

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



Distr. LIMITED

T/COM.10/L.8 14 November 1967

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION FROM THE 1967 PALAU LEGISLATURE CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands Falau District Legislature

United States Mission to the United Nations

13 October 1967

The representative of the United States of America to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose, for transmittal to the President of the United Nations Trusteeship Council, Palau Legislature Resolution dated 14 April 1967 on Micronesian War Claims. T/COM.10/L.8 English Page 2

1967 PALAU LEGISLATURE

April session

RESOLUTION NO. 23-4-67

A resolution relative to expressing gratitude to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior for appointing a War Claims Review Team and memorializing the United States to expedite the settlement of the war damage claims problem.

WHEREAS, the emergence of World War II caused great hardship, destruction of properties, and extensive loss of lives to the people of Palau, and subsequent to the cessation of hostilities, the United States military forces caused further destruction to private property and occupied private lands without any compensation to the owners thereof; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the military occupation of Peleliu, Angaur and Koror and the establishment of Trust Territory facilities, major land problems presently exist in the Falau District which hinders economic progress of the inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior has taken notice of his serious and grave responsibilities to the inhabitants of the Trust Territory by appointing a War Claims Review Team to gather all relevant facts about the existence of uncompensated claims against the United States and the Government of Japan, for which the people of Palau express their deep gratitude; and

WHEREAS, in order to accurately document the existence of meritorious claims in Palau, this Legislature retained the services of an attorney at law who spent some ten (10) weeks travelling throughout Palau recording and documenting claims which have been forwarded to the appropriate authorities; and

WHEREAS, the people of Palau have suffered hard and long for the United States to settle this problem which has existed for more than twenty (20) years, and are gratified that final steps are being taken to settle these claims once and for all;

T/COM.10/L.8 English Page 3

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Palau District Legislature express gratitude to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior for appointing a War Claims Review Team and memorializing the United States to expedite the settlement of the war damage claims problem; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted directly to the Honourable Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, the Honourable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State for the United States of America, the Honourable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Department of the Interior, and to the Chairman, Trusteeship Council of the United Nations.

Passed this 14th day of April, 1967

(<u>Signed</u>) Sylvester F. Alonz, Secretary

(<u>Signed</u>) Itelbang Luii, Speaker