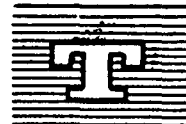


UN LIBRARY

FEB - 3 1983



UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

T/PET.10/228  
27 January 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM LAURENCE AND AVIS TWADDELL, UNITED METHODIST  
WOMEN, KANSAS WEST CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,  
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)

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
KANSAS WEST CONFERENCE  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
501 West Main  
Beloit, Kansas 67420

21 January 1983

The Honourable Paul Poudade  
President  
Trusteeship Council  
United Nations, N.Y. 10017

Dear Sir,

We are concerned about the United States policy in Micronesia. It seems to us that the United States is being premature in setting up the date of 10 February for the people of Palau to vote on the plebiscite initiated by the United States. In our own country many times we are confronted with new bills that we do not understand, thence it is hard to vote knowledgeably. In Palau, we are sure that if they all understand what they are voting on and for, they will be much happier with the overall decisions. A later date, possibly midsummer, would be more appropriate.

If our Government pushed this through and caused rebellion against us it would create a crisis which could be disastrous. Just because we are a big and powerful nation we should not impose our will against their wishes.

The rewording of the ballot should be studied as it clearly does not place any restrictions upon the United States that have any meaning for the people of Palau. The Palau constitution has complete restrictions against the use of nuclear, chemical, gas and biological weapons to be used upon their island, therefore the United States proposition could prove intolerable.

If this proposition two could be reworded to delete the words "you may" before "mark your ballot" then restate the options as follows:

- (a) A relationship with the United States closer than free association as set forth in the present agreement;
- (b) A relationship of free association with the United States but less close than described in the present agreement;
- (c) Independence.

We feel these items should be considered carefully and prayerfully.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Laurence and Avis TWADDELL

-----