

23 June -
12 July 48

Inspection YTT
1948

INSPECTION TRIP

HICOMTERPACIS

SECTION I

ENCLOSURE (A) TO HICOMTERPACIS
SERIAL _____ OF _____

NARRATIVE

Inspection of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

Between 23 June and 12 July, 1948

Admiral D. C. Ramsey, USN, High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, accompanied by six members of his staff, made an inspection tour of numerous islands of the Trust Territory, including the headquarters of each of the Civil Administration Districts. In addition to Admiral Ramsey, the inspection party consisted of the following officers:

Captain F. C. Greaves, USN
Fleet Medical Officer

Commander W. C. Chambliss, USN
Public Information Officer

LCDR R. M. Niles, USN
Flag Lieutenant and Aide

LCDR P. L. Hathaway, USNR
Island Government Officer

LTJG B. A. McLawhorn, USN
Photographic Officer

Ensign J. D. Bailey, USN
Communications

Admiral Ramsey and his party departed Honolulu Airport via R5D2Z at 2300, 23 June for Majuro Atoll, in the Marshall Islands. A brief running account of this and other islands visited, together with photographic impression thereof, follows:

MAJURO

25 June 1948

The High Commissioner was met at the airstrip by Captain J. P. W. Vest, USN, Governor of the Marshalls, LCDR C. E. Herrick, USNR, Civil

Administrator of the Majuro District, and other officers of the Civil Administration Unit.

All installations of the Unit were inspected by the High Commissioner, including the dispensary, where he was introduced to the 19 health aides and 5 nurses aides who were in training there. They appeared to be a very intelligent group, and were complimented on their work and appearance by the Fleet Medical Officer. Information was received that there were 16 health aides and 6 nurses aides trained in this dispensary who were working in the 16 sub-dispensaries throughout the Majuro District.

The Teacher's Training School, with its many activities, was also visited. In addition to the school itself, with its large quonset class rooms there is also a cooperative restaurant run by the students, a retail store, a wholesale store known as the Majuro Wholesale Company, and a chicken run where baby chicks procured from Guam are being raised for brooding stock. All of these activities furnish useful experience to student teachers in addition to their class work, and reflect credit upon the enterprise of Mr. Kesler, the Educational Administrator, and LCDR Herrick.

At the Civil Administration Unit headquarters on Uliga Island, the High Commissioner was introduced to Lainlan, chief of the Majuro Atoll, his nephew Aiseia, who is the Magistrate, Kabua, who is chief of the Jaluit Atoll, and Lazarus, Scribe of Majuro. Admiral Ramsey presented Lainlan and Kabua each with a box of small useful gifts, a model of the battleship Iowa, and an autographed picture of the High Commissioner. The students of the

Teacher's Training School presented a brief but interesting musical program, using saws, files and other hand tools as musical instruments to accompany their singing.

A conference with Commander C. C. Stewart, USNR, President of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia was held, to discuss the various phases of ITC's operations in the Marshalls. Particular concern was felt about the handicraft situation, whereby the curtailing and limitations on handicraft buying were imposing hardships on many people who have no other means of livelihood. It was pointed out there is no competition between the producers of handicraft and the producers of copra, inasmuch as the men do the copra cutting and the women and the aged the handicraft manufacturing. Commander Stewart explained the reasons for ITC's action and indicated that buying is being resumed as rapidly as stable markets are found for specific handicraft items.

At 1000 the High Commissioner's party boarded the Suisun (AVP-53) and got under way for Majuro Island, at the western end of the Atoll. Here is located a large village, exceptionally clean and well kept. The party made a complete tour of the area and were much impressed with everything they saw. One of the buildings of the former Military Government Hospital #201 is now being used as a sub-dispensary. Jorrak, the trained health aide who was in charge, had the place in excellent condition, and was taking good care of his patients.

Among the more important people who were introduced to the High Commissioner were a lesser chief, Ezekia, the pastor Lorenaij, and the much

tattooed Lijorial, widow of the late chief Jitian, who shared the highest position in the Majuro Atoll with Lainlan.

