
A

RESOLUTION

To express the deepest gratitude and appreciation of the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the people, the Mayor and City Council, and the Municipal Archives of Girona, Spain, for the expert assistance provided in digitizing the audio and video records of proceedings before the Nuclear Claims Tribunal.

WHEREAS a total of 67 powerful atomic and nuclear explosive devices were detonated on the lands or in the waters and skies of the Marshall Islands during the nuclear weapons testing program conducted from 1946 to 1958; and

WHEREAS that program caused numerous personal injuries, including many which proved to be fatal, and extensive property damages which continue to the present, all of which have yet to be fully adjudicated or compensated; and

WHEREAS a Concurrent Resolution unanimously adopted by the United States House of Representatives to recognize more than 50 years of “strategic partnership” between the U.S. and the RMI states that the March 1, 1954, hydrogen weapon test codenamed Bravo and the 12-year nuclear testing program have been “the defining experience of the modern era for the people of the Marshall Islands” (H. Con. Res. 364, 108th Congress); and

WHEREAS the bilateral Agreement intended to provide a full and final settlement of the damages caused by the nuclear weapons testing provided for the establishment of the Nuclear Claims Tribunal with “jurisdiction to render final determination upon all claims past, present and future, of the Government, citizens and nationals of the Marshall Islands which are based on, arise out of, or are in any way related to the Nuclear Testing Program; and

WHEREAS the Fund provided under that Agreement to pay monetary awards made by the Tribunal proved manifestly inadequate to cover the compensation awarded by the Tribunal, leaving a balance owed in excess of \$2.3 billion; and

1 **WHEREAS** the records of the Tribunal constitute *prima facie* evidence on which its
2 final determinations were based, including the decisions awarding compensation to more than
3 2,000 individuals for various radiogenic personal injuries and to the people of the atolls of
4 Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik for extensive property and consequential damages; and

5 **WHEREAS** the City of Girona, Spain, has a rich historical heritage dating to its
6 founding twenty-one centuries ago and a long tradition of friendship to those of other places,
7 with people of more than 115 different nationalities currently residing there; and

8 **WHEREAS** the Records Management, Archives and Publications Service (abbreviated
9 SGDAP in Catalan) of the Girona City Council includes the world-class Girona Municipal
10 Archives (AMGi) and its Centre for Image Research and Diffusion (CRDI); and

11 **WHEREAS** under an Agreement entered into in 2012 by and between the Republic of
12 the Marshall Islands and the Mayor of Girona, the Girona Municipal Archives CRDI has
13 cleaned, restored, digitized, and indexed nearly 500 audio cassette tape and several dozen video
14 tape recordings of formal proceedings before the Tribunal; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Girona Municipal Archives have returned all of the original audio and
16 video tapes to the Tribunal, together with a computer hard drive containing all of the digitized
17 audio and video files, and will provide secured storage and assured access to those recordings, in
18 perpetuity, by the RMI and those whom it may authorize; and

19 **WHEREAS** recognizing that the outstanding skills, talents, and dedication involved in
20 digitizing and preserving these records of the Tribunal constitute a gift of inestimable value and
21 serve to ensure that a major part of the documentation of the legacy and the effects of nuclear
22 weapons in the Marshall Islands will endure and not be lost or forgotten; now therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, through their
2 Nitijelā in its Thirty-Seventh Constitutional Regular Session, 2016, that their deepest gratitude
3 and appreciation be expressed formally to the people of Girona, Spain, to the Girona City
4 Council, and to the Municipal Archives of Girona and its staff; and

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that original presentation copies of this Resolution, as
6 adopted by the Nitijelā, be sent to the Honorable Mayor of Girona, Mr. Carles Puigdemont i
7 Casamajó, and to the eminent Municipal Archivist, Mr. Joan Boadas i Raset.


8
9 **CERTIFICATE**

10
11 **I hereby certify:**

- 12
13 1. That Nitijela Resolution No. 20 was passed by the Nitijela of the Republic of the
14 Marshall Islands on the 18th day of March, 2016; and
15 2. That I am satisfied that Nitijela Resolution No. 20 was adopted in accordance
16 with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall
17 Islands and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela.

18
19 I hereby place my signature before the Clerk this 28th day of March 2016.
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23 **Attest:**

24
25 
26 Hon. Kenneth A. Kedi

27
28 Speaker
29 Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

30

Lena E. Tiobech

Acting Clerk
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands