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PETITION FROM MS. HELEN E. TRASK, YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE
CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, 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)

Yorkshire & Humberside Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
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Crow Edge, Sheffield S30 5HF
England

8 October 1987

The President
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10025

United Nations Trusteeship of Belau

Dear Sir:

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of the above group concerning the dire political problems, and, we understand, the state of fear prevailing on the island of Belau in the Pacific.

We understand that attempts have been made to overthrow the Constitution of the island and to establish the Compact of Free Association (which will allow the United States to take over one third of the island for military purposes) by illegal means. We ask that you disallow the illegal vote to attempt to alter the Constitution which the Belauans voted for in 1979 with a majority of over 90 per cent.

We strongly urge you to send in a United Nations peace-keeping force to protect the people from the terrorism that they are now under, especially the threat to abduct children if the MAAS (women's council) press forward with its lawsuit concerning this matter.

We also remind you of the terms of the Trusteeship 1/ under which the United States has agreed to abide by in its dealings with Belau - to encourage the island to be independent, both economically and politically, to protect the land from improper use, pollution, etc. Obviously, these terms have not only been continuously broken, but the United States policy has been entirely opposite to this. It appears to have encouraged economic dependence on the United States; and if the Compact is carried out, it will pollute the land, the sea and take a third of their homeland away from the Belauans.

We hope you are able to deal expeditiously with this issue.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Helen E. TRASK
for Yorkshire and Humberside CND

Notes

1/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
(United Nations publication, Sales No. 1957 VI.A.1).

Copies to:

President and members of Security Council
Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar, United Nations
United States Representative Ron de Lugo, Chairman, House Interior Sub-Committee on
International and Insular Affairs
United States Congressman Ron Dellums, Chairman, House Armed Services Sub-Committee
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern
Ireland to the United Nations
Hon. Santos Olikong, Speaker of the House of Delegates (Belau)
President Lazarus Salii, Belau
Belau Pacific Centre