

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PET.10/76
5 June 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MS. SUSAN COSTELLO, FRIENDS OF MICRONESIA, CONCERNING
THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the
rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

FRIENDS OF MICRONESIA
2325 McKinley Avenue
Berkeley, California 94703
(415) 849 1715

29 May 1973

The President of the United Nations
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

The central issue before the Trusteeship Council is the absolutely criminal bad faith of the American Government vis-à-vis the people of Micronesia. For 30 years the United States has been the Administering Authority in the islands of Micronesia under the auspices of an unenforced United Nations Trusteeship Agreement. This agreement calls for the development of Micronesia economically, politically and educationally in return for which the Trust Territory would allow the United States rights to military bases in the Pacific.

For 30 years the United States has claimed its military rights and have taken the islands of Kwajalein, Eniwetok and Bikini. In return they have given the Micronesians next to nothing but neglect, mismanagement, and outright landgrabbing.

The United States has broken the Trusteeship Agreement and should forfeit its rights and privileges. But to quote Senator Hugh Butler, former chairman of the Senate Committee on Insular Affairs: "The Trusteeship Agreement is nothing more than a fait accompli. These islands are ours by force of arms. They shall remain so forever." This attitude manifests itself continually in the actions of Americans in Micronesia, both in the public and private sectors.

As Americans, as Friends of Micronesia, we are outraged. It is an outrage that is born of experience. We think it would be useful to point out the parallels in the United States' behavior and attitudes in Southeast Asia and Micronesia.

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Despite long, continued protests from its own citizens and foreign nations, the United States Government has followed a policy of destruction claiming that by doing so it is nation-building. It appears that in fact the only beneficiaries of this policy have been a handful of businessmen and militarists. Surely this is the case in Micronesia. Must United States military superiority be based upon the subjugation of the Micronesian people? In Southeast Asia the United States has used a country for experiments in defoliants. In Micronesia the people of the Marshall Islands have been used as human guinea pigs in atomic testing. The latest victim has been a young teenager who died only a few months ago. In both cases the people have to subsist in a non-economy manipulated from above and stagnant on the bottom. As Representative Hans Willander has said, "Americans think of themselves as benefactors, but in fact they are manipulators who have come here to destroy us."

Seemingly the United States has followed a course of obtaining the greatest good for the greatest number of people. It has decided, arbitrarily, that the greatest number of people are in the United States. Consequently it has been willing to sacrifice the people of Micronesia for the attainment of its own ends.

We believe, however, that this is a self-defeating course, for in neglecting the rights of the Micronesian people we are neglecting our own humanity. We petition the United Nations to work vigorously through the Trusteeship Council to bring about Micronesian self-determination. The American people have long demanded that our Government cease its activities in Southeast Asia, but we have not been heard. We fear that our demands for equitable treatment for the Micronesians will again be ignored by our Government. Thus we turn to the United Nations as a world power to join us in attempting to influence the United States Government.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Susan COSTELLO

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PETITION FROM MR. JOHN HOFSCHEIDER AND OTHERS, TINIAN,
MARIANAS ISLANDS DISTRICT CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY
OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 80, paragraph 1, of the
rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Mr. Felipe Mendiola
Speaker, Tinian Municipal Council
San Jose Village
Tinian, Marianas Islands
Micronesia 96950

Mr. John Hofschneider
c/o Tinian Students at the University
of Guam
Box EK
Agana, Guam 96910

27 May 1973

Secretary of the Trusteeship Council
Department of Political Affairs
Trusteeship and Decolonization
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

Gentlemen:

After the long period of 400 years the time is drawing near for us in the Trust Territory of the Pacific for either self-governing or independence. We on Tinian island of the Marianas District have a special problem and would like to send one of our people as petitioner to represent our cause at the Trusteeship Council session beginning 5 June.

We, the undersigned, believe that our problem with the United States military requires special consideration and that the pressing nature of the circumstances warrants a hearing before the Trusteeship Council.

Enclosed is a news article revealing the military's intentions of either moving us off island or removing us to another location. 1/ Also included is

1/ Note by the Secretariat: The enclosures referred to are available in the files of the Secretariat for consultation.

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a press release written by four Tinian students issued in reaction to the military's announced intentions.

Land is our identity. Presently we are conducting a survey of all residents over 15 years of age. In response to one of the questions in the survey the people have indicated a strong belief that land and farming is the very basis of the Chamorro way of life. Out of the 27,000 acres of land on our island, 20,000 are classified as prime by the Government. And now in a surprise move the military either wants all of the island or nearly 9,000 acres of military retention area.

We would like the opportunity to plead our case in terms of possible violations of our human rights. Portions of resolutions 1514 (XV) and 2621 (XXV) have not, we believe, been adhered to. In particular they are sections 1, 3. (4) (5) (7) (8) of resolution 2621 (XXV). And we fervently hope that subsection 3. (9) (d) can apply in our case.

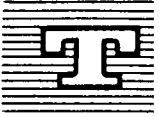
The results of the survey will be presented by our petitioner. It is being conducted by University of Guam students who were either born or raised on Tinian and was prepared under the guidance of the students' sociology professor.

For the cause of true world security we fervently hope you can grant us our request of hearing a petitioner from our island. We have recently seen slides and movies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Our island was used for this holocaust in 1945. Please, please never again.

Please send your immediate reply to both of the above addresses.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)	John HOFSCHEIDER	(Signed)	Ellis BARCINES
"	Martin SAN NICOLAS	"	Abelina CINQ
"	James FLEMING	"	Felipe C. MENDIOLA
"	Connie FLEMING	"	Florence MENDIDA
"	Diana HOCOG	"	Emiliana P. SAN NICOLAS
"	Philippe Jr. MENDIOLA		



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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MR. EDWARD DLG. PANGELINAN, CHAIRMAN,
MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, CONCERNING
THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 80, paragraph 1,
of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION
P. O. Box 825
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

1 June 1973

President
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Marianas Political Status Commission, I respectfully request that two members of the Commission be allowed to appear as petitioners before the fortieth session of the United Nations Trusteeship Council on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The purpose of this petition is to inform the Trusteeship Council of the current progress and position of the negotiations between the United States and the Marianas Political Status Commission on the future political status of the Mariana Islands District.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Edward DLG. PANGELINAN
Chairman

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