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PETITION FROM MS. MARION COLE FOR BRAINTREE UNITED NATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE GROUP, CONCERNING THE TRUST  
TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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19 Bois Hall Gardens  
Halstead, Essex CO9 2HX  
England

7 September 1987

Secretary  
United Nations Trusteeship Council

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter and enclosures of 11 June 1987.

I am informed that, following the upholding of Belau's nuclear-free Constitution in the plebiscite of 23 June, a further plebiscite was held in August, and that this also fell short of the 75 per cent required by Belau's Constitution.

Now that the two super-Powers are engaged in negotiations at Geneva to reduce nuclear weaponry, surely, at this stage, there is no need to involve the people of Belau in further plebiscites? This Group has not been convinced that these islanders have had the opportunity to discuss freely and without pressure the options put to them. Development aid should be given without ties - especially military ones.

We trust the United Nations Trusteeship Council will do all in its powers to uphold Belau's unique nuclear-free Constitution and to see that Belau is given necessary economic aid to help it become truly independent.

We shall be interested to hear what the Council is doing along these lines.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Marion COLE  
for Braintree United Nations  
International Year of  
Peace Group

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