



UNITED NATIONS
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COUNCIL



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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. HARROP A. FREEMAN CONCERNING
THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

7 6 OCT 1969

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

September 15, 1969

Gentlemen:

In the spring of 1969 I met, at the request of Micronesian Congressmen, with about two thirds of the Micronesian Congress. I was then asked to serve as attorney for all the Micronesian people. Obviously, until an official Congress meeting I could rely only on these men who seemed as nearly to represent the Micronesian people as anyone. Since then the Political Status Committee, the Micronesian Senate and House by Joint Resolution, and the Political Status Delegation to the United States have officially retained me as attorney. A copy of the Joint Resolution is enclosed.

I have been troubled to hear that the Interior Department, even after this, tried to appoint another attorney for the Micronesians and make money available only if used for his employment. I remind the United States and each and every officer, Department, Congressional Committee or Congressman that the United States (and all of its agencies) is a Trustee for the Micronesians, answerable to the United Nations and must never act in its own interest to the detriment of the Micronesians.

As an example, I have seen both the proposed Act by Representative Patsy Mink and an Organic Act drafted by the Interior Department and transmitted to the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the Senate. Far from carrying out the express wish of the Micronesians for "free association" with the United States or "independence", it makes Micronesia a "possession" of the United States; it permanently makes a United States-appointed Governor the ultimate Executive officer and able to veto all legislation; it makes all United States laws and

Executive orders binding in Micronesia; it imposes ultimate military control in the United States. If any lawyer were asked to draw an instrument favourable to the United States and unfavourable to the Micronesians, he would have had a hard time to do more than this draft.

I ask, as attorney for all the persons and groups stated above, that the United States and all of its officers and representatives stop attempting to speak for the Micronesian people, that they act solely and ethically as Trustees; I also ask that I be furnished immediately and continuously with copies of all correspondence and documents by any officer, representative or employee of the United States or the Trust Territory of the Pacific dealing with the Micronesian people, the Trusteeship, the future political status, any claims of any Micronesians or of Micronesia against the United States or Japan.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Harrop A. Freeman

HAF:g

CC. to:

President of the United States

United States Secretary of State

United States Secretary of Interior

High Commissioner of Micronesia

Attorney General of the United States

President of the United States Senate

Speaker of the United States House of Representatives

Interior and Insular Affairs Committee: United States Senate

Interior Committee: United States House of Representatives

Foreign Relations Committee: United States Senate

Secretary-General of the United Nations

Security Council of the United Nations

Trusteeship Council of the United Nations

THIRD CONGRESS, 1969

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

S. J. R. No. 52

A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

Appointing Professor Harrop A. Freeman of New York to represent, defend and enforce the rights and interests of the people of Micronesia.

WHEREAS, the people of Micronesia have often needed legal assistance in the United States to take positive action to present certain grievances, enforce certain claims and follow-up resolutions with the United Nations and the United States Government; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrop A. Freeman, Professor of Law and member of the bars of New York State and of the United States Supreme Court, has had a distinguished career as counsel to the peoples of other lands in situations closely analagous to those in which the people of Micronesia have found themselves, and do now find themselves; and

WHEREAS, it is the sense of the Congress of Micronesia that Professor Freeman's services, as a capable and resolute advocate for the Micronesian people, would be of positive value to Micronesia; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Third Congress of Micronesia, Second Regular Session, 1969, the House of Representatives concurring, that this Congress by means of this Joint Resolution and on behalf of the people of Micronesia does hereby appoint and retain Professor Harrop A. Freeman of New York to represent, defend, and enforce the rights and interests of the people of Micronesia; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives be authorized to execute if necessary any documents, agreements, or arrangements to make the services of the said Professor Harrop A. Freeman legally binding and enforceable, and to draw upon the representation fund of the Congress to pay any expenditures to or by the said Professor Freeman which may be incurred under the terms of this Joint Resolution; and

/...

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Joint Resolution be transmitted to Professor Harrop A. Freeman, the President of the Security Council of the United Nations, the President of the United States, the President of the Senate of the United States Congress, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, the United States Secretaries of Defense, State, and the Interior, and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory.

Date: 8 August 1969

Introduced by:

(Signed) Tosiwo MAKAYAMA

(Signed) Illegible

Eleven signatures
