

# STATEHOOD VIEWS OFFER A BIG ISLAND

## 7 AGAINST 3 FOR PROPOSAL

By JOHN TERRY  
Star-Bulletin Staff Correspondent  
HILLO, Hawaii, Oct. 17.—The territory of Hawaii is wholly qualified for statehood, William H. Burns, Big Island county attorney, testified here this afternoon in a hearing conducted by three members of the congressional statehood investigating committee.

Mr. Burns drew on experience of more than 20 years in the social and political life of the territory for his statement that Hawaii is fit to assume the responsibilities of statehood.

Speaking from personal contacts covering the same period, he said he has no doubt that Hawaii's citizens are of Japanese ancestry are loyal and rank high in the life of the community.

Seven Are Opposed  
The Big Island county attorney was the last of 11 speakers who testified at the hearing, seven of them opposing statehood, three urging its granting to Hawaii and one advising the committee "to go a little easy."

While the majority of the statehood party was leisurely motoring around the northern portion of the island from Kona that day, the Hawaiian H. King, committee chairman, Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney and Delegate Sam King were in the hills to conduct the hearing.

Testimony, which was given in the board of supervisors' chambers, followed arguments already developed at Kilauea and at either side of the statehood question.

Herbert Ahuna, surveyor and former representative in the territorial legislature; Rep. Thomas Kihara and Mr. Burns, last three witnesses to speak, urged the admission to the union as a state.

Opponents of statehood were D. B. Elliott, retired veterinarian; M. D. Chilton, former Hilo postmaster; Thomas Thomas, Jr., a Kona agent; J. G. Andrews, freight transport businessman; Abel Robinson, Kona; W. P. Barker, Kilauea; and Kageyama, Hilo high school principal, and J. M. Koomoo, who spoke entirely in his native language.

Mr. Koomoo, whose life has covered some of the most turbulent years of Hawaiian history, was one of the most colorful witnesses who have appeared before the committee.

The elderly, white-haired Hawaiian testified that he had been a witness to the best intervals by an interpreter.

"The question of statehood is still a babe and is still sucking milk," Mr. Koomoo said, with a chuckle. "My baby is not quite ready, hasn't had time to digest this question of statehood."

He counseled further study. Questioning by Senator O'Mahoney brought out the fact that Mr. Koomoo was actively engaged in community affairs at the time Queen Liliuokalani was deposed, and did not take part in the ousting.

Strong For Annexation  
"I was very strong for annexation," he continued. "I was president of the Kona club at the time of annexation."

"What was the attitude of most Hawaiians at that time?" Senator O'Mahoney pursued.

Mr. Koomoo: "The majority of Hawaiians were against annexation. Most of them were royalists."

Senator O'Mahoney: "Was it a 100 percent of the islands brought about the end of the kingdom?"

Mr. Koomoo: "There were Americans, white people from the mainland, and local, here."

Rep. Sakakibara, who appeared before the statehood committee two years ago as a proponent of statehood, reiterated that stand today.

He told three committee members that language schools serve a valuable function in equipping a person with more than one language. Primary purpose of the schools, he said, is teaching students to read and write the Japanese language.

He said that half of the teachers in the language schools are American citizens of Japanese ancestry, of the second and third generation in Hawaii.

Questioned by Senator O'Mahoney as to whether the schools teach other matters than language, he said the teaching includes obedience to parents, teachers and superiors.

"Where are the teachers trained?" the senator continued.

"In the schools of the territory, and in the Orient."

"Are any trained by the Japanese government?"

"No."

Asks For Consideration  
Speaking of Hawaii's American citizens of Japanese ancestry, Rep. Sakakibara said:

"If we are to be considered American citizens I think we should be given fair consideration. We ask your sympathetic understanding of our predicament."

Mr. Ahuna, who served during two sessions of legislature as speaker of the house, said Hawaii should

## For Statehood

### CONGRESSMEN SEE BIG ISLAND

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The never to be forgotten spectacle of Kilauea crater was seen by the visitors when the first stop was made after leaving Hilo on the island tour.

Following a lecture given at the Kilauea Inn, the group proceeded to the crater by the drive from Kilauea. The drive from Kilauea to Kona furnished one of the high points of their visit to the island.

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# HEARING ON VALLEY ISLAND

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence)  
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No statehood hearing will be held here.

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Of the remaining members of the committee, nine were in Honolulu for statehood hearings there and Senator William E. Tidyings was in the Big Island.

The program, subject to change if a statehood hearing might be decided on, was to include a trip to the summit of Maunaloa, leaving this city at 8:30 a. m., and traveling through the Puuwaia athletic field, the Puuwaia camp and the Puuwaia hospital.

