

8/24/69

17
72

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Declaring that until the settlement of the issue of the Future Political Status of Micronesia, all military activities in any way related to the acquisition or development of military bases or facilities in Micronesia shall immediately cease, until and unless such activity is specifically approved by the Congress of Micronesia, and directing the High Commissioner to intercede if such activity continues or is initiated without the approval of the Congress of Micronesia.

1 WHEREAS, the time is rapidly approaching when the people of
2 Micronesia will determine the future political status of Micronesia;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, it is highly likely that in any future negotiations
5 with the United States on the issue of the political status of
6 Micronesia the subject of land in Micronesia and its use for
7 military purposes will be a prime subject of negotiations; and

8 WHEREAS, the Congress of Micronesia believes that any acquisi-
9 tion or development of land for military facilities occurring prior
10 to or during the negotiations weakens the Micronesian negotiating
11 position by depriving the Micronesian negotiators of control over
12 the very land subject to possible negotiations; and

13 WHEREAS, the Congress of Micronesia is deeply concerned over
14 the clandestine military activity occurring in Micronesia; and

15 WHEREAS, there has been virtually no disclosure by the
16 military to the elected leaders of Micronesia as to the purposes
17 of this activity in Micronesia; and

18 WHEREAS, in the past such secret military activity in Micro-
19 nesia has resulted in great hardship and loss of land for the
20 Micronesian people, as for example on Eniwetok, Kwajalein and
21 Bikini; and

22 WHEREAS, at this time there are still pending and unresolved

APPENDIX H
P. 1

1 many Micronesian war and damage claims associated with military
2 activity; and

3 WHEREAS, at this time the military is using land for which Micro-
4 nesians have not been adequately compensated, and in some cases have
5 not been compensated at all; and

6 WHEREAS, the reasonable efforts of the Congress of Micronesia to
7 make more equitable the eminent domain law which allows land to be
8 taken for military purposes contrary to our wishes have been halted
9 by the Administration; and

10 WHEREAS, while the Congress of Micronesia is aware of and greatly
11 appreciates the recent services the military has provided in its
12 effort to win the goodwill of the Micronesian people, the Congress of
13 Micronesia still does not believe, based on past experience and such
14 recent examples as the disclosure that Eniwetok is possibly going to

15 be used for testing of biological and chemical weapons that the
16 United States military should be allowed to acquire and develop
17 military facilities at this critical time without clear disclosure
18 to the Congress of Micronesia of its intention and permission from
19 the Congress; and

20 WHEREAS, since under Article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement, it
21 is the duty of the trustee to protect Micronesia against loss of its
22 land, the Congress of Micronesia regards any acquisition or develop-
23 ment of land by the military just prior to resolution of the status
24 question, as a possible violation of the section of the Trusteeship
25 Agreement and as an attempt to deprive Micronesia of its most valuable
26 resource and thus limiting its freedom to bargain as to possible future

H
P.2

027041

1 political status; and

2 WHEREAS, in the past the trustee has assumed without consulting
3 the Micronesian people or their representatives, that it alone may
4 determine what is in the best interests of the Micronesian people,
5 often resulting in serious hardships to the Micronesian people, the
6 time has now arrived, when the Micronesian people should be deter-
7 mining their own future, unhindered by limitations imposed by the
8 United States military; now, therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Third
10 Congress of Micronesia, Second Regular Session, 1969, the Senate
11 concurring, that the Congress of Micronesia declares that until the
12 resolution of the future political status of Micronesia, all activity,
13 military or civilian, in any way related to the acquisition or
14 development of military bases in Micronesia shall cease immediately;
15 and that no new activity related to the acquisition or development
16 of military bases in Micronesia shall commence, unless and until ap-
17 proval is sought and obtained, by the military, directly from the
18 Congress of Micronesia; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that military or civilian activity re-
20 lated to the acquisition or development of military bases shall
21 include, but not be limited to such activities as surveying, con-
22 struction, land acquisition, in any form including leasing or
23 purchasing, initiating actions in eminent domain for the purpose of
24 acquiring land for military bases, activation development or use of
25 military retention areas, invasion, seizure, reconnaissance, or

H
p.3

1 intelligence gathering, if the purpose of such activity is in any
2 way an attempt to acquire or develop land for military bases; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this declaration shall specifically
4 not be construed to apply to or interfere with weather reconnais-
5 sance missions, emergency mercy missions, normal Coast Guard opera-
6 tions, or civic action teams, and any military activity specifically
7 requested or approved by the Congress of Micronesia; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a special joint committee of the
9 Congress of Micronesia is hereby created which shall consist of
10 three (3) members from each House appointed by the Speaker and
11 President respectively, the committee acting for the entire Congress,
12 shall have the power to receive and hear requests from the military
13 for permission to engage in activities related to acquisition and
14 development of military bases within Micronesia. Upon proper in-
15 vestigation and consideration, this committee shall have the power
16 to grant or reject such requests, subject to approval by the Con-
17 gress as a whole; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of Micronesia requests
19 that no eminent domain action be initiated for the purpose of
20 acquiring land for military purposes; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any eminent domain action should
22 be initiated for the purpose of acquiring land for military purposes,
23 the Congress of Micronesia hereby declares such action to be null and
24 void; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the High Commissioner is hereby called

1 upon under Article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement to intercede on
2 behalf of the Micronesian people to prevent acquisition or develop-
3 ment of military bases in Micronesia without the consent of the
4 Congress of Micronesia as a means of protecting the Micronesian
5 people from loss of their land; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Joint Resolution be
7 sent to the President of the United States, Secretary of Defense,
8 Foreign Relations Committees and Armed Services Committees of the
9 United States Congress, the United Nations Trusteeship Council, and
10 the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

11

12 Adopted August 24, 1969

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

H
P.S