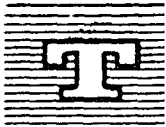


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UNITED NATIONS
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PETITION FROM MS. ELSIE LOCKE CONCERNING THE TRUST
TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the
rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

392 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch 1
New Zealand

4 September 1987

The Secretary
United Nations Trusteeship Council
New York
United States

Dear Secretary,

I am distressed at the news that the Pacific Republic of Belau is being forced to give in to United States pressure to accept the so-called "Compact of Free Association" and with it a massive military base, in defiance of their nuclear-free Constitution.

The people of Belau have rejected this Compact many times and it is clear that, if they give in, it will be only because of economic pressure and the threat of bankruptcy.

These islands were placed under United Nations trusteeship after the last War and I would have thought your Council would see that it was exercised in the interests of the people and not of the great Power which assumed responsibility. It is nonsense to talk of the United States providing defence for Belau, when quite obviously the military base would put the islands in the line of attack should a major war break out.

New Zealand now has a nuclear-free law and we have feelings of warm solidarity with this little Republic which has predated our position by eight years.

As one who feels that every Territory is entitled to make its own decisions, however small its size and population, I urge you to do everthing possible to secure freedom for Belau in the real sense of that word.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Elsie LOCKE
Author
