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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. THOMA Q. CONCERNING NAURU

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procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

Note by the Secretariat: This communication was
transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United
Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in
the Pacific.

Aiwo District,
Nauru.
13th March, 1956.

The Chairman,
U.N.O. Visiting Mission,
N A U R U.

Sir,

I beg leave to entreat your kindness and sympathy to review again my petition for which this has not been the first time I seek the sympathy of the U.N.O. delegations visiting Nauru and also for which I have received replies that, to me, seem very unfair, inconsiderate, and bear no justice.

Somehow I feel reluctant in raising this matter as I feel it has been closed long before - yet my desire and my crave for fair dealings and justice are greater. Therefore I herein seek your kindness to support and assist in the presentation of my petition to the party dealing with such matters.

Reluctant though I may be, I feel there is no better time and no better opportunity for one to submit one's despair and grievance to a people whose aim and interest lie in establishing peace, giving indiscriminate justice to all, and creating in one's heart a feeling of confidence to live as a peaceful citizen having the right to enjoy and wallow in the happiness of justice and freedom.

Herein I am again bringing up before this delegation the matter regarding my request, the same made to the Administration and to the Minister for Trust

56-16917

Territories in 1951 and to the U.N.O. delegations visiting Nauru in 1953, in which I requested the granting of remuneration for my services rendered to the Administration during the term of my appointment as chief of the district of Aiwo as from the 10th August 1946 to the 15th December 1951.

I could not reconcile myself to understand that my case has been justified because of the following strong reasons:

1. The Administrator, Mr. M. Ridgway had approved and confirmed my appointment as Chief of the district of Aiwo - 10th August, 1946. I carried out my duties forthwith.
2. My colleagues with whom I had been working together, had all (with the exception of two who were given time off from their normal working hours to enable them to attend meetings which were part of their duties as chiefs) received from the Administration, remuneration for the services they rendered.
3. Throughout my term of office and especially in the earlier part, after the people of Aiwo had at last been permitted to enter their district, after a very, very long detention in some remote corners of the island in order that the B.P.C. and the Administration surveyors could go about their work of pegging out new acquisition of lands for their settlement or establishment, without interference from the people, obviously I had more and harder duties to perform than my colleagues.
4. When the Councillors had replaced the Chiefs in December 1951, the latter among whom I was one, assumed the positions of Lands Committee for the island of Nauru. I began and still receiving remuneration for my service in the Committee, apart from the pay I am also receiving from the Administration for night duties performed at the Nauru Administration Hospital.

Let me draw attentions to the fact that at the time of writing, I am still receiving two lots of pay, viz: - one for services in the Nauru Lands Committee and the other for night duties at the Nauru Administration Hospital - a method which, it seem to me, quite derides and upsets the procedure designed by the most unrealible of Administrators, Mr. M. Ridgway and which unfortunately was adopted

by others, that my service as Chief of the district of Aiwo should not be remunerated because I preferred to work at night at the hospital.

Since I could not make anything more than a request, I submit my petition to you, Sir, with a prayerful hope that it would be given a sympathetic consideration.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) THOMA Q.

(THOMA. Q.)
