



GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS COLONY.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,  
OCEAN ISLAND.

21st March, 1938.

No. Misc./58.

Sir,

I am directed by the Resident Commissioner to instruct you to visit the various islands of the Gilbert Group for the purpose of inviting the assent of the various Native Governments to the new revised code of Island Regulations. For this purpose you should embark immediately on board H.M.C.S. "Nimanoa" and proceed via the islands of Butaritari, Makin, and Marakei, to Tarawa, where the ship's engine will require to undergo decarbonisation. While the vessel is in Tarawa you are desired to obtain the decisions of the Native Governments of Abaiang, Tarawa and, should conditions be favourable, Maiana, with regard to the new code. Leaving Tarawa you should proceed through the Central and Southern Gilbert Islands, finally returning to Ocean Island where you will disembark. You should observe the utmost expedition throughout the voyage, consistent with the object of your visit, as it is possible that the Colony vessel may be required to take His Honour to Suva on approximately May 1st prior to which it will have to undergo a general overhaul.

2. You are already in possession of the proposed new code of Island Regulations, together with a Gilbertese translation. This code should be read and carefully explained

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explained to the Native Government of each island together with as many of the people of the island as it is possible to assemble in the time available. You should then obtain the written consent of the Native Government to such part of the revised code as they may approve of together with any additional regulations which they may desire to have enforced. At the same time you should take every opportunity of obtaining the views of the general native population of each island on the code as finally approved of by their Native Government, and any point on which the governing and governed sections of the community differ should be reported for His Honour's information and guidance.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

*B. Donaldson.*

Acting Secretary to Government.