remains indeterminate.

(c) All the lands in question were originally acquired by purchase by the German government-sponsored Jaluit Gesellschaft. With the advent of the Japanese, all the properties of this company reverted to the Japanese government without further reference to the previous native owners. No rights were obtained to any of these lands by anyone also as far as can be ascertained from all available informants, with the exception of revocable permission to cut copra on them on a percentage basis. No claims whatsoever on them have come to our attention except those of the original owners from whom the lands were acquired by the Jaluit Gesellschaft.

(d) In the absence of any definitive studies of the systems of land tenure in effect in these islands (particularly the western ones), all evidence seems to point strongly toward its being essentially similar if not identical to that found on Truk. The complexity of this system is such as to preclude a full treatment of it here, but its essentials are as follows. All rights to land are vested both in the individual and in the lineage (as represented by its head, the eldest man); the degree to which each has jurisdiction is not clear-cut, and confusion not infrequently results from this lack of definition. The island chief, whose status has only emerged clearly as a result of continuing contact with administering powers, enters the picture only as the person most commonly called upon to arbitrate disputes (with varying degrees of success).

Both usufruct ("trees") and fee simple ("soil") rights to land are recognized. The former are relatively simply obtained and alienated, requiring, to be binding, only the consent of the individual concerned and of his lineage head. Upon alienation of such rights, however, reversionary rights, and particularly rights to the trees planted under this usufruct, remain. Fee simple rights, encumbered by the reversionary rights of previous holders of usufruct and of title, are also fairly readily passed along the normal lines of inheritance (which in this case are both matrilineal and patrilineal), but

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Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

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alienation of them to any outside party is difficult and generally not desired, though the acquisition of rights to land by some missionary bodies has provided exceptions to this generalization in some instances. In order to obtain clear title, the individuals and the heads of the lineages to which they belong would have to be satisfied by appropriate payment and release in each case.

The Jaluit Gesellschaft representatives apparently purchased these lands by a lump payment of cash to the island chief, in at least one case to the chief of an island other than the one which was recognized to have jurisdiction over the land in question. These purchases were not in accordance with acceptable procedures because (1) they were not voluntary, (2) the chiefs did not have the right to alienate these lands as the Germans insisted they do, and (3) no cognizance was taken of the holders of reversionary or usufruct rights. In regard to coercion, it would be difficult to prove that it existed, although all the people are in agreement in stating that they did not wish to sell the land at the outset. A parallel can be drawn, however, with the acquisition of land by the military forces of occupation on Truk subsequent to the close of the war. It is obvious that the Trukese involved did not relish the thought of surrendering their lands without any compensation or consideration, yet there is no record of any of them having been driven from their land at gun point. Even though coercion was never more than implicit in the context of the situation, it appears justified to believe that the alienation of the land was no more voluntary in the first instance then in the second.

For these reasons, the people, though resigned to the loss of their lands, have never considered them irrevocably alienated, and have remained cognizant of the traditional ownership of these lands. If returned to them, the lands would be distributed in accordance with such ownership, probably in most cases by the chief to the lineage chiefs, and by them according to the now living members of their lineages in accordance with their needs. From this point onward, the traditional system of land tenure outlined above would be binding.

(e) The lands, as noted above, are to be returned to the people of those islands which had traditional jurisdiction over them, which are also those closest to them and therefore best able to use them to advantage. There is no question that all these people need more land. Though it might be demonstrated that there were other people in the district who were in greater need of more land, they would lie in most cases prohibitive distances from the islands in question, most of which are pretty small at best, so that the advantage to be gained by the abrogation of traditional rights of ownership and the attendant bitterness

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which would ensue would be negligible.

(f) The islands in question are all pretty small (with the exception of Alet and perhaps Nagur), and planted primarily to coconuts. Some subsistence crops are harvested on some islands, but virtually the only revenue producing crop has been copra. Rent has consisted of a percentage (at first 50%, later 25%) of the sale price of the copra harvested on these islands. No records are available to indicate the sums which have been collected on this basis, as the funds have been lumped together and gone into general funds.

(g) If payment must be made for these lands, a percentage of annual production, as proposed in reference (b), seems the only feasible basis, as the other alternatives suggested in reference (a) require visiting the islands which could be hazardous and would certainly be more time-consuming than appears to be justified.

3. However, as discussed in the above-mentioned conversations, little or nothing except the actual revenue (which would reduce the badly needed income of the district) would appear to be gained by setting any price upon the land as a condition of its return. There is little doubt that the three administrations which have derived revenue from these lands have had an adequate return on the original investment to justify writing it off without further demanding the small additional sum the natives would be able to pay. Didactically it would certainly also be ineffective, if the intention were to demonstrate to the natives that a title is not something to be taken lightly. A title properly (in their terms) and voluntarily obtained and cleared is recognized by them without question as binding. Title to the lands in question, however, was obtained in violation of their precepts, and, at least in the eyes of the current generations for sure, involuntarily. Having been thus acquired, these lands have been in varying degrees denied to them over a period of over forty years. If it is to continue to be the policy of the Trust Territory to recognize local customs of land tenure, it appears far more advisable from the standpoint of making this policy meaningful to the natives to return as expeditiously and as simply as possible land which has been acquired by means not in accord with native custom, than it is to (in effect) reaffirm the validity of such a transafer by making the return contingent upon further payment.