JALUIT ATOLL

26 June 1948

Upon arrival in the lagoon of Jaluit Atoll, the High Commissioner and his party went ashore on Iaroj Island, accompanied by Kabua, the atoll chief, who had come down from Majuro on the Suisun. Landing was effected at a coral block jetty, which still had not been completely repaired since it was bombed out during the war.

The High Commissioner asked that the people assemble in the council house, and with the assistance of Dwight Heine, Marshallese Superintendent of schools who acted as interpreter, addressed them on the subject of his visit and its purpose. Following this, the village was inspected, including a stop at the school, where the children, under the leadership of Netan and Mabel, entertained with several songs in English. The party visited the sawmill, boat shop, the trade store and the church. Although the village was impressive in many respects, it was apparent that the people here are noticeably poorer here than those on Majuro. Captain Vest intends to send materials and tools for the construction of several new boats, since these people are expert boat builders, and there is a constant demand for their products.

The Health Aide requested assistance and advice in caring for a young married woman who had been ill for three weeks. She was examined by Captain Greaves who made the diagnosis of normal pregnancy at term with a transverse

presentation, missed labor and a dead fetus. The woman, accompanied by her husband and 3 year old child, were taken aboard the Suisun and transported to the CAU Dispensary at Kwajalein where a dead and macerated infant was delivered with instruments. The woman recovered and returned to her home 14 days later. This woman would have died had she not been discovered and taken to the hospital for treatment.

The High Commissioner also met Lejilan, son of Jaimata, and his wife Litarjirik.

KWAJALEIN

26 June 1948

The first desire of the High Commissioner upon his arrival at Kwajalein from Jaluit (via PBY) was to visit the former Bikini people in their temporary village at the Civil Administration Labor Camp. Here he met and talked to Judah, the chief, and presented him with an autographed picture. The party also met and talked to Getil, a Marshallese whose eyesight had been restored at the Guam Memorial Hospital. Captain Greaves, Fleet Medical Officer, had examined him in Rongerik in December 1947, and had recommended that the operation be performed. Getil had been back among his people for about six weeks, and they were manifestly impressed by the excellent treatment he had received at the hands of the Navy.

Following this meeting, a conference was arranged with Jaimata, who is the paramount chief and one of the largest land owners in the Marshall Islands. He and his younger son Nanini came to the guest house to pay their respects to the High Commissioner, who presented gifts to Jaimata, including an autographed picture of himself.

Following the presentation, the High Commissioner consulted with Jaimata on administrative matters. The questions and answers (as inter-

preted by Edward Milne) were approximately as follows: (This included in this report because of the importance of the next move of the Ex-Bikini people)

HICOMTERPACIS. Where do you think the former Bikini people should go?

JAIMATA To Kili.

HICOMTERPACIS Have you ever been there?

JAIMATA Yes.

HICOMTERPACIS Looking ahead to the future larger population, would Bikini have continued to support these people there?

JAIMATA Yes, if there had been some new planting done.

HICOMTERPACIS Will Kili support an increased population five to ten years from now?

JAIMATA Yes.

HICOMTERPACIS How about the lack of a lagoon in which they could fish at all times during the year?

JAIMATA The lack of a lagoon is their only worry.

HICOMTERPACIS We want Jaimata to know that we wish to help in every possible way. We invite his suggestions, and count on him and encourage him to come to us when things are not as they should be.

JAIMATA Thank you.

HICOMTERPACIS Is there anything now? Do you have any suggestions for improvement.

JAIMATA If I think of anything I will tell you.

CAPTAIN GREAVES Do your people know about the Medical Survey Ship, which will visit all the islands, to give complete medical examinations to all the people, with chest X-rays and dental examinations?

JAIMATA Yes, we know about it - we like it.

CAPTAIN GREAVES Will the people cooperate in this effort.

