

DAVIES, BROWN & CO.
SOLICITORS

R. M. L. BROWN, LL.B.
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS

AIR MAIL

130 ARTHUR ROAD
WIMBLEDON PARK
LONDON, SW19 8AA

TELEPHONE 01-946 9555 & 01-947 3434

OUR REF. RMLB/FD

YOUR REF.

Professor H.E. Maude,
77 Arthur Circle,
Forrest,
A.C.T. 2603,
Australia.

1st April 1975

Dear Professor Maude,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd February. I am sorry that I have not been in a position to reply earlier but I was anxious to avoid troubling you further unless it was considered absolutely necessary.

As you may recall it is necessary for us to prove to the Court Banaban Law and Custom. There is no doubt that you are the chief authority on this in view of your exhaustive researches in preparing the Land Code. You also have a unique knowledge of conditions generally before the war. The evidence you will be required to give on the Banaban Law cannot be regarded as contentious.

The Legal Advisers to the B.P.C. have not agreed to the use of your Affidavit at the Trial. They have stated that they require you to attend at Court to give evidence orally. The Crown have concurred in this view. The evidence you can give will enable the Court to obtain a true picture of Banaban Land Law and Custom. Your reluctance to give evidence is fully understood by us all but notwithstanding what you have said I am sure that the Judge will want to hear you and accordingly I have obtained from the Court a subpoena requesting your attendance. We can call your evidence at any time which would be convenient to you during the course of the Trial.

Can you please let me hear from you as soon as possible. I am writing to your Solicitors with a copy of this letter and a copy of the enclosure.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Richard Brown

Copy taken by Mr Gavin Hewitt, U.K. High Commissioner.

Enc.