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## ANNEX II

- I. Statement made by Senator Petrus Tun on 2 March 1970 at the meeting held by the Visiting Mission with the Congress of Micronesia members from Yap District, the Yap District Legislature, the Yap Islands Council and the Outer Islands Chiefs Council on behalf of the members of these bodies

It is a great honour for me to have been given the privilege by the Yapese leaders of addressing on their behalf the distinguished members of the United Nations Visiting Mission.

First of all, we would like to welcome you once again to our islands.

For what you have done and what you will do for this district and for the Trust Territory, we wish to express our sincere gratitude.

We are hopeful that the outcome of your visit will be of great benefit to our people.

In the past few weeks, you have had ample opportunity to observe the face of Micronesia.

You have seen for yourselves the physical results of the United States efforts to meet its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement.

You have seen the condition of our roads, bridges and schools.

You have read the reports of the Administration and are familiar with their account of their achievements, and their promises for the future.

You know that the Administration proposes to put into Yap District, during the next seven years, new schools, roads, water, power and sewage systems, a new hospital and other substantial projects.

We welcome these improvements in our district and look forward to their completion, even though they are necessary only because of twenty-five years of mismanagement and neglect.

However praiseworthy these developments may be, we hope that the Visiting Mission will look beyond them in its evaluation of the United States performance of its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement.

The United States has failed to live up to these obligations.

It has been slow and extremely reluctant to foster any meaningful political development in the Trust Territory.

There is no administration official who is responsible to the Micronesian people.

The President of the United States appoints the High Commissioner and he in turn appoints the District administrators.

These officials should be selected by the Micronesian people and should be accountable to them.

If the United States contends that we are somehow not yet ready to select these officials ourselves, that is more a reflection on the performance of the Administering Authority than on the Micronesian people.

The District Legislatures have no meaningful control over district budgets.

Even the Congress of Micronesia is able to play only an advisory role in the structuring of the Trust Territory budget.

The Administration would respond that this is not our money; that it is America's money and America should decide how it is to be spent.

They say this as though they were doing us a great favour by occupying our islands.

We did not ask the United States to rule Micronesia.

There was no Micronesian twisting President Truman's arm.

There were no Micronesian lobbyists in the halls of the United States Congress when they ratified the Trusteeship Agreement.

The United States assumed the obligations of the Trusteeship Agreement for reasons of its own which had nothing to do with the welfare of the Micronesian people.

Let no one think that we regard United States appropriations for Micronesia as benevolent gifts which some great white spirit condescends to bestow upon its little brown brothers in the bush - which is what the United States would like us to believe.

We are not interested in the United States ability to say to the Trusteeship Council "Look what we did for Micronesia this year."

These appropriations are a deeply serious matter for us.

It is our land and our culture that is affected by the way the United States appropriations are allocated.

And because it is our right and our duty to protect our land and our culture, the control over the structure of the territory and district budgets must be put into the hands of the Micronesian people.

Micronesians who are employed by the Administration are paid on a scale which is humiliating when it is contrasted with the huge sums paid to American employees in salaries and various kinds of trumped-up allowances.

The disparity between American and Micronesian salary scales can only be explained as a manifestation of racism.

The Administration would attempt to rationalize the disparity by asserting that Micronesians are unqualified, or that a just salary scale would damage our economy.

Again, as the Administration makes these assertions it says much more about its own failure to meet its trusteeship obligations than it says about the Micronesian people.

Last May, Secretary of Interior Hickel promised the people of Micronesia that every effort would be made to eliminate these disparities.

Now, however, Secretary Hickel, through his assistant, Harrison Loesch, has begun to drag his feet in this important matter, and it is beginning to appear that he intends to amend and qualify his words until they no longer mean anything.

And once again, the Micronesian people will have been misled into a false optimism about America's intentions in Micronesia.

Throughout the twenty-five years that America has occupied Micronesia, it has been least responsive to the aspirations of the Micronesians in precisely those matters which are of greatest importance to us.

Consider that of the small amount of land in the Trust Territory, the Administering Authority controls 60 per cent of it.

Throughout the twenty-five years of its occupation of these islands the United States has consistently refused to return to the people large areas of land that were taken from us by the Japanese.

And they have taken still more land for their own so-called strategic purposes which are of little concern to Micronesians.

Now they have instituted a fantastically expensive cadastral survey in order to justify and confirm their right to withhold these lands from the Micronesians.

These lands and all the waters around them belong to the people of Micronesia.

During the past few years, the Trusteeship Council and other United Nations bodies have received numerous petitions from the Micronesian people stating our legitimate grievances in this matter of the alienation of our land.

But as yet we have received no assurance from the United Nations that it intends to make any significant effort to assist us in regaining the land which is rightfully ours.

Similarly, the Micronesian people have repeatedly requested United Nations assistance in the matter of war claims settlements.

Recently the United States and Japan reached an agreement between themselves concerning the settlement of war claims in Micronesia.

Their proposed settlement is so pitifully small that the Micronesian people can only regard it as an insult.

Does the United Nations intend to ignore the wishes of the Micronesians in this matter as it has in the matter of our land?

We are beginning to wonder if the United Nations is capable of exerting any influence at all upon the United States to correct its policy of indifference to the aspirations of the Micronesian people.

The time is approaching when the future political status of Micronesia will be determined.

That determination must of course be made by the Micronesian people and no one else.

We would like to be assured that the United Nations intends to protect our inalienable right to make a free act of self-determination.

We hope that the Visiting Mission can become aware of the true situation of the Micronesian people.

The days, centuries ago, when our islands were first "discovered" by the Europeans, were days of mixed blessings.

One consequence of those days has been a level of material prosperity which, left alone on these small islands, we might never have achieved.

But ever since those days, the control of our destiny has been in the hands of strangers.

The history of these islands over the last few centuries has not been the history of the Micronesian people. It has been the history of missionaries, colonizers, commercial exploiters, warring armies, atomic testing and, now, of a vast, unresponsive, indifferent bureaucracy.

For as long as even the oldest among us can remember we have been second-class citizens in our own islands.

We hope that the Visiting Mission will explain to the United Nations, and especially to the Administering Authority, that more than roads and docks and airports - more than new classrooms, new gaols and new hotels - the Micronesian people today are demanding genuine human dignity and the freedom to determine our own future from the point of view of our own interests.

II. Copy of the statement made and circulated by Mr. Benjamin T. Manglona, member of the House of Representatives, Congress of Micronesia, at the meeting held by the Visiting Mission in Rota Island, Mariana Islands District, on 12 March 1970

The people of Rota are greatly honoured for the privilege extended to us by this visit of the United Nations Mission Team of 1970. My colleagues in the Congress of Micronesia and my constituents appreciate the real sympathetic attention and interests that the United Nations has given to the problems, needs and aspirations of the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.