JAIMATA Yes, they will cooperate - it will help my people.

CAPTAIN GREAVES Will you pass the word that the ship will stay at each island long enough to examine all of the people? The examinations will be thorough and conducted in a proper manner - no standing in line undressed or anything else which the people do not like. Please have the people expect the ship.

After the departure of Jaimata and his son, the High Commissioner and his party attended a baseball game in which the Kwajalein Marshallese team participated, and was surprised to see the barefooted boys hand the team from the cruiser ST PAUL a 14-2 trouncing. The Marshallese put on a great show, and even snagged a man off first base with the old hidden ball trick.

On Sunday morning, 27 June 1948, the High Commissioner visited Ebeye Island, in the Kwajalein Atoll.

LIKIEP ATOLL

27 June 1948

Likiep Atoll, in the Kwajalein District, was visited on Sunday 27 June 1948, and was reached via PBY from Kwajalein. The entire population, from the oldest to the youngest, turned out to greet the High Commissioner upon his arrival. Among those who paid their respects were Anton De Brum, magistrate, Freddie Capelle, and the two Jesuit missionaries who work on Likiep, Father Feeney and Father Donohue. Father Feeney had arranged a luncheon at his house, and the party, augmented by the plane crew, were most hospitably entertained.

Following the luncheon, the party was entertained by a group of Marshallese girls, from the church choir, who sang songs in English and Marshallese, and danced. Gifts were presented to Anton De Brum and Freddie Capelle, in return for some very fine examples of Marshallese woodwork which had been presented to the High Commissioner.

Although Likiep is little different physically from any other atoll in the Marshall Islands, it is extremely well kept and occupied by an unusual type of people, most of whom are descended from a German, De Brum, and a Portuguese, Capelle, which admixture has apparently projected them relatively a long way ahead of almost all the other Marshallese people. Among other things, they are unquestionably the finest boat builders in the Marshalls, their work being comparable to the best anywhere. They have recently been commissioned to build twenty racing sloops for Welfare and Recreation purposes at Kwajalein. The first of these sloops has been completed, and is a fine example of the workmanship of the Likiep ship-builders.

The evening of return from Likiep the High Commissioner and his party embarked in the ST PAUL and got underway for Ujelang.

UJELANG ATOLL

29 June 1948

Upon the arrival of the cruiser ST PAUL off the wide pass at Ujelang Atoll, the High Commissioner and his party transferred via motor whaleboat to an LCI, which took them through the pass and up to the village. Here the party went ashore in a small outboard-powered dinghy, and were greeted at the small coral jetty by Abraham and Johannes, the two chiefs who jointly rule the inhabitants, formerly of Eniwetok, who reside on this newly populated island.

All the new construction in the village has been completed, with a central plaza containing the church, the school, the dispensary, the council house, and the government house. To the left along the well kept village street are the homes of Johannes people, and to the right those of Abraham's people, with an invisible boundary between which is typical of the mutual understanding and cooperation which exists between the two separate clans. The small frame cottages are very neat in appearance, and all indicate in one way or another the desire of the people to make them real homes. The twelve concrete water catchments are well distributed throughout the village, and at the time of visit all were full.

The High Commissioner inspected the entire village, stopping at the school where he met Clancy, the school teacher, at the church, whose pastor's name is Anej, and at the dispensary, where Alno, the Health Aide, conducts his work. Also met during the inspection tour were Tamar, wife of Abraham and her mother, Maria.

On completion of the inspection tour, a meeting was called in the Council House, where Admiral Ramsey assured the people of his desire to help them in every way possible, and complimented them on their prompt readjustment to their new surroundings, and on their ability to live as two separate communities on the same island in a spirit of mutual understanding and good will.

Following refreshments at the Government House, most of the party embarked for a sail in two of the very large outrigger canoes which are identified with these former Eniwetok people. The largest one has an overall length of sixty-five feet and a beam of only nineteen inches.