According to its original schedule, the party was due at the observation building on the brink of the world's largest extinct volcano crater at 11:30 a. m.

Lunch on Maunaloa  
Following lunch at the crater, the party was to leave at 12:45 p. m. for Kilauea, returning to Waikuku at 3:30 p. m., and thence proceeding to Kilauea, arriving back at Waikuku at 4:45 p. m.

A dinner and entertainment given for the party by the Maui Chamber of Commerce was scheduled for 6:30 p. m.

Several of the party were to leave by plane at 4:10 this afternoon for Honolulu, and the remainder by inter-island steamer at 11 tonight.

Members of the congressional party were welcomed to the Valley Isle by an entertainment committee headed by J. J. Walsh and including Harry A. Baldwin, Stafford L. Austin, William Walsh, Claude A. George, W. Weight and Bert Jenkins.

The following members of the party reached Kilauea last night aboard the Hualalai and were taken thence to the Grand hotel here for the night:

Senator Tom Connally, Senator and Mrs. Edward J. Burke, Mrs. Cora Flinn, Rep. and Mrs. John E. Rankin, Rep. and Mrs. Eugene B. Crowe, Barney Crowe, Delegate Sam King, Rep. Claude A. Fuller, Mrs. Jack Nichols and Mr. and Mrs. William Doherty.

The following flew to the Maunaloa airport on this island from Hilo late yesterday afternoon:

Rep. Joseph W. Martin, Senator and Mrs. Joseph C. O'Mahoney, Rep. and Mrs. John H. Tolan, Rep. and Mrs. Clifford H. Hope, Senator and Mrs. Guy M. Gillette, Rep. and Mrs. E. O. Bland, Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, Mrs. John H. Kerr, Mrs. Claude A. Fuller, Louis S. Cain.

Among the Hawaiian party were: Senator and Mrs. Edward J. Burke, Mrs. Cora Flinn, Rep. and Mrs. John E. Rankin, Rep. and Mrs. Eugene B. Crowe, Barney Crowe, Delegate Sam King, Rep. Claude A. Fuller, Mrs. Jack Nichols, Delegate Sam King and Mr. and Mrs. William Doherty, Mrs. Louis S. Cain.

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# IGHT TOWERS FOR LINE ISLES

Howland, Jarvis and Baker Islands—America's mid-Pacific outpost—will soon have light towers to aid in navigation and in the operations of the coast guard and department of interior.

It was disclosed today by Richard B. Black, department of interior representative for the islands, that the equipment for constructing the towers will be taken to the line islands when the USSCGC Roger B. Taney leaves Honolulu harbor Saturday night on a 20-day cruise.

An effort is also being made to obtain funds for an Amelia Earhart memorial plaque. It would be placed on the western side of the Howland tower, facing the direction in which the Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, were coming on their ill-fated world flight, he said.

The towers of coral blocks will be about 20 feet high.

Frederick A. Edgcomb, head of the light house service here, made arrangements for the lights which are of the "unwatched light category." It is expected they will have a 10 mile visibility.

Replacement workers being taken to the islands are being instructed by Mr. Edgcomb in the handling of the lights and how to install them.

The lights will burn only when requests are made for them to be turned on. They will be particularly valuable to the department of interior in the delivery of supplies and replacements to the islands, Mr. Black said.

High commendation of the air corps in Hawaii is expressed by Maj. Gen. Oscar Westover, chief of the Hawaiian department command.

"The wind and groups are equal to the best on the continent," Gen. Westover said.

"I desire to convey heartiest congratulations to you and my commendation to all corps commanders and personnel on exceptionally fine showing of air corps activities observed during my recent visit."

Gen. Westover left Honolulu for the mainland October 11 on the St. Michel after a four day inspection.

Direct to Honolulu  
The following proceeded directly to Honolulu from the Big Island, en route Maui:

By army plane: Senators William H. King and Ernest Lundeen, Hon. and Mrs. Eugene B. Crowe, Bertrand H. Snell, Miss Sarah Louise Snell, Rep. John H. Kerr, by inter-island plane: Rep. Claude A. Fuller.

Rep. John J. Dempsey remained in Honolulu over the weekend.

Members of the congressional party who flew to this island yesterday afternoon were entertained at a cocktail party at the residence of Frank F. Baldwin.

The mud skipper fish can remain on the island for long periods, as long as its tail is kept in water.

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Gen. Westover Praises Airmen  
High commendation of the air corps in Hawaii is expressed by Maj. Gen. Oscar Westover, chief of the Hawaiian department command.

FIAT Solves The Two Car Transportation Problem  
Economical to run, easy to drive, safe, the 1938 Fiat is the ideal family second car.  
Come in