

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS  
MUNICIPALITY OF ROTA  
Rota Mariana Islands 96951

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Marrero

March 6, 1974

To the Honorable Ambassador White:

On behalf of the people of Rota and the Municipal Council, we welcome you to Rota.

We on Rota, feel the tremendous responsibility vested upon you by your honorable colleagues at the United Nations. We are also well aware that whatever findings you have during your brief visit will have a great significance upon the people of Rota and Micronesia in general. We, therefore, humbly submit the following requests for your kind consideration:

ECONOMIC

Expedite payment of war damage claims - Majority of the claimants are old and must be given money soon before they die so that they can fully enjoy their claim benefits.

To request the United Nations to ask the Government of Japan to compensate the Municipality of Rota for the amount of phosphate (236,007 metric tons) mined during the occupation of their administration.

Improve Rota Harbor according to Rota Master Plan

In the past and at present there has been little development on Rota because of poor harbor facilities.

Essential commodities are high priced because they must be shipped in by plane.

People are sacrificing in paying very high prices for goods. Should the Rota harbor be improved according to the Rota Master Plan, these essential goods and commodities could be shipped in by boats or ships and therefore higher prices would not be experienced.

Make the Trust Territory eligible for all Federal Programs and Grants which the U.S. and its Territories are eligible for.

Example: Peace Corps Volunteers Programs be continued in any or all districts or communities that request their services.

To request the United States Government to increase the Trust Territory Government's budget to 80-million dollar budget in the coming fiscal year.

Request the United Nations to send Economic Team or experts, especially in Marine and Agricultural Resources, to study economic resources of Micronesia and to make recommendations for Micronesian Economic Development. At present the Administering Authority has been trying to develop the Trust Territory resources, but much more effort is needed in identifying potential resources.

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EDUCATION

Ask the United Nations to sponsor Trust Territory students at their institutions of higher education. Presently the Trust Territory has limited funds to send many students on to higher education. Any nation interested and who can afford to grant scholarships to Micronesian students at their institution would be highly appreciated.

SOCIAL

Request the Ambassador to advise the Secretary of the Interior to promote expanded cultural heritage and language programs throughout the Trust Territory through additional consideration of appropriations of funds.

POLITICAL

To request the Secretary of the Interior to clarify to the people of Rota regarding Rota Island being made part of the Marianas District without explanations nor consultations to the people of Rota. Rota Island was once a separate administrative district of the Trust Territory before it became part of the Marianas District.

Your full support and consideration of the above issues would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Antonio Ca. Atalig  
Mayor  
Municipality of Rota

/s/ Misael H. Ogo  
Speaker  
Rota Municipal Council

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