After lunch aboard the LCI, Captain Vest, Commander Ferguson, and Edward Milne, interpreter, who had accompanied the High Commissioner aboard the ST PAUL, departed via PBY for Kwajalein, and the LCI proceeded

out the pass to join the ST PAUL, which after receiving the party took departure for Ponape.

PONAPE

30 June 1948

Upon arrival off Ponape at 0730, Commander E. R. Nelson, Jr., USN, Governor of the Eastern Carolines, and LCDR W. D. Mooney, USNR, Civil Administrator of the Ponape District, came on board ST PAUL to pay their respects to the High Commissioner. After a brief conference, it was decided to enter the harbor via small boat, rather than to attempt to enter in SUI SUN (AVP53), which was standing by.

Upon reaching the dock at Colonia, the party was met by other members of the Civil Administration Staff. The High Commissioner was advised that a feast and a High Kava ceremony had been arranged in his honor, and as a feature of the dedication of a new Native Affairs Building. A short tour of activities in the vicinity of Colonia followed, including a visit to the ruined Catholic church (dynamited by the Japanese but represented by them as being destroyed by U. S. bombing attack). Near this site is a vocational training school conducted by Father Costigan (who was absent on a field trip), which was equipped with some excellent power tools, salvaged from Japanese scrap. After leaving the church and the vocational school, the High Commissioner's party proceeded to the Civil Administrator's quarters.

The next stop on the tour was the Ponape Teachers' Training School, a fine institution which is making excellent progress. In addition to LT. Vercher, Educational Officer, the High Commissioner also met Mr. R. Halvorsen, Educational Administrator, and Leonard, native Superintendent of Schools.

The High Commissioner's party next proceeded to the Civil Administration

Dispensary, a very well conducted activity that is a credit to the medical Officer in Charge, CDR R. R. Gleysteen, M.C., USN. Here are being trained eleven nurses aides and fourteen health aides. Already trained and doing excellent work in the field are twelve health aides and five nurses aides. There is also in the district a medical practitioner who was trained in an English School.

After inspecting the dispensary, the High Commissioner proceeded to the new Native Affairs Building, where hundreds of the people were assembled, awaiting the feast and the High Kava ceremony to follow. Prior to the feast, the visiting party was invited to witness a very colorful song and dance entertainment by more than two hundred men and women. The men wore the traditional Ponapean grass skirts, while the women wore handsomely embroidered sleeveless white dresses, and their singing and dancing were most impressive.

Following the entertainment, the party entered the Native Affairs Building, where a Ponapean feast had been spread. Here the party was joined by the Nanmarkis (Chiefs) of the five districts - Kitti, Metalanim, U, Nett and Jokaj - and many other local people of importance. Only native food was served, consisting of roast pig, taro, pineapples, chicken, langusta, coconut crab, breadfruit, fish and sea crab.

Words of greeting were exchanged between the High Commissioner and the local officials, through the assistance of Mr. Carlos Etscheit, Belgian plantation owner, who acted as interpreter. Also during the feast some fine singing was rendered by a group of islanders assembled on the porch outside.

On conclusion of the feast, the party took seats outside the building to witness the high kava ceremony. First, several large flat stones were laid on sections of banana plant to form the platforms or tables upon which

the kava root was to be pounded. Then, bundles of the kava plant were brought in, the roots being chopped off and distributed to the various tables. Around each table were six islanders, each with a small hand-size rock. At a given signal, the pounding of the kava began, to the rythm set by one man at each table, who pounded on the bare rock, producing a clear, bell-like tone. When the kava root was well pounded, strips of water-soaked hibiscus bark were spread out, and the kava root sprinkled on it. The bark was then rolled up and wrung out, as one would wring out a wet cloth, the resulting liquid being caught in a coconut cup. This liquid is the ceremonial kava drink, which was offered to the High Commissioner, with the traditional differential gestures. This continued until all of the party, and certain local people of importance, had been offered and had partaken of the drink numerous times.

