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PETITION FROM MS ALISON ARBLASTER, INTERNATIONAL OFFICER,
AUSTRALIAN STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT (ASCM) 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)

AUSTRALIAN STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT (ASCM)

G.P.O. BOX 1123
Adelaide, SA 5001
Australia
30 April 1975

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

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express the concern of ASCM at the intentions of the United States of America in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, in the hope that some United Nations action can be taken.

As I am sure you are aware, the United States intends to split Micronesia, tying the Marianas closely to the United States. It seems more than coincidental that the United States wishes to build a large new naval and air base on Tinian, and that large United States corporations are at the moment investing heavily in Saipan. The United States obviously intends to remain a significant force in the rest of Micronesia too, but has decided to develop a relationship with the Marianas similar to that between the United States and Puerto Rico. To this end, there is to be a plebiscite in the Marianas in June this year.

It is disturbing that there is to be no United Nations supervision of this plebiscite. The United States is not "developing" Micronesia for independence, as is customarily required by trusteeship agreements, and is attempting to split Micronesia, also against United Nations wishes. Given this, I urge that the Trusteeship Council take all possible steps to halt the proposed plebiscite and

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