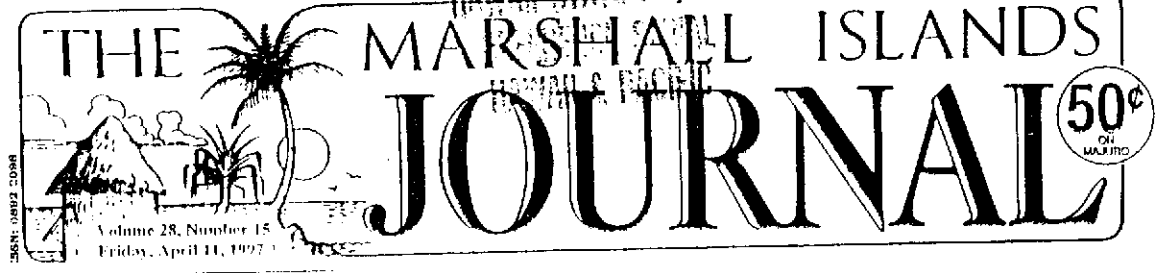


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Wake war zone
How come no one's listening?

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THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
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OR MORE
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'War declared' against U.S. by Kingdom of EnenKio

Majuro—The "Kingdom of EnenKio Atoll" has declared war against the United States, is seeking the support of the Marshall Islands government for its action, and is demanding that the U.S. negotiate an "honorable" agreement with the true owners of the northern-most atoll in the Marshall Islands, otherwise known as Wake Island.

The Journal received a two-page press release this week from the Honolulu-based "office of the state secretary" saying that for the past four years they have been trying to get in touch with the Marshall Islands government without any success. Nor has the U.S. government paid any attention to the "dozens of disclosures, statements, letters and legal actions taken since the government of the Kingdom was established in March 1993."

They are also unhappy that the "major news media have consistently ignored the events and failed in their duty to bring forth the truth to the people of the world regarding the alleged piracy, arrogance and human rights violations of the United States."

The statement from the office of the state secretary — "date to release: imme-

Despite court order, Moore charges ahead

Majuro—In a highly publicized case several years ago, the High Court declared an agreement that Robert Moore had signed with Iroij Murjel Hermios to be unconstitutional.

The government questioned the validity of the agreement, which essentially gave Moore complete control of all the Ratak Chain is-

lands, including Wake (Enen Kio) and authority to act on Hermios' behalf in that regard.

But the High Court said because the agreement had the effect of alienating land, it was null and void.

Despite the ruling, Moore has continued to claim representation of Hermios, and to claim authority for Wake.

diate; scope: worldwide" — said a "state of war" exists over the island nation, that is now used by the U.S. military as a launch site for short range missiles fired at Kwajalein as part of theater missile defense experiments.

Robert Moore, the "minister plenipotentiary" of the Kingdom, e-mailed the RMI embassy in Washington, D.C. last month asking: "Grant us Nation in exile status, and support our common cause."

Kermit Rydell, the "state secretary", wrote to President Imata Kabua recently saying it is their "resolute desire" "to move toward an

era of enthusiastic cooperation with Pacific island neighbors, unquestioned sovereignty and full self-sufficiency for every nation, especially the people of the Marshall Islands.

He said despite "notably limited resources for the task at hand," they have worked fervently to restore King Murjel Hermios to control over EnenKio.

Rydell said they were determined to assist the people of the Marshall Islands "to whom we believe are owed the greatest recompense for that to which they were innocently and repeatedly subjected during the course of this century."

Kamolol ñan ro tölkokier

Ilo etam oteniej ro jein im jatin, mejin, mañon im nukim Jenwe Alik. Kenij jimon koba ibhen doon ñan ain kwalok kamolol eo etap tata ilo tumital in buruon kin aolep wäwen ko kom ar kōnannani ñan in eñiñ bōro ibhen jen jinoin an babu ñan ien eo elikata iurin.

Kamolol in mokata ei iwōj ñan leroij Maria im marōj ko ruo ñal lok ekkar ñan manit, ikijen jaki aibueoj in kom ar kōba-buuk Jenwe isoon.

Kamolol in kein kanowj jik ñan Charles Donnink im ikawo ro jen DAR kin jethat im makikit oteniej ko arer ibhen löllap in euej ibhem jen jinoin ñan ien eo elikata ibhen. Kenij bar jimon ibhen doon ñan ain kwalok am kamolol family eo an Alion kin men oteniej ko kom ar kōnannani iae löllap in jen jinoin ñan jentlokin.