After the High Kava ceremony had ended, the High Commissioner and his party were again guests of the Civil Administrator at his quarters. On the way back to Colonia, a stop was made to inspect the Ponape Headquarters of the Island Trading Company, where purchases of fine handicraft were made. Following this, the High Commissioner's party boarded ST PAUL, which immediately got under way for Nukuoro.

NUKUORO

1 July 1948

While in Ponape, it was decided, upon recommendation of CDR Nelson, Governor of the Eastern Carolines, and LCDR Mooney, Civil Administrator of the Ponape District, to visit Nukuoro in lieu of Ngatik, because of the difficulties to be encountered in going ashore at the latter.

ST PAUL arrived off the atoll at about 0600, the High Commissioner and his party departing for the pass via motor whaleboat at 0715. Passage was

effected without incident, and a landing was made at Nukuoro. Here the party was met by Eriten, chief of the Nukuoro people, and conducted to the council house, where the High Commissioner extended his greetings to the people through Eriten, and presented him with the usual gifts.

Following this meeting, the village was inspected, including visits to the church, where Hein is pastor, and to a very well kept dispensary which is operated by Ludwig, the Health Aide.

The village was almost entirely of native type construction, and was a remarkably clean and attractive place. The difference in racial characteristics of these people, who are Polynesians, and those already seen on the trip, who are Micronesians, is quite noticeable, they being generally larger in stature and lighter in color than the others.

While the village was being inspected, USS ERROL AG 133 arrived on a routine field trip from Ponape, having on board the Field Officer, Lt. Nash, LTJG Townsend, a Medical Officer, and his wife, Mr. Braddon-Walker, Ponape Branch Manager of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia, and Commander R. Linthicum, of DepHiComTerPacIs Staff in Guam.

Following a short fishing excursion, the High Commissioner and his party returned to the ST PAUL, which got underway shortly thereafter for Kapingamarangi.

KAPINGAMARANGI

2 July 1948

Tuiai, second chief of Kapingamarangi, and Henry, native missionary, boarded ST PAUL off the lagoon entrance. They accompanied the High Commissioner's party into the lagoon, entrance into which was effected via small craft, which proceeded across the lagoon to the principal village, which is on the very small island of Souhou, about 4 miles from the entrance.

Here the High Commissioner and his party were met by King David, chief of Kapingamarangi, who escorted them to the council house. King David was handed a letter from Dr. Kenneth Emory, of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, which was read to him by Tuiai. Dr. Emory had made a phonograph record, for King David in the local language, by means of which he introduced him to the High Commissioner and his party. This was a most effective gesture, and manifestly was highly pleasing and entertaining to the King.

The High Commissioner explained the purpose of his visit, and presented King David with the customary gifts. The gifts, letters, and photographs from Dr. Emory were also delivered at this time.

Following this meeting, the village was inspected by the High Commissioner. It was fairly clean and well laid out, but lacked the appeal of Nukuoro, because the dwellings were so closely crowded together. During the tour, stops were made at the church, where the pastor, Leon, met the party, and the dispensary, a new building of native construction which was very clean and neat. Samuel, the Health Aide, seemed quited competent and very much interested in his work.

Upon completion of the tour of inspection, the party had lunch at the council house. The lunch had been brought from the ST PAUL, and King David was invited to join the party, which he gladly did. During this period, the ERROL (AG133) arrived from Nukuoro on her regular field trip and proceeded to unload her passengers for their work on the island.

Following lunch, several of the party embarked in the motor whaleboat for a fishing trip, the others remaining to see the Field Officer, ITC Branch Manager and Medical Officer conduct their business with the people. Large quantities of handicraft had been brought down to the beach, and people all over the island were busy sacking and weighing copra for ship-

ment in the AG. Others had gathered near the dispensary to tell their troubles to "Doc", and still others were patiently waiting at the trade store to get first chance at the trade goods which were being brought in from the ship.

Return to ST PAUL was effected at 1530. During the absence of the High Commissioner, the ship had steamed down to the equator, only 65 miles to the south, and her "Polywogs" had received the traditional initiation of Neptune.

