

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/COM.10/L.200
19 May 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION FROM TOSIWO NAKAYAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
AND BETHWEL HENRY, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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

CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA

Capitol Hill, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

28 April 1977

Mr. Susumu Yamaji
Deputy Director General, International
Civil Aviation Bureau
Ministry of Transport
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Mr. Yamaji:

We take this opportunity to write to you as a result of the lack of any real progress in the bilateral air negotiations which concluded in Washington, D.C. on 8 April 1977.

In view of our visit to Japan last November to personally meet with various officials and to explain our position, and in view of our Micronesian representative's appearance at the talks this month, we held expectations that Japan would finally understand the uniqueness of the Japan-Micronesia service case. We were, therefore, embarrassed to see our personal efforts to represent the views of the people of Micronesia failed and severely disappointed to note, despite the presentations of our Micronesian Washington Representative, who was supported by a representative of the Northern Mariana Islands, that officials of Japan once again closed their eyes to their clear international responsibilities toward Micronesia as representatives of a United Nations Member State.

By the very nature of the unresponsiveness to the economic, social, and political implications of this issue to Micronesia, it is obvious that statements

about equity and fairness used by Japan in the negotiations are terms which Japan applies only to the United States of America and not to the people of our islands.

Our expectations for a speedy settlement of our problem were destroyed when it became evident our case was being held hostage to bargaining strategy, and not being considered on its own merits.

As we are sure you are fully aware, by the time the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Trusteeship Council adjourns in June two months from now, it will have been almost exactly one year since our air carrier was certified by the President of the United States to serve this route, and nearly one year of delay in initiating service because of Japan's refusal to honor a legal agreement signed in supposed good faith eight years ago. This delay of one year may be insignificant in terms of the long-range national interests of Japan and the United States, but it represents a serious economic step backward for our islands which are scheduled to become the newest self-governing area in the Western Pacific four short years from now.

We, therefore, urge in the strongest possible terms that the Government of Japan cease ignoring the importance of this issue to the people of Micronesia. If no solution is found in the very near future, then let there be no doubt that the leaders and people of Micronesia will take whatever steps they feel are both necessary and appropriate regarding our future relations with Japan, as it would with any nation which acts in disregard to its international responsibilities and obligations to our people.

(Signed) TOSIWO NAKAYAMA
President of the Senate,
Congress of Micronesia

(Signed) BETHWEL HENRY
Speaker of the House of
Representatives
Congress of Micronesia

cc: Shinichiro Asao, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Minoru Kimura, Japan Air Lines
Hon. Kazuo Maeda, Japanese Diet
Moaihiro Tokuni, Japanese Micronesia Association
President, United Nations Trusteeship Council
