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PETITION FROM MR. GILL DAMMERS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY  
OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 1, of the  
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1 Shadwell Road  
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United Kingdom

7 March 1986

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

Dear Sirs,

I have just attended a meeting where two women from the Pacific Islands, one from Rongelap and the other from Belau, told us about their conditions of life.

It is because of my horror at their description of how they are forced to live - in one case evacuated from her island made unsafe by the nuclear testing there in the 1950s [and moved] onto another barren island where their staple copra does not grow and they have to make an 11-hour boat journey to pick up supplies provided by the American Government in exchange for "permission" to "use" their homeland for pernicious, permanently harmful atomic testing - that I am writing to you now.

The idea that a self-supporting small community should be forced by the Government of a nation much more powerful than it to leave its homeland entirely is so shocking that I can hardly absorb it. I also live on an island. The only difference is that "my" Government is powerful and would not tolerate such suppression from another "power".

I would ask you as human beings, also with homes to which you must feel some attachment, to do all in your power to stop the nuclear testing which is making the lives of the people on these beautiful islands so unbearable.

There is no part of the world which "needs" nuclear power so desperately that it justifies destroying another equally important part. There is no part of this world or any other which "needs" nuclear weapons to destroy ourselves. Please consider this plea from the heart to STOP the destruction of people less powerful than yourselves.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Gill DAMMERS

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