

14 January 1960

From: James B. Johnson  
Land Title Officer  
To: Naval Administrator with copy to Assistant Naval Administrator

Notes of Saipan Congress meeting with the Naval Administrator, on January 14, 1960. The following has been edited to reflect (in the opinion of the writer) the discussions held:

Mr. Reyes: Cdr. Mortensen can you tell us why there has been a recent reduction in the labor force, particularly at NTU?

Navad: I cannot have the facts at hand concerning layoffs. However, I will look into it, give it some study and let you know.

Mr. Antonio S. Palacios: I understand that the ambulance stationed at the Municipality is for emergencies. However, it is a policy of the Medical Department to allow the ambulance to be used for transportation only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, Dr. Torres, on other days, has to ask the Municipality for transportation for those people who must go to the hospital and do not have transportation. If necessary could the Municipality buy gas to run the ambulance to provide that transportation. What are emergencies?

Navad: It appears that the situation needs clarification: We have two members of the Medical Department that are present here tonight as congressmen. Would you gentlemen care to comment?

Dr. Kaipat: The ambulance is only on an emergency basis and not for transportation to the Hospital.

Dr. Palacios: Emergencies as such are decided by the Doctor concerned. The ambulance is used for supply runs on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If an individual is not considered an emergency case and has no transportation, Dr. Torres the Senior Medical Practitioner asks the Municipality for transportation to the Hospital.

Mr. Antonio Diaz: Thank you for coming. I would like to ask the Naval Administrator's help in promoting the island economy. Employment is being reduced and people need to earn money. It is requested that Navad allow more people to go to Guam to work and in addition Navad try to find more places to work so people can earn some money. The Government should if possible see if industries cannot be established on the island, however, I understand that Saipan is a security area and is restricted in that sense. The Immigration log book for Guam is loaded but people should be permitted to go to Guam and obtain jobs. I have talked to the immigration people on Guam and they were surprised that difficulty was experienced in getting into Guam and they said that other districts were having less trouble.



Immigration people on Guam say they are anxiously awaiting for more Saipanese. Saipanese people have more relatives and friends on Guam than do others and they can live with them and work. Palau is getting more people into Guam than the Saipan District. Saipan should have priority but it is still difficult to go into Guam. On many occasions I have talked to members of the Guam legislature, and as I have said, the immigration authorities and they say people in other districts can earn a living harvesting copra and living on the land. However, on Saipan if we don't have jobs it creates problems. Saipan has better school facilities than elsewhere in the Territory. Those students going away to school upon graduation find no jobs on Saipan when they return. (Note you should hear the undersigned's ideas on this). Mr. Diaz states that he thinks the immigration department should be "corrected" for lack of attention to people and full cooperation. In many cases people wait for approval of permanent residency for over a year. In one case an applicant put up \$250.00 and still is not a permanent resident. Mr. Miguel Castro, Mr. Raker knows about it. Mr. Diaz states that he has wanted to talk to the Naval Administrator but now maybe the Immigration Department will cooperate. Mr. Diaz further asked that the Naval Administrator give the representatives of the people every possible assistance for priority on Navy Planes so the legislators will be respected by the people.

Navad: Concerning the need for permanent residents on Guam to fill jobs and live there the facts are not available. However, I shall look into the matter. As regards to the Palauans getting more people into Guam I shall ask Mr. Brown "are not the numbers based on population of the District"?

Mr. Brown: The Quota number for the whole territory is 100 per year. This is set by congress. In the first three months of this year Saipan has already been assigned 32 of the 100. Mr. Diaz' son and daughter are 2 of the 32. Numbers are allocated by the number of applications. We have more applications so receive a large percentage.

Dr. Frank Palacios: I appreciate the Naval Administrator's coming tonight. 60% of our problems are concerned with economic crisis and 40% with political (problems). (There seems) no solution for the economy as long as the present political situation exists. (Perhaps means Naval Government and security area). (The good Doctor now goes into his "committed philosophy" etc. etc. etc.) I am in favor of allowing alcoholic beverages to be sold. The denial of the right to drink gives the natives an inferiority complex. Perhaps, a black market will result. I am sure this is not the U.S. policy. If it is the policy, it is unconstitutional. I admit many people cannot handle liquor but I am against prohibition.

Mr. Manuel F. Aldan: We must ask the assistance of the government for the welfare of the people as well as the betterment of our economy. In view of the (aforementioned) reduction in force the only thing is for the people to start cultivating the land. However, the people will hesitate working on the land because there maybe no market for their produce. Perhaps, the

government could help solve the problem. Maybe there are markets in Japan for various articles of produce. The Navy has contacts outside the District and thus can give more help than the Municipality.

