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COMMUNICATION FROM THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE  
CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules  
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TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE  
P.O. Box 929 Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

12 August 1974

President  
United Nations Trusteeship Council  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. President:

I am forwarding your copy of resolution No. 19-1974, a resolution authorizing and endorsing the establishment of the Marianas-Palau Joint Committee on Reparations, duly and regularly adopted by the fourth Mariana Islands District Legislature during its current fourth Regular Session.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Luis S. CAMACHO  
Executive Secretary

FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 19-1974

INTRODUCED BY: HON. VICENTE N. SANTOS, SAIPAN

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING AND ENDORSING  
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MARIANAS-PALAU JOINT  
COMMITTEE ON REPARATIONS

WHEREAS, the question of equitable settlement of claims for the inhabitants of the Mariana Islands District and the Palau District is of grave concern to the leadership and the people of those two districts; and

WHEREAS, during the existence of the Micronesian Claims Commission over the past two years, it has become evident that the interest and welfare of the people who have meritorious claims are not going to be protected unless a renewed and concerted effort is made by the leadership to protect the interest of the inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the establishment of the Marianas-Palau Joint Committee on Reparations will deal not only with the problems involved in their claims that fall under the purview of the Micronesian Claims Commission but will also seek compensation for the damages caused the people by the Japanese prior to the hostilities of the Second World War, when African snails and coconut beetles were brought in to destroy the crops to force the people to lease or sell their lands to the sugar company interest at a very low rate; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Joint Committee on Reparations will also seek additional supplemental compensation to augment the fund that presently exists for the payment of claims under the Micronesian Claims Act, in addition to seeking additional compensation for those claims that do not fall under the purview of the present Micronesian Claims Act of 1971, specifically, damages that occurred after 1 July 1951; and

WHEREAS, the Marianas-Palau Joint Committee on Reparations was established as a result of the extensive discussion between the leaders of these two districts and holds the best hope for an equitable settlement of this problem; and

WHEREAS, we, the elected leaders of the Mariana Islands District, being obligated to protect the health, safety and general welfare of our people, do hereby affirm the establishment of the Marianas-Palau Joint Committee on Reparations and fully endorse the objectives of this Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Fourth Mariana Islands District Legislature, Fourth Regular Session, that the Marianas-Palau Joint Committee on Reparations be and hereby is endorsed and fully supported; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the District Administrator, the Micronesian Claims Commission, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the Department of State, the Secretary of the Department of Defense, the President of the United Nations Trusteeship Council, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, United States Congress, Mrs. Patsy T. Mink, to Congressman Thomas Foley, Congressman Spark Matsunaga and Congressman Lloyd Meeds.

PASSED BY THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, 9 AUGUST 1974.

(Signed) Vicente M. SANTOS  
President

(Signed) Santiago B. MAGOFNA  
Legislative Secretary

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