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Trusteeship Council

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM MR. JONATHAN M. WEISGALL 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)

Law Offices
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Washington, D.C. 20036

3 May 1988

H.E. Mr. John Birch
President
Trusteeship Council
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to request the Trusteeship Council, pursuant to rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Council, to permit me to appear as a petitioner at the upcoming fifty-fifth session of the United Nations Trusteeship Council, which is scheduled to commence on 9 May.

The petition I propose to present consists not of a written statement, but of a 56-minute documentary film entitled "Radio Bikini", on which I served as associate producer. As with other petitioners, I would be prepared to answer questions after the screening of the film.

"Radio Bikini" is a documentary about "Operation Crossroads", the United States nuclear-weapon test conducted at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands in 1946. The film interviews John Smitherman, one of the sailors stationed at Bikini, and Kilon Bauno, a Bikini elder, who relates the story of the people of Bikini.

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"Radio Bikini" was nominated for a 1988 Academy Award as best documentary. It also won awards at the Atlanta Film Festival, the Chicago International Film Festival, the San Francisco International Film Festival and the Valladolid International Film Festival in Spain, and was a winner of the 1987 Benton peace prize and the 1988 Erik Barnouw Award of the Organization of American Historians.

Enclosed for your information are some reviews of the film, 1/ which may give you a better sense of its content.

Sincerely,
(Signed) Jonathan M. WEISGALL

Enclosures

cc: Bikini/Kili/Ejit Local Government Council

Notes

1/ The reviews have been placed in the files of the secretariat of the Trusteeship Council and are available to members of the Council for consultation.
