

MINUTES OF THE TERRITORIAL AERONAUTICAL
COMMISSION, held on Wednesday, January 21,
1931, in the Director's Room, Young Bldg.,
at 3:45 P. M., Honolulu, T. H.

PRESENT:

Mr. Anderson, Chairman
Mr. Brown
Mr. Damon
Mr. Hinkley
Mr. Peacock
Mr. Wooldridge

ABSENT:

Mr. Boyer

There being no changes in the minutes of the last meeting, they were approved as circulated.

John Rodgers Airport:

In accordance with the program adopted at the last meeting for John Rodgers Airport Mr. Peacock reported that 800' of fence material, including a gate for Inter-Island Airways hangar, had been ordered from the Wickwire Spencer Steel Company, New York, costing approximately \$560.00, delivered here. Work on the post holes will not be started until the arrival of the fence.

The Chairman reported on a conference had with Mr. Bigelow as a result of the last meeting concerning the surfacing of the macadam runway and hauling of coral from Ala Moana. A letter to Mr. Bigelow was read by the Chairman making the following recommendations: that certain areas brought nearly to a grade by Mr. Black have an average 4" fill of surface coral spread over and rolled; that bids be called for on from 4,500 cubic yards to 7,500 cubic yards of fine coral from Ala Moana and for the hauling of same to the airport to be placed on various areas ready for immediate final surfacing; and that the asphalt macadam take-off be resurfaced with a coat of bitumuls and gravel as recommended by the Hawaiian Bitumuls Company. The order for the work on the macadam take-off has been issued through Mr. Bigelow's office, amounting to less than \$1,000.00, and at present the runway is two-thirds completed.

A steam roller was obtained last week from the City & County, the port rolled and is in good condition. Mr. Peacock stated by the time the legislature convenes in February the entire upper end of the airport will be in a finished condition, with an area 900' in width extending from the Inter-Island airways hangar to the water.

It was recommended by Mr. Peacock that the Commission buy three or four hundred feet of concrete flume to extend the water way Ewa of the crosswind take-off so the area can be covered over. Mr. Peacock agreed to obtain exact figures on the cost of the material and report later.

Kalaupapa, Molokai:

A letter was read by the Chairman from Inter-Island Airways in answer to our letter of December 11th, requesting that one of their pilots make a survey of the field at Kalaupapa. Mr. Kennedy stated that Chief Pilot, C. I. Elliott, recently made three complete circles of the field at a very low altitude and reached the conclusion that even though it were extended it would be much too small for Sikorskys to attempt landings; however; providing improvements were made smaller planes could be

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landed in the field. Further, development work would be entirely dependent upon the desire of the Commission. In view of the fact that Inter-Island Airways would not make use of this field the Chairman expressed himself that the Commission ought to go on record as not favoring spending any money on Kalaupapa and will write the Governor accordingly.

Inspection Trip:

Those making the trip over the coming week-end of the various territorial landing fields are as follows: Mr. Anderson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Damon, Mr. Peacock, Mr. Wooldridge, Mr. Kennedy of Inter-Island Airways and Chief Pilot Elliott, and Mr. John Kangeter of the Bureau of Governmental Research. A letter from Mr. Kennedy was read by the Chairman in which Inter-Island quote the price of \$420.00 for the charter of a Sikorsky for the trip. The Chairman stated Mr. Kangeter would pay his share of the expenses.

At present it is planned to leave John Rodgers Airport at 7:00 A.M., Saturday, fly to Molokai and go over the West End of Molokai with Mr. George Cooke for the purpose of locating here an emergency landing field, possibly fly over Kalaupapa, on to Maalaea, Maui, and proceed to Upolu Point, Hawaii, to go over the field with Mr. George Watt. From Upolu Point to Hilo, have dinner with the Aviation Committee of the Hilo Chamber of Commerce and spend the night in Hilo. Sunday inspect the Hilo Airport and on the return trip make a short stop at Lanai. The Chairman has informed the representatives of the Commission to meet the plane on the various Islands.

Radio Communication:

In answer to our letter of December 11th, the Chairman read a letter from Mr. Marion Lord, General Passenger Agent for Western Air Express in Los Angeles, in which he stated he believes radio has reached the stage where it is commercially reliable. For the installation of the "Dot and Dash" system between ground points Mr. Lord estimated a cost of about fifteen hundred dollars; for the installation of radio ground telephone equipment and between planes about forty five hundred dollars. These costs include the original installations and the changes deemed necessary. During the daytime, the telephone transmitter and receiver should have an operating distance of two hundred miles, but in reality one hundred and twenty five miles can always be depended upon. At night a distance of fifteen hundred miles is a certainty, this applying to radio telephone. The pilot and co-pilot are required to pass the telephonic radio tests which eliminates a radio operator. Mr. Lord has offered to submit a detailed technical description of radio telephonic equipment which the Chairman has asked for.

In answer to our letter of December 11th to the Department of Commerce requesting all available information concerning radio communication and equipment a reply was read by the Chairman stating that several bulletins on this subject are being forwarded and Aeronautics Bulletin No. 24 "The Federal Airways System", now on the press, will be sent as soon as available.

Air Mail Service for Hawaii:

A copy of the Governor's letter to Honorable C. M. Young, Department of Commerce, on the subject of air mail service for the Islands, was brought to the attention of the Commission by the Chairman, in which the Governor stated he believes there is sufficient mail here to warrant the Post Office Department giving consideration to the establishment of an air mail service between the Islands at as early a date as possible.

Coral for Hilo Development work:

In connection with the coral used by Mr. Richards on the Hilo Airport the Chairman wrote to High Sheriff Lane, inclosing a copy of Colonel Smoot's letter on the subject. The Chairman stated he was not familiar

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with what has happened to the supply of coral placed at the disposal of the Aeronautical Commission but in case this has been used by the County he felt it might be regarded as an even exchange. If not, and the supply given to the Commission is still intact, he thought it a fair proposition for the County to make use of it to the extent that Mr. Richards has drawn from the County supply. No reply has been received to this letter and it was decided to look into the matter while on Hawaii over the week-end.

Accident at John Rodgers Airport:

It was reported by Mr. Peacock that on Sunday, January 18, at 4:45 P.M. the American Eagle with Captain Holland giving instructions to Mr. MacElroy at a very low altitude landed on the cross-wind take-off at John Rodgers with the wind directly from the north. As two Sikorskys were coming in Mr. Peacock told Captain Holland to get the plane off the runway, whereupon he taxied to the edge of the runway. After the Sikorskys had landed on the cross-wind take-off and were letting out passengers the American Eagle took off not over 20 or 30 feet above the planes. Flying about for a while soon the motor failed, forcing the pilot to land in the mud flats Waikiki of the Airport.

Mr. Brown felt that a rule should be incorporated in the regulations of the Commission stopping all flying activity 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after the arrival of transport planes; however the Chairman thought it would suffice to state definitely to all persons using the field to wait until the Sikorskys are off the runway before resuming flights. Mr. Peacock suggested that the two people in the American Eagle not be allowed to use the airport for 30 days after the plane is repaired.

It was moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Damon, and unanimously carried: "That both individuals be reprimanded and that Mr. Anderson and Mr. Peacock look into the matter to see what action should be taken."

There being no further business, the meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

R. A. Anderson, Chairman