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PETITION FROM MS. CINDY SHANNON 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)

7 Botton Rd.
Northfield, Ma. 01360

6 June 1983

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

Dear Sir,

Both in their Constitution and in recent plebiscites, the people of the nation of Palau have declared their desire to have Palau free from the storage, testing and disposal of nuclear materials.

On 25 February, the Senate of Palau passed resolution No. 87, 1/ which stated that the citizens of Palau had disapproved the compact of free association (COMPACT), which was negotiated in 1969 and which grants the United States defence authority over Palau in exchange for \$US 1.2 billion in aid. In addition, the traditional Council of Chiefs and High Chief Ibedul have stated that COMPACT is dead and that the political status of the islands must be negotiated.

The United States has interfered with the plebiscite process through which citizens of Palau are trying to regain control over their land. United States Ambassador Fred Zeder II designed the ballot language for the plebiscite which was later declared misleading and illegal by the Supreme Court of Palau. The United States appropriated \$US 439,000 for a "voter education campaign" which was in fact a pro-COMPACT campaign.

This interference by the United States in the democratic processes of a sovereign nation is shameful and must stop. I urge you to investigate these illegalities and not to become an accomplice in this covert manipulation of a free and independent nation.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Cindy SHANNON

Notes

1/ For the text of Senate resolution No. 87, SD1, SD2, see T/COM.10/L.330.
