

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26**

*To Provide Guidance To The Elected  
Leaders of Palau With Regard To The  
Wishes Of The People If Free  
Association Is Rejected*

**WHEREAS**, Article 76(b) of the United Nations Charter, and Article 6(1) of the Trusteeship for the Former Japanese Mandated Islands provide that the administering authority shall promote the development of the inhabitants towards self-government or independence according to the freely expressed wishes of the people; and

**WHEREAS**, In the event that the electorate of the Republic of Palau reject Free Association in the plebiscite election to be held on September 4, 1984 in Palau, the elected leaders of Palau will have to negotiate some other status; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that the wishes of the people control any such other negotiation; and

**WHEREAS**, the election scheduled for September 4, 1984 in Palau provides a unique opportunity to ascertain the wishes of the people in the event that Free Association is rejected;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Republic of Palau, I do hereby order that the following question be appended to the plebiscite ballot in the election scheduled by Executive Order # 25:

You may mark a box below to indicate to your government your preference for the political status to be negotiated and mutually agreed upon between Palau and the United States in the event that Free Association is rejected.

\_\_\_\_\_ A relationship with the United States closer than free association.

\_\_\_\_\_ Independence.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1984.

Haruo I. Remeliik  
President  
Republic of Palau