

8/26/69

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THIRD CONGRESS, 1969

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 62

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Unequivocally stating the sense of the Congress of Micronesia regarding the plight of the Eniwetokian Micronesians and strongly urging the President of the United States to effect immediate cessation of the reported use of Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands District, by the U.S. Department of Defense for tests of biological warfare agents.

1 WHEREAS, being the Administering Authority for all Micronesia,
2 the United States of America freely and willingly accepted on
3 July 18, 1947, the responsibility to "promote to the utmost" the
4 well-being of all Micronesians, including the Eniwetokian Microne-
5 sians; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States in discharging this responsibility
7 must act in full accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,
8 the International Trusteeship Agreement, and the Trusteeship Agree-
9 ment for these islands; and

10 WHEREAS, on December 1, 1947, only five months after the
11 United States had become the trustee for the Micronesians, this
12 same trustee closed Eniwetok to the whole world in order that
13 "necessary experiments relating to nuclear fusion" could be con-
14 ducted there; and

15 WHEREAS, on December 21, 1947, only twenty days after Eniwetok
16 was closed to the whole world, the Eniwetokian Micronesians were
17 forcibly relocated in order that nuclear tests for their trustee's
18 own security and peace could commence at once; and

19 WHEREAS, for the last twenty-two years of trusteeship the
20 United States as the trustee for the Eniwetokian Micronesians has
21 arrogantly ignored its responsibilities bestowed upon it to
22 guarantee the peace and the security of the beneficiaries of the

1 trusteeship by its continuous use of their beloved home island for
2 nuclear related tests, while the same trustee knowingly left the said
3 beneficiaries to exist almost on the verge of starvation on an alien
4 island; and

5 WHEREAS, the contract entered into by the said Micronesians with
6 the United States of America, their trustee, is not morally and legal-
7 ly binding because the said contract was never translated into the
8 vernacular language and as a result the said Eniwetokian Micronesians
9 never understood well what they were signing; and

10 WHEREAS, the said Micronesians have pleaded for mercy and help
11 from their trustee by sending their pleas through the Congress of
12 Micronesia and by petitioning the United Nations; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States has agreed to give only a token
14 compensation to the said Micronesians for the loss of some of their
15 islands, twenty-two years of absence from their home island of
16 Eniwetok, and an existence of near starvation; and

17 WHEREAS, the Honorable Richard D. McCarthy of New York has re-
18 cently disclosed that he has discovered that the U.S. Department of
19 Defense may be using the Eniwetok Atoll for test of biological war-
20 fare agents; and

21 WHEREAS, any existence of such activities in Micronesia is
22 highly questionable in the light of the Trusteeship Agreement and
23 the U.S. policy which does not permit such activities within its
24 own boundaries; and

25 WHEREAS, such activities pose dangers of catastrophic magnitude

1 and scope to not only the peoples but also to the land and sea re-
2 sources of Micronesia and territories and nations throughout the
3 Pacific Basin; and

4 WHEREAS, such additional use of Eniwetok Atoll by U.S. Department
5 of Defense dims the prospects of the earliest possible return of the
6 said Micronesians to their beloved home islands; now, therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Third
8 Congress of Micronesia, Second Regular Session, 1969, the Senate con-
9 curring, that it is the unequivocal sense of the Congress of Microne-
10 sia that the Eniwetokian Micronesians have contributed more than their
11 share, as called for in the Trusteeship Agreement, toward "the main-
12 tenance of international peace and security"; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States
14 of America, the trustee of these islands, including the Eniwetok Atoll,
15 is hereby strongly urged to effect immediate cessation of the reported
16 use of the Eniwetok Atoll for the testing of biological warfare agents;
17 and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States is
19 hereby also strongly urged to take immediate steps to return the
20 Eniwetokian Micronesians, now existing on the island of Ujelang, to
21 their beloved home islands; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Joint Re-
23 solution be transmitted to the President of the United States of
24 America; the President and Speaker of the U.S. Congress; the President
25 of the U.N. Security Council; U.N. Secretary General; the President

1 of the Trusteeship Council; the Prime Minister of Japan; the President
2 of the Republic of the Philippines; the Chairman of the Senate Foreign
3 Relations Committee; the Chairman of both Senate and House Interior and
4 Insular Affairs Committees; Representative Richard D. McCarthy; Senators
5 Mike Mansfield, Edward M. Kennedy and William Brockway; and Representa-
6 tive Patsy Mink.

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8 Adopted August 26, 1969

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