

8/27/69

17  
2

THIRD CONGRESS, 1969

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

Condemning the role of the Administration in conducting negotiations to acquire privately owned land on behalf of noncitizens of the Trust Territory and of the United States and requesting the High Commissioner to seek rescission of the 1955 agreement between the Department of the Interior and the United States Navy wherein the Trust Territory Government was obligated to acquire lands in Micronesia for the use of various agencies of the United States Government.

1 WHEREAS, under the applicable provisions of the Trust Territory  
2 Agreement between the Security Council of the United Nations and  
3 the United States of America relating to the administration of the  
4 Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the United States as the  
5 Administering Authority assumed the obligation to protect the  
6 habitants of Micronesia against the loss of their lands and  
7 resources and against social abuses; and

8 WHEREAS, past practices of the Administration indicate that the  
9 Trust Territory Administration invariably negotiates for acquisition  
10 of privately owned lands in the Trust Territory for and on behalf of  
11 noncitizens of the Trust Territory and of the United States Govern-  
12 ment, and when such negotiation for the transfer of title or inter-  
13 ests to land appears impossible, the Trust Territory Government has  
14 had to resort to seizure of the lands by force of law; and

15 WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Congress that such a practice  
16 is not in the best of interest of the Micronesian people; and

17 WHEREAS, the acquisition of privately owned lands in the Trust  
18 Territory by the Government for use by the United States Government  
19 and by noncitizens of the Trust Territory whenever and wherever  
20 Government lands are unavailable is based on the agreement executed  
21 on September 1, 1955 between the Department of the Interior and the  
22 Trust Territory Government wherein the Trust Territory Government agreed

1       WHEREAS, the acquisition of lands by the Trust Territory  
2 Government for various agencies of the United States Government,  
3 a foreign power, constitutes a violation of the Trusteeship  
4 Agreement; now, therefore,

5       BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Third Congress of Micro-  
6 nesia, Second Regular Session, 1969, the House of Representatives  
7 concurring, that past practices of the Trust Territory Government  
8 to negotiate and acquire privately held lands for use by the United  
9 States Government and noncitizens of the Trust Territory be censured  
10 and that the High Commissioner be and he is hereby respectfully  
11 requested to seek the rescission of the 1955 agreement between the  
12 Department of the Interior and the United States Navy which placed  
13 the Trust Territory Government in such an anomalous position; and

14       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Joint  
15 Resolution be transmitted to the United Nations Trusteeship Council,  
16 the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the Navy, and the  
17 High Commissioner of the Trust Territory.

18

19 Adopted: August 27, 1969

20

21

22

23

24

25