

## TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MRS. HAROLD LOTT, MEMBER OF UNITED PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

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16 June 1983

The Secretary
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, NY 10017

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Dear Sir, . .

It has come to our attention that the people of the Pacific Islands, through no fault of their own, are living in a time of increased competition, conflict and struggle.

Under the Trusteeship Agreement, 1/ the United States was charged to "protect the inhabitants against the loss of their lands and resources" and to "protect the health of the inhabitants". We sincerely hope that such will be implemented to better the lives of the people in the these islands. Clever manipulation of words and ambiguous phrases should not be employed to broaden the powers of our nation.

True, our country has helped to a point, but surely human lives are more important than financial gain and political power.

We strongly suggest that the United States review its promises and agreements to the Pacific Islands. There should be further debate in the United Nations regarding militarism and the unwelcome testing of nuclear weapons.

These people are real and we believe they have not been treated justly. Their lands are a central part of their lives. Their health should be a matter of

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concern to us all. We are told that 85 per cent of their population is Christian. Should we then as a Christian nation deny them their heritage? God created us all, and we appeal to you, as a leader in your field, to further contribute to the understanding of the people, and to put down fear and mistrust. Our world should not be involved in armament and energy races for supremacy.

In the book of Galations (chapter 5, verse 15) Paul warns that "if ye bite and devour one another, take heed ye be not consumed one of the other".

If we care, we are concerned. If concerned, we are committed. It is with these feelings in mind that we appeal to you.

Most sincerely yours,

(Signed) Mrs. Harold LOTT

Member of United Presbyterian Women

First Presbyterian Church

Berkeley, California

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## Notes

1/ Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1957.VI.A.1).