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PETITION FROM DR. WILLIS BUTLER CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY  
OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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

Dear Sir,

Here in Hawaii we have more opportunity to learn about conditions and events in Palau than elsewhere in the United States. We frequently run into Palauans, or friends of a Palauan family, or travelers returning from there.

Based on such personal observations and communications, as well as what I read, I feel strongly that the Palauan people have not had time enough to study all the ramifications of the proposed Compact with the United States, which are extremely complex and embrace questions of economics, culture, military impact, health, environmental problems and other matters.

The Palauans do not yet have the grasp of the whole subject necessary for them to reach decisions that will be in their best long-term interests. To keep pressing them in negotiations is neither fair nor worthy of a powerful nation like ours. Nor is it, in the long run, in the best interests of the United States.

I urge that the proposed plebiscite be postponed.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Willis BUTLER, M. D.