

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



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GENERAL

T/PET.10/681
22 March 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MS. DEBORAH OWEN, HNRC CO-ORDINATOR, HIROSHIMA
INTERPRETERS FOR PEACE, HIROSHIMA NUCLEAR RESOURCE CENTRE,
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)

HIP - HNRC
Hiroshima Interpreters for Peace
Hiroshima Nuclear Resource Centre

Hiroshima-Nagasaki
Peace Foundation
S-Y Building
12-15 Hatchobori
Naka-Ku
Hiroshima City 730
Japan

6 December 1987

The Secretary-General
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed our letter of concern for Palau (see enclosure), a
petition and information sheet 1/ for the meeting held on 6 December 1987.

HIP-HNRC is not linked to any political party or organization.

Enclosure

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English

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We are extremely concerned about the current situation in Palau and request that you seriously consider our views on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Deborah OWEN
HNRC Co-ordinator

Notes

1/ The petition and information sheet have been placed in the files of the secretariat of the Trusteeship Council and are available to members of the Council for consultation.

Enclosure

LETTER OF CONCERN FROM HIROSHIMA

RESPECT DEMOCRACY AND THE NUCLEAR-FREE CONSTITUTION OF PALAU

Hiroshima has since 1945 protested serious developments in the nuclear sphere.

Now we respectfully call your attention to the serious situation in the Republic of Palau.

We affirm our commitment to the struggle of the Belauan people to maintain their constitutionally protected rights and their heritage of land and water.

We condemn the military and eminent domain provisions of the Compact of Free Association that would permit entry of nuclear materials and foreign military installations.

We condemn the process of ratification of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and Palau, in which the continued votes of the Belauan people have not been recognized. We especially condemn the 4 August 1987 referendum to amend the Constitution, which violated constitutionally established amendment procedures.

We express our alarm and sorrow over the politically motivated murder on 8 September 1987 of the father of two pro-Constitution activists, Roman Bedor and Bernie Keldermans.

We note that, due to such violence and intimidation, the Constitution supporters were forced to withdraw lawsuits filed to object to the August referenda. Because of the intimidation, a legal option to file the lawsuits is still available, but the Belauans cannot do so without fear of further violence.

We demand that the United States Congress not carry out the Compact of Free Association approval process until the lawsuits have been heard and all outstanding legal issues are settled. We further demand that the United States fulfil its United Nations trusteeship responsibilities by developing Palau politically and economically towards the goal of true independence and self-government.

6 December 1987
[54 signatures] 1/

Notes

1/ The list of 54 names and addresses has been placed in the files of the secretariat of the Trusteeship Council and is available to the members of the Council for consultation.