

MINUTES OF TERRITORIAL AERONAUTICAL COMMISSION MEETING
HELD AT THE HONOLULU ARMORY ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON,
DECEMBER 22, 1927, AT 2:00 P. M.

PRESENT:

Colonel P. M. Smoot, Chairman
Mr. Will C. Crawford
Mr. Leo G. Fehlman
Mr. A. W. Van Valkenburg

ABSENT:

Mr. Herbert F. Cullen

The Chairman was present at this meeting after an absence on the Mainland and the chair was turned over to him by Mr. Will C. Crawford, Acting Chairman, who made an oral report on the progress of territorial airports and landing fields.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. There being no corrections, the minutes stand approved as read.

A letter was written by Mr. Will C. Crawford, Acting Chairman, to Colonel R. M. Schofield, Chairman, Territorial Fair Commission, requesting a part of the Fair Grounds as a landing field. Colonel Schofield informed Mr. Crawford verbally that a letter has been sent to each of the Fair Commissioners relative to this matter and that Mr. G. Fred Bush and he are favorable. This Commission studied a rough sketch of the proposed field which will be approximately 1500 feet long and 300 feet wide. This Commission will encourage the use of this field as an emergency field only. The Chairman pointed out that there are Federal regulations about flying within the city which would have to be observed.

A letter of condolence to Mrs. Millington B. McComb, widow of Commander McComb who was killed in an airplane accident off Koko Head, sent by Mr. Crawford in behalf of the Commission, was read and placed on file.

As authorized by this Commission, the Acting Chairman under date of November 25 wrote to Mr. Bigelow, Superintendent of Public Works, requesting that steps be taken toward the improvement of the Wailua Field on Kauai.

A copy of Executive Order No. 307 setting aside an airplane landing field at Hoolehua and Paalau, Molokai, containing an area of 204.8 acres to be under the control and management of the Territorial Aeronautical Commission, was read and placed on file. The Chairman is authorized to write to Mr. Bigelow, Superintendent of Public Works, requesting that this field be put in order.

The Chairman reports that Mr. Edwin H. Lewis, Manager of Lewis Tours, is planning to operate the airplane "Aloha" on three weekly schedules as soon as the Hilo Airport is available.

The Chairman congratulated the Commission on the splendid manner in which they handled the "Malolo" crash situation. The secretary is directed to send a copy of this report to the Department of Commerce, Aeronautics Branch.

The contents of two letters from the Sperry Gyroscope Company were called to the attention of the Commission. As they have to do with

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the illuminating of airports, they will be considered at a later date.

The Chairman then gave an account of his trip to Washington. The Smith-Bronte medals were presented by the Chairman in behalf of the Commission at a meeting of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce on September 7, 1927. Hawaii received much publicity through this presentation. The Buffalo Airport was visited and is an excellent airport. The Chairman, in company with the Governor, visited Mr. William P. MacCracken, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Aeronautics. A map of the island was taken along and shown. Mr. MacCracken will take up the matter of aviation in the territory with Mr. Young. Mr. MacCracken believes that the laws and regulations promulgated by Hawaii (with the exception of restricted areas) should be included in the regulations of the Department of Commerce. As a step toward having this matter brought to a head, this subject will be taken up by the Aeronautics Branch, Department of Commerce, with their legal authorities. The matter of restricted areas will also be considered. It will take a presidential order to have the restricted areas set aside. As airways are established, the Aeronautics Branch, Department of Commerce, will assist in the establishment of intermediary fields (emergency), such as furnishing caretakers and fencing but will not grade them. Mr. Clarence M. Young, Director of Aeronautics, Department of Commerce, states that he is willing to come out here to help this Commission the latter part of January or February. The following motion was made by Mr. Crawford, seconded and unanimously carried: "That the Chairman write a letter to the Director of Aeronautics, Department of Commerce, inviting him to visit this territory to investigate aeronautical conditions within the territory". The Bureau of Aeronautics will be pleased to appoint the civil employee we recommend as their representative in the territory. There will be no pay but certain expenses will be paid. Mr. Charles Dolan of Honolulu has made application of the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce for this assignment. Each member of this Commission is to be prepared to suggest names for this assignment at the next meeting. The Department of the Interior is opposed to having landing fields on its National Parks as it is its desire to keep the parks in their natural stage as much as possible.

The following motion was made by Mr. Crawford, seconded and unanimously carried: "That the Superintendent of Public Works be seen relative to the establishment and rough grading of a roadway over the right-of-way into Rodgers Airport that was obtained from the Damon Estate".

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 P. M. to meet again at the call of the Chairman.

P. M. SMOOT
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Colonel, A. G. D.,
Chairman.