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COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MS. JULIA FICE CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY
OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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124 Coronation Road
Bedmister, Bristol
United Kingdom B53 1AZ

10 May 1986

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

Dear Sir,

I am quite appalled at the reports I have heard about the situation in Belau.

The people of Belau have wisely adopted a nuclear-free Constitution. It seems that the United States Government is trying to trick and cheat the Belauans into accepting a Compact of Free Association that would negate the nuclear-free aspect of the Constitution.

The Compact of Free Association would allow the United States Government to:

1. Build air, naval and training facilities. Any land required would have to be made available within 60 days;
2. Operate nuclear-capable and nuclear-propelled vessels and aircraft within Belauan territory. (This directly contradicts article II of the Constitution);
3. Operate nuclear power plants; nuclear-propelled vessels involve the use of nuclear power plants. (This contradicts article XIII of the Constitution).

If the Compact of Free Association is accepted, Belau would:

1. Not be able to terminate the Compact without the agreement of the United States Government;
2. Be strictly limited in its conduct of foreign affairs;
3. Be severely limited in the control of its own resources and land.

These restrictions are not in accord with the United Nations definition of free association. I would be most disturbed if the United Nations considered it to be a just state of affairs that the new "improved" Compact of Free Association was available to the people of Belau in their own language until only four days before the voting day.

I hope that your committee [Trusteeship Council] will respect the Belauans' best interests which will certainly not be achieved by acceptance of the hypocritically named "improved" Compact of Free Association.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Julia FICE
