

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

T/PET.10/633  
11 November 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MS. EDNA ROSS, BALMAIN PEOPLE 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)

BALMAIN PEOPLE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

P.O. Box 167  
Balmain, 2041  
Australia

3 August 1987

Mr. John A. Birch  
President  
Trusteeship Council  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y.  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Birch,

We note that the Trusteeship Council has agreed to resume meetings in August 1987 to consider its report to the Security Council on the question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

We further note that the President of the United States, the Administering Authority, declared on 3 November 1986 that the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia had entered into a new political relationship with the United States and were therefore no longer part of the Trust Territory. Palau alone, according to the United States, remains part of the Trust Territory.

These initiatives are in contradiction of earlier undertakings by the United States that the Compact of Free Association would not enter into force until the United Nations had terminated the trusteeship.

We urge the Council, in its August meeting, to observe the clear intention of Article 83 of the Charter of the United Nations that the strategic trusteeship in Micronesia should be terminable only by the Security Council. The formal decision to terminate the trusteeship lies with the Security Council, not with the United States Government, and we call upon the Trusteeship Council to reaffirm this principle of the trusteeship system established by the United Nations after the Second World War.

We further urge the Council not to recommend termination of the trusteeship over Palau until it is completely satisfied that the wishes of the Palauan people have been met in accordance with the requirements of the Palau Constitution.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Edna ROSS

for

Balmain People for Nuclear Disarmament

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