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PETITION FROM WOMEN WORKING FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE AND INDEPENDENT  
PACIFIC, 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)

17 September 1987

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

We are writing to express our horror at the assassination of Rub-ak Bedor on the steps of the Belau Pacific Centre on 8 September 1987.

We understand that thugs, armed with weapons provided illegally by the Government, under the direct sanction of President Salii, committed this murder, which is an extreme escalation of the régime of intimidation and harassment that is taking place on the island, directed against those people who wish to retain Belau's legal nuclear-free zone Constitution.

Two major lawsuits which sought to uphold the Constitution and the legal voting framework, and which oppose the Compact of Free Association with the United States, have been dropped, due to direct intimidation of the plaintiffs by Salii's régime.

The United Nations has a direct responsibility to the people of Belau, who have voted democratically on nine successive occasions, to support the Constitution and oppose the Compact. We urge you most strongly to act now, before any further suffering takes place.

Women Working for a Nuclear-free  
and Independent Pacific

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