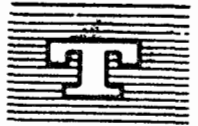


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PETITION FROM WERKGROEP PACIFIC CONCERNING THE TRUST
TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the rules
of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

p/a Dirk Smitsstraat 76
3071 XE Rotterdam
The Netherlands

24 October 1986

Dear Sir,

On United Nations Day, we turn to you with the following request. We ask you to condemn the policy of the United States concerning Belau Island (formerly known as Palau). The people of Belau wish to preserve their own tradition and to live in peace. Their flag (blue for independence, yellow for peace, quiet and love) and their Constitution (nuclear-free) testify to this.

Ever since the United Nations gave the trusteeship of Belau Island to the United States, the latter has made the development of the island dependent on its own interests - economically dependent through food and oil imports, culturally dependent through the American educational system.

Since 1983 the United States has been trying to make the country subordinate, through the Compact of Free Association, to its own military interests: one third of the island is to be used by the United States for military exercise; the harbour of Koror is to receive submarines carrying nuclear missiles. The Belauan population has repeatedly rejected this Compact. However, the United States now intends to enforce the Compact anyway, unilaterally.

We appeal to you to do everything possible to:

(a) Prevent the United Nations from agreeing to this Compact;

(b) See to it that the United States is instructed to let Belau Island become independent as quickly as possible on terms formulated by the people of Belau themselves, without pressure from the United States.

We have sent a letter of protest to the United States against its policy concerning Belau, and we enclose a copy of that letter.

Yours respectfully,

WERKGROEP PACIFIC

Enclosure

Public letter to the United States Embassy

The Ambassador of the United States of America
Lange Voorhout 102
2514 EJ 'S Gravenhage

p/a Dirk Smitsstraat 76
3071 XE Rotterdam

17 October 1986

Mr. Ambassador,

We write this letter on the occasion of United Nations Day, 24 October. Our direct motive is our deep concern about the way you (the United States) operate towards Palau Islands in the Pacific area. You have had the trusteeship over these islands on behalf of the United Nations for the past 40 years. This should have meant that, according to article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement, you would have promoted "the development of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory towards self-government or independence". Instead, the main things you have been developing are your military interests in this region and a counterforce to the nuclear-free movement there. Breaking the nuclear-free Constitution of Palau seems to be of much more importance to you than the welfare and prospects of the Palauans. Your repeated efforts to force the United States military safeguard within the so-called Compact of Free Association upon the people of Palau strengthen our scepticism on the question of whether you are acting in the spirit of the United Nations.

In conclusion, we can only condemn your policy towards Palau Islands. And we call on you to stop using the Pacific as a military playground and to leave Palau in peace.

Please pass our concern on to your Government.

WERKGROEP PACIFIC
