

KA LĀHUI HAWAI'I

P.O. Box 4964, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • 934-7723

July, 30, 1998

WGIP 98/NAM. USA/42

Millani B. Trust
Kia'aina Governor
Paul Neves
Lukaneia Kia'aina,
Lt. Governor
P. Coochie Cayan
Kākau 'Ōlelo, Secretary
Naleen N. Andrade
Pa'ukū Lāhui, Treasurer

Commission of Human Rights
Working Group on Indigenous Populations
Sixteenth Session - July 27-31, 1998

Intervention of Ka Lahui Hawaii': Agenda Item # 8

Topic: Consideration of the final report of one Sub-Commission on treaties, ... between States and indigenous populations.

Thank you Mdm. Chair for receiving the intervention of Kālāhūi Hawaii on the Treaty Study.

Kālāhūi Hawaii has tracked and supported this effort for 18 years. The study has taken 9 years to ~~complete~~^{emerge}. But we must not forget that it took 9 years to get the resolutions relating to the Study to pass thru the U.N. System.

We want to thank the Special Rapporteur, Miguel Alfonso Montaner for the years of selfless dedication which he has contributed towards this effort, without ^{significant} technical support or fiscal support. We also want to thank Ms. Isabelle Schulte-Tschoff for her work and help, without which this report would not have been possible. In addition we want to thank and acknowledge the Lubicon Cree Peoples, and Ms. Sharon Venne.

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for the lobbying and education effort expended on this ~~effort~~ ^{study} and for assisting our peoples in preparing our 3 submissions to the Special Report. We make this statement of thanks knowing that words cannot convey the depth of our gratitude for the monumental effort that has been made on this study which has great impact for our peoples.

Mdm Chair, when the U.N. was created a Committee on Non-Self-Governing Territories and Decolonization was part of the initial structure because states had to recognize that European & Western colonizers had taken possession of the lands of indigenous peoples and were violating the human rights of indigenous peoples throughout the world. At that time a list of colonies was created. Hawaii was placed on the list. In 1959 Hawaii was removed from the list by the unilateral action of the U.S. The indigenous peoples of Hawaii were never given the opportunity to decolonize our lands or to vote for autonomy or independence - options which international law dictated we have, but were denied.

The Special Report acknowledges this historic deed and in the case of Hawaii endorses the reinscription of Hawaii on the U.N. List of Non-Self Governing Territories. We know that this recommendation will be difficult to implement but we are committed to this undertaking regardless of the cost, time or personal sacrifice it will entail on our part. We must pursue any and every opportunity we have to achieve our



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Right of self-determination.

We welcome the opportunity to take the Study home so that our peoples may have the chance to review it, and are interested in receiving the comments of other indigenous peoples and experts on the document. We look forward next year to receipt of the definitive final report.

*Mililani B. Teasle
Ki'auana, Kaula Lāhui Hawai'i*