Mr. Brown: No matter what the merchants in Japan may tell you the Japanese Government grants licenses to importers for only copra, trochus and coffee.

Navad: I believe we should concentrate on supplying produce to Guam for 2 reasons. 1. We don't have a question of licenses and 2. We have transportation of which we do not have on a regular basis to Japan. Within certain limits we have an assured market on Guam thru Naval Supply Depot. Any excess produce, over and above NSD'S requirements, may be sold on the commercial market on Guam. I do not think up to the present we have fully utilized this source as we have had a market on this island. I am convinced if we grow things that are harder to grow than the easily grown vine crops such as cucumbers *we will have a broader market* these vine vegetables have necessarily a limited market. I feel sure that if we have broad agricultural exportations we can derive much economic benefit by exporting to Guam.

Mr. Brown: The people of Saipan are neglecting one item which has a market that is coffee.

Mr. Manuel F. Aldan: We know there is machinery for making coffee on the island. In the past the people relied on the government to run the coffee machinery and desired to work for wages. If a coffee plant could be established by the people it would be a good thing.

Mr. Brown: This is too big a problem to solve tonight. I suggest the Economic and Education committee meet with Mr. Clendenan and myself and discuss this matter.

Mr. Diaz: Is coffee machinery available.

Mr. Brown: The machinery is available and is government property and any persons desiring to make use of it may do so.

Mr. Gabriel Borja: Could the Naval Administrator inform congress of the status of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act?

Navad: It is as a result of discussions of this sort that we can reach a conclusion about this bill. This is a large subject and takes a good deal of thought and consideration.

Mr. Gabriel Borja: We wish for favorable results on this act. We are not trying to cause more trouble. I think most people can control it. (Whiskey).

Mr. Antonio S. Palacios: When can the economic committee meet with Mr. Brown on the coffee project?

Mr. Brown: At their convenience.



Dr. Kaipat: There will be a large population growth in the next ten years and people will have to spread out. (To Tinian and Northern Islands) We need communication with the northern islands.

Navad: I concur: I think we should have communications with each northern island. The problem is to locate the proper type of equipment, equipment that is relatively easy to operate, maintain and not require a great deal of power. Possibly a two way battery operated radio. Another problem would be to train individuals in operation and repairs. However, the latter phase should not be too great a problem. We will actively look for the type of equipment that would set up communications between the islands as you suggest.

Dr. Palacios: Mr. Brown stated that Japan will allow only licenses for 3 things. If we have government to government negotiations we can extend this. Individual initiative is insufficient for economic development. Central economic development is the solution. Thus, the government should be the economic center. From the end of the war what economic development has taken place?

Navad: At this time we do not have the mechanism for the necessary economic expansion. This is something that must be created. Incidentally, a step in that direction may be the newly established Chamber of Commerce. I agree that an individual as an individual is at a disadvantage. I am sure that the mayor would encourage anything in the export field. This is definitely something that needs exploring.

Mr. Gabriel Borja: When High official officials visit Saipan there is not enough time to meet with the legislature. Is it more important to see certain projects or meet with the legislature?

Navad: When visitors come to the island with both things in mind some have very limited time. We certainly feel that people who have never seen the island or its people or know nothing of its background of economic, social or political aspects should get some orientation as well as meet its leaders.

Mr. Gabriel Borja: In the past due to the limited time given to the legislature, they (the congress) have been in a poor position to talk (and convey ideas), and I would like to request more time in the future to discuss common problems. On the visits of the U.N. and U.S. Congressional committees the Saipan congress only had a short length of time.

Mr. Brown: Visitors many times tell us what they want to do and see.

Navad: We will certainly bear that in mind. We don't want the legislature to feel that they have been slighted. We will try to give more time to the legislature.

Mr. Reyes: Education committee has asked 7 questions. Shall we go over

them one at a time?

Navad: No, I don't think so. This is an area in which I would like to give you answers at a later time.

Mr. Jose R. Cruz: I have been requested by my constituents about their previous police records. People with records are indirectly hampered by their visas. The facts are that you are not the only Naval Administrator others have been before you. I am sure those people were given opportunity (by the other Naval Administrator) to go to Guam. I have a police record and I am considering other people who have police records. A man who has done a wrong shouldn't be judged, a man with proper assistance could be reformed. That is your job. My fellow citizens decide to go to Guam because of economic reasons but due to previous police records he has to wait for awhile or not get it. My constituents want to know why previously they could go to Guam and now they cannot go.

Navad: This is a matter which is based on the individual case. No broad generalizations can be made. But I assure you I will give what consideration I can to all the people of the district.