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PETITION FROM MS. E. ROSALIND KOHN 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)

8631 Kilbourn Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

9 May 1983

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

Dear Sir,

As your decision regarding the future status of Belau (Palau) draws near, those of us who support the Nuclear Free Pacific Network and those of us who simply support self-determination and democracy world-wide, await the outcome anxiously.

The people of Belau certainly have the right to implement their own Constitution regardless of the fact that it is so overdue. But please remember just how overdue it is. The ownership of these islands has passed from Spanish to German to Japanese and finally to United States hands. The Japanese-American battles fought on Belau during the Second World War were responsible for over 4,000 Belauan deaths, nearly 30 per cent of the present population of 15,000. Now, through the compact of free association, we are asking for one third of these people's territory. This is an affront to the American ideology of freedom propounded so frequently.

Democracy is not an exclusive American right. It is high time we, as a country, came to realize this. Please weigh the facts carefully before casting your vote. The Belauans don't have to look very far, even if they have forgotten

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their colonial history, to see the disasters of American influence in the Pacific.
The Kwajalein/Ebeye tragedy could hardly be clearer proof.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) E. Rosalind KOHN
