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TO JERRY  
FOR BWA  
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22 November 1999

U.S. Government, Department of the Interior  
c/o Mr. John Berry, Assistant Secretary  
1849 C Street, N. W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Subject: Reconciliation/Reparation for the Indigenous of the Hawaiian Islands & their descendants as pertaining to the complicity of the U.S. Government in the illegal coup de' tat of its kingdom.

My name is Leilani Lee Gilfoy. I am of Hawaiian, Chinese and German ancestry. Of the three ancestries, I am more than fifty percent Hawaiian through both my mother and my father's genealogy. I am here to testify on behalf of my family and all "Kanaka Maoli" aboriginal Hawaiians. Ample evidence has been provided to the Supreme Court and the Hague regarding the deliberate confiscation of our human rights through the illegal overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani and the subsequent control of our education system, our cultural system, our lands, our language and our religious beliefs.

My great grandfather, David Kaluhikaopolupolu Peke, changed his name to Baker because he was taught by the Missionaries that it was better to have an english Christian name. This was part of the way that our people were taught that in order to be proud it was better to loose their Hawaiian names in exchange for an anglo-saxon name in order to be accepted in the new social structure that was being introduced throughout our islands. Unknown to my great grandfather this was a part of a conspiracy to commit genocide of our people. If your children and your childrens children carry a name belonging to another culture, and not that of their own ancestors, then they will not seek to preserve and maintain their ancestral origins. This was evidenced by the fact that my great grandfather named his son George Washington K. Baker. Obviously the value of American culture was emphasized rather than the true history of the Hawaiian people in order to have such an influence. The only tie that I had to trace my genealogy was through the names of my great great grand parents who both were full blooded Hawaiians and carried Hawaiian names. In my case I only had to trace two generations back. There are many who have had to go back much further in order to prove that they are the descendants of the original Hawaiian people. The purpose for having to prove our ancestry is so that those of us who are left will not loose the land that is so vital to our culture and our continued existence as a culture of Hawaiian people.

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I beleive that as a result of the lose of revenue and resource that have evolved throughout our islands over more than 150 years, the issue or retributions should be immediately addressed in terms of real monetary gain. And as to the dispute over the Hawaiian land, the issue should not even be on the table for discussion. The "kanaka Maoli" own the land.

This testimony is submitted with the prayer that you will hear, listen and seriously attend to this matter and that the Hawaiian people will also continue to seek the results that will bring an end to the discrepencies that have led to this letter.

Respectfully submitted



Leilani Lee Gilfoy