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COMMUNICATION FROM MS. SUSAN QUASS, UNITED METHODIST OFFICE  
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF  
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 24 of the rules of  
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UNITED METHODIST OFFICE FOR  
THE UNITED NATIONS  
777 United Nations Plaza  
New York, N.Y. 10017-3585

2 December 1986

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

Dear Sir,

Today, Palauans are voting on the Compact of Free Association in a United Nations-observed plebiscite. Enclosed for your information is the text of a recent telex received from an independent observer of the Palau plebiscite in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Please circulate the enclosed telex as a document of the Trusteeship Council.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Susan QUASS  
Resource Co-ordinator for Asia  
and the Pacific

Enclosure

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Telex concerning the plebiscite in Palau

INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ALARMED IRREGULARITIES PLEBISCITE

Mrs. Else Hammerich, senior member of the European Parliament, highest votegetter in Denmark's election for European Parliament, on 30 November in Koror said she was "shocked by the way Government intimidates population by closing schools, requiring teachers, civil servants and students to campaign for a 'yes' in upcoming referendum".

In letter to President Lazarus Salii written 24 hours after she arrived in Palau as part of independent international delegation to observe 2 December plebiscite, she said that Government's actions violate "all standards for conduct of free and fair elections and are a clear form of intimidation". Her letter said: "We are seriously disturbed by the directive dated 17 November 1986 from the Minister for Social Services requiring all civil servants of Ministry to 'vigorously campaign for the Compact', and directive dated 21 November 1986 from Assistant Director of Education, suspending school instruction from 24 November until 3 December and requiring students and all other school personnel to join Government rally and to 'campaign for the Compact of Free Association with the United States'." The letter urged the President "to remedy this situation immediately by countermanding these directives by statements on television and radio and in the written press and on the bulletin boards of the services before the business hours on Monday, 1 December".

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