

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MISS E.C. MANN CONCERNING THE  
TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the  
rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

"Homebush"  
4 St. Andrew's Street  
Walkerville  
South Australia, 5081  
29 July 1969

The Secretary-General  
United Nations

Dear Honourable Sir,

I apologize for approaching you, but my friends and I are determined to try every possible avenue to save the native people of Bougainville Island in the Territory of Papua-New Guinea, from having their land forcibly requisitioned by the Australian Government in the interests of a fabulously wealthy copper-mining corporation, Conzinc Riotinto.

The natives have declined to sell their land some of which is sacred in their sight and all of which is their inheritance but the ruthless Australian Government demands that the land be handed over and has sent a substantial police force to quell any resistance.

Please, cannot the appropriate United Nations department, stop this cruel violation of the rights of these helpless people, who are supposed to be under the care of the Australian Government.

The Government has set 1 August as a deadline for the people to hand over their country, but this fact has only just been made known. The last time the land acquisition was mooted, as a result of the protests raised, the Government gave an assurance to the people that they would not be molested.

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We have tried to point out to the Minister for Papua-New Guinea, not only the dishonesty and perfidy of this act, but its contravention of the Charter of Human Rights and the very grave effect the policy is having on inter-racial relationships and the good name of Australia.

Please do help if you possibly can.

With respectful good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Elizabeth C. MANN

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