



Trusteeship Council

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PETITION FROM MR. PHILIP SOLJAK, VICE-PRESIDENT, AUCKLAND BRANCH
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND, 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)

64 Seacliffe Ave.
Auckland 9
New Zealand

21 December 1982

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

Dear Sir,

The Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Honolulu (which implements decisions of the Nuclear-Free Pacific Conferences) has advised us that Palauan citizens will vote on 10 February next to ratify (or not to ratify) the compact of free association signed by the United States of America and the Palau Republic last August.

The compact would determine the political and economic future of the Palauan people; would in effect negate the world's first nuclear-free constitution; and would open Palau to a military presence.

We understand that United States and Palauan negotiators were still meeting in Hawaii last month to re-negotiate certain agreements, while political education of the people on provisions of the compact has been proceeding. Added to this climate of uncertainty is the fact that the plebiscite date has been announced and changed at least three times.

We feel that adequate time for political education of the Palauans on the terms and implications of the compact and its subsidiary agreements should be provided and that the plebiscite should therefore be postponed.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Philip SOLJAK
Vice-President, Auckland Branch
United Nations Association of
New Zealand