SATAWAN ATOLL

3 July 1948

Upon arrival off Satawan at 0730, the High Commissioner's party proceeded via small craft to Suisun (AVP53), which had arrived the day before and was anchored in the lagoon. She got under way immediately, heading for the island of Satawan, at the southwest corner of the atoll. This Island had been used by the Japanese as a small airbase.

Landing was made on the usual coral block jetty, and the High Commissioner and his party proceeded to the council house, a well constructed frame structure of Japanese design. Here they were met by Ario, chief of Satawan Atoll. The High Commissioner, through Justo, the paramount chief of Truk Atoll, who acted as interpreter, explained the purpose of the visit, and presented Ario with the customary gifts. An inspection of the Island followed.

The main plaza (it probably had been a Japanese parade ground) and the area surrounding it were neat and clean, (although there was evidence of a recent house cleaning). In addition to the council house, the school and dispensary, facing the plaza, were inspected and appeared to be in very good condition. The school teacher explained that the school was closed

for the summer, but would resume its sessions in September.

The party then walked the entire length of the village, over a stone bordered walk that runs the length of the island. The Protestant church was visited, as was the Catholic mission, which is cared for by the local missionary.

A side trip was made to the former Japanese airstrip, which has almost completely reverted to the jungle. A few wrecked planes, trucks and about five light tanks were seen here and about the village - other than these few items and a swath through the trees which was the airstrip, there is little to indicate that the Japanese had ever been on Satawan.

TRUK ATOLL

4 July 1948

Prior to anchoring in the lagoon at Truk Atoll, the High Commissioner presented Justo Aflague, paramount chief of Truk, with a model of the battleship Iowa and an autographed photograph. Justo had accompanied the party from Ponape to act as interpreter, and was highly commended for the manner in which he discharged his duties.

The Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, came aboard the ST PAUL after she had anchored in Truk lagoon off Moen Island. After a short conference, he accompanied the High Commissioner and his party ashore for an inspection of the activities there.

The first spot to be visited was the Civil Administration Dispensary. This a large and complete installation, very clean and well conducted. There were quite a large number of patients in the dispensary, as might be expected from the fact that it, and its two medical officers, serve the entire Truk District, with a population of approximately 15,000 people.

Following this, a visit was made to the Teachers Training School, which

consists of a number of quonset huts, including class rooms, auditorium and store rooms for educational equipment. Also visited was the large former recreation building which is to become the Pacific Islands Teachers' Training School. The Educational Officer, LT. O'Brian, has made excellent progress in educational administration, and the completion of the "PITTS" installation will be the culmination of his very comprehensive planning.

The party then toured the south end of the island, including the former seaplane base at South Field. A stop was made at the Truk Branch of the Truk Trading Company, a wholly native corporation, which it is expected will eventually take over all trading activities from ITC.

Following a luncheon at the quarters of Commander Nelson, Governor of the Eastern Carolines and Civil Administrator, Truk District, a tour was made of the northern part of the island, including a stop at the Japanese radio station, which is a formidable structure of extremely heavy concrete. It showed few effects from bombing, and information was received that it had never been silenced as a result of our attacks.

In the evening, singing and dancing entertainment was provided by various groups of Trukese, both men and women.

On departure from Moen Island via R5D for Guam on 5 July, the various former Japanese naval establishments on Dublon Island were viewed from the air.

GUAM

5-6 July 1948

While at Guam, the High Commissioner held conferences with the Deputy High Commissioner, ComMarianas and ComNavWesPac. Other members of his party took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the stop-over to confer at corresponding staff levels.

TINIAN

7 July 1948

The recently resettled island of Tinian was visited by the High Commissioner and his party via R5D from Guam. They were met at the airstrip by Captain G. L. Compo, USN, Governor of the Northern Marianas, and CDR R. A. Wilhelm, USN, Civil Administrator of the Saipan District.

