

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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COMMUNICATION FROM MR. JOSEPH MIDZALKOWSKI CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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

> P. O. Box 264 Majuro, Marshall Islands United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, 96960 6 July 1973

Chairman, Trusteeship Council, General Assembly of the United Nations, New York City, New York

Dear Sir:

Last night I was listening to a tape of the Trusteeship Council hearings of last month on WSZO radio and heard High Commissioner Edward Johnston state that at that time funds had been allocated for the rehabilitation of the Marshall Islands High School, especially the boys' dormitory, and that this project was in progress. This statement is false.

After the Visiting Mission left the Trust Territory, the High Commissioner sent someone from Saipan to look at the dorm and make recommendations. A considerable period of time elapsed before word was finally received from Headquarters about the project, "Sorry, no money." The Marshalls District Education Department, faced with a lack of direct support from the High Commissioner's office, decided to raise the money to refurbish the dorm through the cancellation of our very important summer teacher training and pre-ninth grade programmes. The funds saved would be spent for the necessary labour and materials beginning with the new fiscal year on 1 July after Mr. Johnston made his statement to the Council. It should be emphasized that this project is for the rehabilitation of only the boys' dorm and possibly one other building, not the entire high school as was implied in the High Commissioner's statement.

As a teacher at the Marshall Islands High School, I feel very strongly about this matter. The primary morale problem with the student body has been the

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abominable condition of the dorm. In order to correct this situation we have had to deprive our outer island teachers of in service training and our incoming ninth graders of the previously very successful summer schooling which both groups so desperately need. I am appalled at the misleading statements of Mr. Johnston and hope the Trusteeship Council will continue to show an interest in this problem and not take Mr. Johnston at his apparently unreliable word.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Joseph MIDZALKOWSKI