

Santiago Street
San Jose, Antique

April 4, 2001

MS MIZUHO MATSUDA
Asian Women's Fund

Dear Madam,

Peace!

Last December 2000, while I attended Women's International War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo Japan, I achieved a sense of emotional fulfillment of justice; which I never felt before. I also realized that the atonement being offered by the Asian Women's Fund could not compensate for the Violation of my rights as a woman and the grievous crimes that were committed against me. The Government of Japan should be held accountable for its responsibility for what the Japanese military did to my father and me during the war.

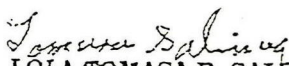
I am a poor old woman now. My needs are few. I live alone trying to cope with my day-to-day existence. What is important for me in my old age is to live remaining years of my life peacefully. No amount of money could ever pay for the death of my father, for a lost future and for dreams unfulfilled.

I came out as a "comfort woman" in 1992 and after a decade of this struggle for justice, the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal has given me the justice I longed for. For the first time, there was a Court who listened to our stories, who was in search for Truth and gave us our dignity.

I have decided not accept the Asian Women's Fund you have offered to me. I can assure you that I go through my old age, contented that I stood up for what I feel is right.

I seek for your understanding and thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely


LOLA TOMASA D. SALVOG