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PETITION FROM MS. BRITA JOHNSON AND 17 OTHERS, ON BEHALF OF THE
CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, EASTERN SUBURBS PEACE GROUP
AND TRADES UNION PEACE OFFICE 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)

Box 8558
Symonds Street
Auckland, New Zealand

[No date]

OPEN LETTER

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

The United States has not been able to conclude a Compact of Free Association with the Republic of Palau (Micronesia) because the wording of the Compact contains conditions which contradict the nuclear-free clause in the Palau Constitution.

We are deeply concerned that the United States may move to end the United Nations trusteeship without meeting United Nations standards on decolonization. We affirm the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: "... all peoples have an inalienable right to complete freedom, the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory".

We believe that the people of Palau have been under pressure to agree to give the United States the right to operate nuclear warships within the jurisdiction of Palau, and to agree to continued unrestricted United States military and strategic access.

We call on you to ensure that the people of Palau are assured of their

continuing right to self-determination and their right to maintain the nuclear-free commitment in their Constitution.

This letter is circulated on behalf of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Eastern Suburbs Peace Group and Trades Union Peace Office.

(Signed) Brita JOHNSON and 17 others 1/

Notes

1/ The list of 17 names and addresses has been placed in the files of the Secretariat and is available to members of the Council for consultation.