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4. It is therefore requested that authority be granted for the return of the lands listed in enclosure (B) to reference (b) (with the exception of ULAI) in accordance with the proposal there submitted, except that subparagraph (b) of paragraph two (2) of enclosure (A) to reference (b) be deleted. In view of the fact that the department of a field trip to these islands is imminent, and that this is the last field trip for some months which will carry personnel conveniently concerned with the problems here involved, it is further requested that such authority, if granted, be transmitted by dispatch, with the U.S.S. KIAN (AG-132) as info addee, and the added notation "TWO ADMX PASS TO GLADDEN". It is anticipated that the first island concerned, Fefumek, will be visited by the Gland party in the middle of May.

5. In regard to the conditions set forth in enclosure (A) to reference (b), it is understood that a question has been raised in regard to the provision of paragraph three (3) that "the CIVIL Administrator shall have supervision of title distribution of land (by the chief) only in the event of disputes arising therefrom which the homesteading chief is unable to settle." This provision is in keeping with our frequently affirmed policy of leaving all local land disputes in the hands of the local chiefs provided that they remain within the bounds of established policy this distribution of land is of the same order, for it is based upon the historical ownership of the land which can readily be ascertained in the majority of cases by the calling of witnesses. This basis for distribution is clearly set forth in reference (b) and will further be affirmed to the people of each affected island in open meeting. It is more than likely that the people as a whole will already be aware of who owns what land before the chief has made his formal statement. The provision above quoted will come into effect in practice if (1) the chief assigns land not in accordance with its historical ownership or (2) conflicting rights are of apparently equal weight and a relatively arbitrary decision has to be made. This will be made clear to the people in their meetings.

45 KOROR Vital Statistics

CONFIDENTIAL

CINCPAC-CINCPOA Item #9772

JULY

EF 378
EGFH 2
+
A7-10

(DVT)

TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED JAPANESE DOCUMENT

Source: Captured on SAIPAN.

Subject: Population figures for Eastern CAROLINES. Single handwritten sheet; author and organization unidentified; undated.

Population Figures

	JAPANESE	KOREANS	NATIVES	TOTAL
YAP MAIN ISLAND	1,438	234	3,460	5,132
FAIS	225	458	281	964
KOROR	12,722	283	616	13,621
MALAKAL	4,021	721	199	4,941
ARAKABESAN	208	50	13	271
BABELTHUAP	6,548	864	3,752	11,164
PELELIU	160	1	899	1,060
ANGUAR	1,325	539	754	2,618

NOTE: The above list is based upon statistics as of June, 1943. Since then, owing to the opening of passage, the population of KOROR has shown some decrease, but in the case of BABELTHUAP has shown an increase in KOREAN laborers. (TN: "Opening of passage" presumably refers to JAPANESE policy, adopted some time after June, 1943, allowing civilians to evacuate the Mandated Islands in view of possibility of Allied attacks.)

(END)

File Eastern Carolines

NW12(9)/A14-2/NPC:lrs.
Serial No: 354.

22 May 1949.

Subject: Public Domain Lands - Homesteading in Truk District.

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4. It is therefore requested that authority be granted for the return of the lands listed in enclosure (B) to reference (b) (with the exception of Ulul) in accordance with the proposal there submitted, except that subparagraph (b) of paragraph two (2) of enclosure (A) to reference (b) be deleted. In view if the fact that the departure of a field trip to these islands is imminent, and that this is the last field trip for some months which will carry personnel thoroughly conversant with the problems here involved, it is further requested that such authority, if granted, be transmitted by dispatch, with the U.S.S. HIRA (AG-132) as info addee, and the added notation "INFO ADRE PASS TO GLADWIN". It is anticipated that the first island concerned, Fulumat, will be visited by the CivAd party in the morning of 28 May.

5. In regard to the conditions set forth in enclosure (A) to reference (b), it is understood that a question has been raised in regard to the provision of paragraph three (3) that "The Civil Administrator shall have cognisance of this distribution of land (by the chief) only in the event of disputes arising therefrom which the homesteading chief is unable to settle." This provision is in keeping with our frequently affirmed policy of leaving all local land disputes in the hands of the local chiefs provided that they remain within the bounds of established policy; this distribution of land is of the same order, for it is based upon the historical ownership of the land which can readily be ascertained in the majority of cases by the calling of witnesses. This basis for distribution is clearly set forth in reference (b) and will further be affirmed to the people of each affected island in open meeting; it is more than likely that the people as a whole will already be aware of who gets what land before the chief has made his formal statement. The provision above quoted will come into effect in practice if (1) the chief assigns land not in accordance with its historical ownership or (2) conflicting rights are of apparently equal weight and a relatively arbitrary decision has to be made. This will be made clear to the people in their meetings.

