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PETITION FROM H. PETERSEN, SECRETARY, COLLINSVILLE PEACE COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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> COLLINSVILLE PEACE COMMITTEE 6 Eleventh Avenue Scottsville, 4804 Oueensland, Australia

> > [Undated]

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

Dear Sir,

The Collinsville Peace Committee wishes to express its support to help ensure the postponement of a plebiscite in the Republic of Palau in the terms of the compact of free association with the United States which is currently scheduled for 10 February 1983.

We believe that the United States has a major responsibility to ensure adequate time for political education within Palau on the terms and implications of the compact.

It is essential that the people now have sufficient time to prepare for this vital vote, and to understand all the ramifications of the compact.

The people of Palau have three times ratified their nuclear-free Constitution and each time have come under severe pressure from the United States because the United States wants to retain control of defence in the area. Such control would

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negate the ban on all nuclear presence which the Palaun people desire. This plebiscite is yet another attempt by the United States to circumvent the wishes of the Palaun people.

Yours Sincerely,

(<u>Signed</u>) H. PETERSEN
Secretary,
Collinsville Peace Committee