Kamolol in elikata ei iwōj ñan ro oteniej jeran im mōtan Jenwe ilo ani kar kobatok ibhem ñan adwōj jimon huronōj ibhen doon. Yokwe kom aolep im kom kanōj emnol.

Jen nukun eo an Jenwe Alik

By 'Divine inheritance' does the Kingdom of Eneñkio exist

Re: Eneñkio article of April 11, 1997
(Vol. 28, No. 15).

You may have been the first to publish a story about the declaration that a "state of war" exists over the Kingdom, but no cigas

for accuracy in the headline! I am personally grateful for your printing quotations of me, as they were basically used in their appropriate context. However, the part omitted from your story which would relate, not to any claim I may have made, but to those made by people of Marshallese heritage of the rich oral Marshallese traditions and written Marshallese historical records. Why, even the old guidebook (noted the origin of the name Eneñkio (from which Eneñkio is derived) and its role in social and cultural development of the Marshallese! Why then would you print an article and couple it to a fictitious "court order" quip?

Now, let's get this straight. Neither Bob Moore nor I ever received any such a "court order." Neither Mr. Moore or any agreement he had with the Iroji was ever lawfully made a party to the so-called "highly publicized" case to which you referred. Let's be clear on this point. How can someone or something be lawfully declared anything by any court or judge in our (your) judicial system without a hearing for those involved or their counsel? Impossible! Neither Mr. Moore, as manager of the Hermios trust, nor the trust attorney, nor anyone competent to argue the case was ever afforded such an opportunity. For the record, your statement that "the agreement had the effect of alienating land..." is categorically false. Mr. Moore, himself an Alab in his own right, is well-acquainted with the system of land tenure and the trust did not violate or abuse it.

One further point: Mr. Moore, nor any of his associates, ever claimed authority over Eneñkio by reason of any agreement of

which you might possibly be aware! The ownership documents affirming the validity of the title and authority of Iroji Iaplap Hermios over the northern atolls of the Ratak chain, and personally endorsed in 1987 by the former President, Chief Secretary and Minister of Justice, did not include Eneñkio Atoll. But because everyone knows it is part of the archipelago, the assumption was made, by Boyd Sprehn and others, that Mr. Moore's authority over Eneñkio was derived from the Hermios trust document. It was not, but thanks for the interest. You would do well if your writers could be more thorough in their research, Sir.

Which brings me back to my first point — that "war declared" against U.S. by the kingdom...? Was it any use of the language or are your journalists unable (or unwilling) to understand the written word? For the benefit of your readers, independent to doubt at the revelation that the Journal could skew the facts, I quote the following from the body of the release (I wrote): "A State of War exists over the Kingdom of Eneñkio Atoll by way of acts by the Federal Government of the United States (emphasis added)." And later in the release, "...the kingdom of Eneñkio Atoll, by virtue of the Declaration, yields to the recognition that a State of War exists over the island nation" (emphasis added).

While we may be so inclined, we have no time for the folly of "declaring war" on the mighty United States government. Quite to the contrary, our goal is to enlighten the nation, its leaders and the world that the natives (of the Marshall Islands), who have been unceremoniously dispossessed of their

land "for a higher purpose," have been wronged and such matters demand correction!!! The adulterated uses to which "Wake Island" is now subjected are deviously insidious plots of the misguided. Do you really believe what they have told you about what they are doing out there?

The alternatives we have introduced will not only benefit Marshallese, but peace-loving people of nations scattered all around the world. If you have not yet taken a look at our web site, I invite you to do so. We have also invited your comments and dialogue over the years, but, alas, "Letters to the Editor" seems to be a one-way street in never-never-land. As for the odds of finding more "startling" headlines, good hunting! Kindly save the tabloid side bars for other topics which merit that brand of journalism.

Thank you for your interest and for printing this response. Yokwe!

Oh, one final parting shot: The existence of the Kingdom and its government does not (happily) rest upon your belief, knowledge or consent, nor that of any other person. It exists because of the vision, understanding and unwavering belief in sound principles (embodied in the Holy Bible and in the RMI constitution) of Divine inheritance, of none other than Iroji Iaplap Hermios. Neither he nor anyone but the people can now set it aside. Until that time may come, I remain (sans the "punctuation marks" thank you) Cordially yours,

Kernit Rydell
State Secretary
Embassy of the Kingdom of Eneñkio
Honolulu