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FIFTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 1974

H. J. R. NO.

A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

Demanding that the United States forthwith terminate the unilaterally imposed moratorium on homesteading and leasing of so-called public land on Tinian Island.

1 WHEREAS, the United States assured the Marianas Political Status
2 Commission, at the beginning of the Marianas status negotiations, that
3 it would negotiate in "good faith" as to its military land requirements
4 in the Mariana Islands; and

5 WHEREAS, early on in the status negotiations with the Marianas,
6 the United States made known its desire to utilize vast areas of
7 Tinian Island, if not indeed the entire island, for an immense
8 military base; and

9 WHEREAS, in the spring of 1973, the United States Government
10 ordered the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific
11 Islands to immediately impose a unilateral moratorium on homesteading
12 and on the leasing of so-called public land on Tinian Island; and

cf. Hcan
Dec. 14 73
Zachary
statement
recomm.

13 WHEREAS, the moratorium was suddenly imposed without consultation
14 with the elected representatives of the people of the Mariana Islands;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, in early September, 1973, the personal representative of
17 the President of the United States for the Marianas status negotiations,
18 Ambassador Franklin Hayden Williams, traveled to Saipan and personally
19 assured the Mariana Islands District Legislature and the Saipan Municipal
20 Council, in a joint meeting, that the Tinian moratorium was "very
21 temporary" and would most probably be ended in a few weeks; and

22 WHEREAS, to date the moratorium remains in effect; and

23 WHEREAS, the moratorium was obviously imposed and has been
24 maintained with the treacherous intent of holding down the fair market
25 value of land on Tinian so that the United States military could acquire

1 the land it wished on that island at a fraction of the real value
2 of the land; and

3 WHEREAS, this act of perfidy by the United States is not only
4 a breach of faith with the people of the Mariana Islands but is,
5 furthermore, a breach of its obligations under Article 6 of the
6 Trusteeship Agreement for the Former Japanese Mandated Islands;
7 now, therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Fifth
9 Congress of Micronesia, Second Regular Session, 1974, the Senate
10 concurring, that by means of this House Joint Resolution, the
11 Congress of Micronesia demands that the United States of America
12 forthwith terminate the moratorium on homesteading and on the
13 leasing of so-called public land on Tinian Island, Mariana Islands
14 District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this House
16 Joint Resolution be transmitted to the Security Council of the
17 United Nations, the President of the United States of America,
18 the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior,
19 and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific
20 Islands.

21

22 Date: 1-29-74 Introduced by: Felipe Q. Atalig
23 Felipe Q. Atalig

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