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PETITION FROM ERIKA RATHGEBER, PRESIDENT, WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL
LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM, CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

11 Lookout Ave.
Dee Why, 2099, N.S.W.
Australia
12 June 1980

United Nations Trusteeship Council,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

The Australian Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has learned of the widespread support of the people of Palau for self-determination and a nuclear-free constitution expressed through an overwhelming vote (92 per cent) on 9 July 1979.

We believe that the United States of America should recognize the right of the Palaun people to independence, to control their own lands and lives and to reject the establishment of military bases on their land.

We are concerned that after the people of Palau have already voted so overwhelmingly for a constitution prohibiting military and nuclear activities in and around Palau, as a result of opposition from the United States Government, another national referendum on this constitution is to be held on 9 July this year.

We hope the United States Government will refrain from exerting any pressure on the people of Palau to secure a vote in opposition to this constitution.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Erika RATHGEBER
President