

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. AIESEA DAVID AND OTHERS CONCERNING  
THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 10 March 1953 from Mr. Aiesea David and others concerning the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

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

COPY

Translation

Majuro, Marshall Is.

10 March 1953

To the United Nations  
Visiting Mission

Subject: Petition for payment of war damage claims and rentals for lands occupied now and in the past by the Americans.

1. Is there any immediate way that you may suggest that will encourage the U.S. Government to help those people who are enslaved and whose lands and properties have been destroyed by the U.S. Government and not only for those people on Majuro, but as for those on the other islands?
2. All the alaps whose lands have been destroyed by the U.S. Government have not spent part of their share and now there are only a few of them left. We the remainder would like to use what is coming to us before we all pass away. Whom should the Government pay after we are dead?
3. For what purpose do they want the surveying party to measure the places which they destroyed? They would not know how many coconut trees destroyed, because we did not plant them according to measurement but we planted them crowded together.

Note: When the Japanese destroyed our places, they did not need to measure the lands or survey them so many times, but they agreed to the price we told. Any type of plants or trees that we use, we counted, for we told them the value of our lands, which money cannot buy, because the money will not last long but our lands will stand as long as the world stands.

4. If the U.S. Government delays in paying for our lands, could the Government give us food or other type of goods in advance and will they deduct the value of these when they finally pay for our lands?
5. The claims have been presented to the District Administration Office, with the Land Claims Officer and have been filed in his office.

sgd. s/ AIESEA DAVID  
MAGISTRATE AND IROIJ IN  
MAJURO AND OTHER PEOPLE OF  
MAJURO ATOLL WOTJE, JALUIT,  
MALEOLAP, LIKIEP ATOLLS

(there followed a list of 303 additional signatories to this petition)

Received at United Nations Headquarters through the Visiting Mission to the Pacific on 30 March 1953.

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