The first stop was made at the Yap Chamorro village, which is located in the old Military Government area. Also located there is the school building, a former officers' club, which is well adapted for its purpose. In the same area is the dispensary, and the council house, as well as the church. The people are comfortably housed in well-preserved quonset huts, and appear very happy in their new environment.

These people were moved from Yap in April 1948, at their own request, after a number of them had visited Tinian to determine its possibilities for resettlement. Each family will be given lands for farming, and all who so desire are employed at the farm of the Tinian Produce Company.

The next place visited was the recently completed leprosarium, on the west side of the island. This was the site of a former Japanese fishing village, established after the occupation to furnish fish for the armed forces and Japanese Nationals. The village has been extensively rehabilitated, and is now ready to receive lepers from all over the Trust Territory. It is well planned, with all the necessary buildings, including a dispensary, galley, mess hall, and quarters for the medical personnel. All buildings, of course, are of temporary construction. It is planned to move the lepers as soon as the medical personnel ordered for this purpose have reported for duty.

Following this inspection, the High Commissioner and his party visited the headquarters of the Tinian Produce Company. This organization has

approximately nine hundred acres of very fine farm land. Mr. Clair N. Young, Mr. Bruce L Bitler and Mr. Gerard Kennedy are partners in this operation, and certain items of produce are already being shipped to Guam, which has a ready market for them. Labor for the enterprise is obtained in sufficient quantities from the Yap Chamorro colony, but transportation to Guam is the most serious problem, and is reflected in high prices necessitated by losses of large percentages of crops through lack of shipping facilities.

Following inspection of the activities on Tinian, the High Commissioner proceeded to Saipan via R5D.

SAIPAN

7 July 1948

The High Commissioner, accompanied by his party and Rear Admiral Wright, arrived in Saipan via R5D at approximately 1000. They were received at the airstrip by Captain Compo and officers of his staff.

Following the formalities of reception, the party proceeded to the Chalan Kanoa School, where they inspected the floats, and other exhibits which were features in the Fourth of July celebration held a few days previously.

Following this, a colorful program of singing and dancing was rendered by the children of all ages from the school, and a visit was made to the 4-H club kitchen.

Upon completion of the exercises at the Chalan Kanoa School, the High Commissioner, Rear Admiral Wright, Captain Compo and Commander Wilhelm and Father Ferdinand Stippich met with the High Council to discuss local problems. Among these were the water rates which were being charged to the people of the village, and the important question of payment for Japanese currency which had been receipted for but not redeemed in cash.

Following this meeting, a luncheon was held at the Civil Administration Club, attended by the High Commissioner's party and various island dignitaries.

The High Commissioner was very much impressed by the fine character and high intelligence of the members of the Saipan High Council.

In the evening, a buffet supper was held at the Island Commander's Beach Cottage, followed by a dance at the Officers' Club, Naval Air Station, Tanapag, both of which were attended by a considerable number of the more prominent Chamorro men and women of the Island.

YAP

8 July 1948

The island of Yap, in the Western Carolines, was reached after a 4-hour flight by PBM from Saipan. The High Commissioner and his party were met at the dock by LT. K. M. Carroll, USNR, representative of the Civil Administrator, Palau District, LTJG E. C. Cowart, MC, USNR, Medical Officer, and LT. Lee, SC, USN, Island Trading Company representative. The party was also joined by Captain C. C. McCauley, USN, Commanding Officer of SUISUN (AVP53) which was anchored in the harbor.

The first visit was made to the ceremonial resting place, the location of most of the famous Yap stone money, where a conference was held with eleven chiefs of the various districts of Yap. They were informed of the purpose of the visit and were asked if they had any problems to discuss. The reply was in the negative, the statement being made that conditions were much better on Yap than they had been in Japanese times. Admiral Wright brought up the question of clothes, informing the chiefs that the Yap people could wear any kind of clothing they chose, that the administration had no intention of dictating what the people should wear.

