

377

*Professor of Law
Cornell Law School*

March 11, 1970

United Nations
Chairman, Security Council
United Nations Building
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Sir,

As Attorney for the Micronesians I have heretofore protested any action of the United States and Japan in trying to settle or foreclose the claims of Micronesia and Micronesians against Japan under the Mandate or the United States under the Trusteeship of the Pacific Islands. Claims include those for violation of the Mandate or Trusteeship, for seizure of land, for war, pre-war and post-war personal and property damages, for withholding land from Micronesian use and failure to pay adequately for land use or labor, etc.

As Attorney for the Micronesians I have estimated the claims against Japan as \$1-3 Billion and against the United States as \$1-1/2 - 5 Billion. I cannot believe that the United Nations would approve, directly or indirectly, any attempt to discharge these claims by a payment "ex gratia" of \$10 Million. Yet the United States and Japanese foreign offices seem to claim that the United States has the right to negotiate such settlement under the Trusteeship Agreement and Treaty of Peace and that the United Nations (Trusteeship Council) has approved this by accepting the 1969 Report of the United States which refers to the April 18, 1969 Agreement without questioning any attempted settlement.

I ask, as Attorney for the Micronesians, that when the Micronesian Trusteeship comes up before the United Nations in May, 1970, that I be given an opportunity to speak on these matters. If this requires approval by the State Department of the United States to put my presentation on the agenda, then I ask that you seek to obtain such authorization.

Respectfully,

Harrop A. Freeman

HAF/pc

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