CONFIDENTIAL

CINCPAC-CINCPOA Item #9772

TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED JAPANESE DOCUMENT

Source: Captured on SAIPAN.

Subject: Population Figures for Eastern CAROLINES. Single handwritten sheet; author and organization unidentified; undated.

Population Figures

	JAPANESE	KOREANS	NATIVES	TOTAL
TAP MAIN ISLAND	1,438	234	3,460	5,132
YAIS	225	458	281	964
KOROR	12,722	283	616	13,621
NALAKAL	4,021	721	199	4,941
ARAKABESAN	208	50	13	271
BABELTHUAP	6,548	864	3,752	11,164
PELELIU	160	1	899	1,060
ANGAUAR	1,325	539	754	2,618

NOTE: The above list is based upon statistics as of June, 1943. Since then, owing to the opening of passage, the population of KOROR has shown some decrease, but in the case of BABELTHUAP has shown an increase in KOREAN laborers. (TN: "Opening of passage" presumably refers to JAPANESE policy, adopted some time after June, 1943, allowing civilians to evacuate the Mandated Islands in view of possibility of Allied attacks.)

(MID)

Land

RESTRICTED

FF12(1)/CO2
H2/LMDuke

Serial: 219

16 FEB 1948

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CenWestCarolines ltr
ser 228 dtd 22 Nov 1947.

From: Deputy High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
To : Governor, Western Carolina Islands.

Subject: Maps and/or Records of Land Ownership, Palau Islands - Forwarding of.

1. Forwarded.

2. The attached charts are not land charts but rather the floor plan of one building on Malakal Island. The lower deck was a department store and the upper deck was occupied by Japanese company officers.

3. The second endorsement constitutes all the information received by the DepHiComTerPacIs in response to the basic request.

R. B. RANDOLPH,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: SCAP

Cdr. L. M. Duke - 2/18

002

65 Land

ENCLOSURE

FF12(1)/002
M2/LMDihl

Serial: 219

16 FEB 1948

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
CinCWestCarolines ltr
ser 228 dtd 22 Nov 1947.

From: Deputy High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
To : Governor, Western Carolina Islands.

Subject: Maps and/or Records of Land Ownership, Palau Islands - Forwarding of.

1. Forwarded.

2. The attached charts are not land charts but rather the floor plan of one building on Malakal Island. The lower deck was a department store and the upper deck was occupied by Japanese company officers.

3. The second endorsement constitutes all the information received by the RepMicroMarPacIs in response to the basic request.

R. B. RANDOLPH,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: SCAP

Cdr. L. M. Duke - 2/18

002

Land

199

65 Land

FF12(1)/002
L22-3/65:jmb

Serial: 1224

10 JUN 1949

From: Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

To: CIVIL Administrator, Truk.

Subject: Homesteading in Outer Islands of the Truk District; Comments on.

References: (a) AG-332 despatch 3/8/49 May.
(b) CSAGA Truk ltr 414-2 Serial 334 dtd 22 May 1949.

1. Both references (a) and (b) were, as the result of certain unfortunate delays, received too late for action to be taken and transmitted to the Field Trip Officer prior to his departure from the Islands assigned to the Field Trip Officer prior to his departure from the Islands in question. This circumstance is regretted; it is hoped, however, that all details of the land adjustments can be clarified so that the matter can be settled on the next Field Trip to the Islands.

2. The Deputy High Commissioner is of the opinion that the "Homestead Agreement" proposed for use is not altogether adequate in its present form. Necessary revisions will be made by the Staff Legal Department, and transmitted to CIVIL Administrator, Truk, in the near future. In light of the revisions presented on the lands referred to, in reference (b), it is recommended that rights to the lands be given the Islanders to whom they belonged in pre-German times by outright transfer. Details relative thereto a Homestead Plan. To this end, it is requested that the following data, as is many of them as are available in Truk, be submitted to the Deputy High Commissioner for the purpose of drawing-up the corresponding deeds: For each Island or Atoll Individual Grants, name of Island, name of Atoll in which located, name of Individual Grantee or Grantee to be located in Grant, name of Islander to whom described land is to be given, and the Island on which they reside, and name of Lineage head who will act as custodian of the Lineage rights.

3. This mode of Government is recommended because of the special circumstances affecting the outer Truk Islands, and is not to be regarded as establishing a precedent.

S. C. ARMSTRONG
Chief of Staff


FILE
END