

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

T/PET.10/364  
12 March 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM LIDIANA MARRELLI CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY  
OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of  
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Apt. G, 30 Douglas Street  
Victoria, B.C.  
Canada V8V 2N7

10 February 1986

The President  
Trusteeship Council  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Sir,

Re: Plebiscite vote to take place in Belau on 24 February 1986

I am sending this letter because of deep concerns I have in regard to the referendum which is to take place in Belau on 24 February 1986.

In five previous referendums the people of Belau made it known that they did not want their land to be put to the use of American military bases. And yet they must face another referendum on 24 February 1986. The process of democracy seems to have taken on a different meaning in Belau. It seems blatantly obvious to me that the United States of America is putting extreme pressure on the Belauan people through economic blackmail - the people of Belau have made it clear that they do not want American military bases on their land, but at the same time they cannot ignore the fact that a very major portion of their budget is provided through the United States.

Because of my concerns I must urge you to promote and support observation of the plebiscite by United Nations officials. And secondly, that the United Nations hold an investigation into the history of Belau during its years as a Trust Territory of the United States - i.e. what specific types of support did the people of Belau receive during this time in order to help them become an independent nation.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Lidiana MARRELLI