

**REPORT OF THE ISLAND
OF GUAM, NO. XXVIII,
JUNE, 1900**

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Report of the Island of Guam, No. XXVIII, June, 1900 by Joseph Wheeler

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JOSEPH WHEELER

**REPORT OF THE ISLAND
OF GUAM, NO. XXVIII,
JUNE, 1900**

WAR DEPARTMENT, - *U.S.* ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

No. XXVIII.

REPORT

ON THE

ISLAND OF GUAM.

BY

BRIG. GENERAL JOSEPH WHEELER, U. S. ARMY.

JUNE, 1900.

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16 Mar 09 S. S.

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16 Mar 09 S. S.

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REPORT ON THE ISLAND OF GUAM.

ON BOARD U. S. TRANSPORT WARREN,
February 12, 1900.

To the PRESIDENT, *Commander in Chief,*
(Through the Adjutant-General U. S. ARMY),
Washington, D. C.

SIR: I have the honor to respectfully submit the following report:

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon of January 14 I received the following telegram:

BAUTISTA, LUZON, P. I.,
January 14, 1900—2.23 p. m.

General WHEELER, *Panique:*

The department commander directs that you proceed to Manila as quickly as possible and report to him in person. Please acknowledge receipt.

MACARTHUR, *Major-General.*

Panique is nearly 90 miles from Manila. In compliance with the above order, I took the first train to Manila. I left Panique on the morning of the 15th, reached Manila about dark, and immediately reported to General Otis, who told me that he had orders for me to proceed to Guam, and from thence to San Francisco, after complying with instructions regarding the island of Guam. He informed me that he expected a steamer to sail for Guam in about two days.

On January 17 I received the following order:

[Extract.]

Special Orders, }
No. 16. }

HDQES. DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC,
AND EIGHTH ARMY CORPS,
Manila, P. I., January 16, 1900.

5. In obedience to War Department instructions of the 13th instant, Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, United States Volunteers, is relieved from duty with the department and corps, and will proceed by way of the island of Guam to San Francisco, Cal., where upon arrival he will report to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders. Under these conveyed instructions, General Wheeler is hereby directed upon reaching Guam to delay a sufficient time to investigate conditions existing there, the admin-

istration of the United States officer in charge, the work accomplished and in contemplation, and the public advantages the island affords by reason of location and physical features. In the interest of necessary legislation and Executive action, General Wheeler will fully report the result of this directed investigation to the proper authority as soon as practicable. The travel enjoined is necessary for the public service.

By command of Major-General Otis:

THOMAS H. BARRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I was ready to embark at any moment after reaching Manila, but the steamer upon which I was directed to sail did not leave until the afternoon of January 24, and she was compelled to go by way of Hongkong to get sufficient coal for the voyage.

I arrived at Guam on the morning of Tuesday, February 6, reaching the shore about 1.30 in the afternoon. Proceeding to the palace at Agana, a distance of about 5 miles from Piti, the landing place, I called upon and presented my orders to Governor Leary. I had previously forwarded to him a letter from Admiral Watson, which the Admiral had intrusted to me, at the same time giving me a copy, which is as follows:

UNITED STATES NAVAL FORCE ON ASIATIC STATION,
FLAGSHIP BROOKLYN,
Cavite, P. I., January 19, 1900.

SIR: 1. The military governor of the Philippines, Major-General Otis, under instructions from the War Department, has directed Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, United States Volunteers, to visit Guam and delay a sufficient time to investigate conditions existing there, the administration of the United States officers in charge, the work accomplished and in contemplation, and the public advantages the island affords by reason of location and physical features.

2. This investigation is to be made in the interest of necessary legislation and Executive action.

3. The telegram authorizing this detail is signed "Corbin," and mentions that "The President would be glad to have Joseph Wheeler perform this duty."

4. You are hereby directed to receive General Wheeler with all the consideration due his rank, distinguished services, and high character, and will give him unofficially all possible information and facilities for the performance of his mission. You must, however, decline to recognize his instructions as official.

Very respectfully,

J. C. WATSON,
*Rear-Admiral, U. S. Navy, Commander in chief,
United States Naval Force on Asiatic Station.*

Capt. R. P. LEARY, *U. S. N.,
Commanding First Division, Asiatic Fleet, Guam.*



GOVERNMENT BUILDING, AGAÑA, GUAM.