

## UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. ROBERT R. SOLENBERGER CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

> 3810 Hamilton Street Philadelphia, PA 19104

> > 23 April 1985

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

Dear Sir,

This is to request that I be given an opportunity to testify before the Trusteeship Council concerning the situation of the native population within the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, at hearings to be held in New York during May 1985.

It seems especially important that constructive suggestions pertinent to the future well-being of the Micronesian islanders be presented now, as the Trusteeship Agreement  $\underline{1}/$  comes to an end.

During 1951-1952 I served as District Anthropologist for Saipan District, Northern Mariana Islands, as an employee of the Trust Territory under the United States Department of the Interior. During seven weeks of temporary duty on Guam, I made a complete census and survey of all non-Guamanian Micronesians residing there as to their social, educational and economic status. In 1968, I visited the administrative centres of Majuro, Truk, Ponape and Saipan to investigate the relationship between cultural change and language use, in preparation for two NDEA anthropological courses which I taught at the University of Guam that summer. I also spent several days in the Palau Islands, visiting Koror, Babelthuap, Angaur, Yap and Ulithi.

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The results of my research on Micronesia have been published by the South Pacific Commission. Through continued reading of anthropological books and locally-produced periodicals on the Pacific Islands and their problems, I have kept up to date on current problems in Micronesia.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience when I am likely to be scheduled to make a presentation in New York.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Robert R. SOLENBERGER

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1/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
(United Nations publication, Sales No. 1957.VI.A.1).