After this conference, a visit was made, after a somewhat strenuous jungle hike, to one of the new Yap all-men's house, a large structure of native construction.

The old dispensary was the next place visited, which was in excellent condition, including a quonset ward which had been constructed by the medical officers themselves, following the disastrous series of hurricanes which occurred late in December 1947 and early in January 1948.

The next stop was made at the local office and warehouse of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia which appears to be well stocked with all necessary trade goods.

After inspecting the ITC layout, the High Commissioner and his party next visited the new dispensary, which is of typhoon proof concrete construction. It is well planned, and should be adequate for many years to come. It was about 90% complete.

The new administration and communications buildings, and a new central school, are of the same permanent construction, and when completed, will offer adequate facilities for the administration for a long time to come.

The last place visited on Yap was the island of Matal, which is the leper colony for the district. Although the small village, housing about 32 people, was neat and clean, the opinion was formed that the people should be moved as soon as possible to the Territorial Leprosarium at Tinian. Following this visit, the High Commissioner's party boarded SUI SUN for the trip to Ngulu.

NGULU

9 July 1948

Entrance into the lagoon at Ngulu Atoll was made through the west passage at the south end of the lagoon, anchoring a half mile off Ngulu

Island. The High Commissioner's party, including LT. K. M. Carroll, CivAd Palau representative at Yap, went ashore in small craft which anchored just off the fringing reef which surrounds the island. Passage across this reef was effected in rubber boats and outrigger canoes which came out from the shore.

Although Ngulu has a population of only fifty-seven people, the general conduct of affairs is in the hands of no less than five chiefs of equal rank. Urich (who is usually the spokesman), met the High Commissioner on arrival and conducted him to the council house.

Here a conference was held, and the chiefs were presented with photographs and cigarettes. The island was then inspected, including the Civil Administration Dispensary, which is operated by Aren, the Health Aide.

Following the inspection, the party was invited to witness a dance being put on in celebration of the catching of three large turtles the day before. This was a very interesting performance in which both men and women participated, but in entirely separate groups.

KOROR

10 July 1948

The High Commissioner and his party, including the Deputy High Commissioner, debarked from SUISUN shortly after noon on 10 July. They were met at the dock by Commander E. M. Hardison, Governor of the Western Carolines and Civil Administrator Palau District, Reklai and Aibedul, the two paramount chiefs of the Palaus, and other officers of the Civil Administration Unit.

The party first proceeded to the new Palau Congress Building, where the High Commissioner and Rear Admiral Wright addressed the members of the Congress who were assembled there.

The headquarters of the Civil Administration Unit were next inspected by the High Commissioner, located on the site of a former Buddhist temple, which was destroyed by the Japanese to prevent its desecration. This was done shortly after the occupation, with the permission of the Military Government authorities. The former residence of the priests remains, and is used as a BOQ.

The next facility visited was the Civil Administration Dispensary, which is located in a large concrete structure which was formerly a Japanese Naval Headquarters. On top of a large hill, the site is an excellent one, and the dispensary itself a well conducted institution, including a civilian dentist to take care of the dental requirements of the Palauan people.

The High Commissioner next inspected the Koror School, the former Japanese hospital, which is being extensively remodelled and rehabilitated under NOy contract. It is an excellent building of permanent construction, and upon completion of the work now underway, should serve the community well for many years to come.

Next on the itinerary was a trip, over a recently reconstructed causeway and bridge, to Malakal Island, which was the site of a Japanese naval shipyard. Although almost all of the facilities there were levelled during the war, the docks themselves, with water up to 32 feet dockside, are still usable. This is the site which various commercial interests seek to obtain for the establishment of fishing bases in the Western Carolines.

Following a visit to the local branch of the Island Trading Company of Micronesia, the party were entertained at dinner at the homes of the various officers of the Civil Administration Unit.

Following dinner and prior returning to SUI SUN, the High Commissioner and his party were entertained at the Palau Congress Building by singers and dancers, including a rendition of the famous Yap stick dance.