

ON BOARD THE 'RAINBOW WARRIOR'
MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS
MAY 13, 1985

PRESIDENT FRANCOIS MITTERAND^R
ELYSES PALACE
PARIS

DEAR PRESIDENT MITTERAND:

WE UNDERSTAND THAT FRANCE HAS EXPLODED TWO NUCLEAR BOMBS AT MORUROA WITHIN THE LAST WEEK. WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR OUTRAGE OVER THESE TESTS, NOT ONLY FOR WHAT THEY REPRESENT IN TERMS OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS RACE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF FRANCE'S CALLOUS DISREGARD FOR THE WISH OF PACIFIC PEOPLES EVERYWHERE TO MAKE THEIR OCEAN A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE.

WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN AN EVACUATION OF THE PEOPLE OF RONGELAP ATOLL IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. THE PEOPLE OF RONGELAP WERE HEAVILY CONTAMINATED BY AMERICAN NUCLEAR TESTS IN THE 1940'S AND 1950'S. AND THEIR ISLANDS REMAIN DANGEROUSLY RADIOACTIVE TO THIS DAY.

MUST FRANCE CONTINUALLY REPEAT THE MISTAKES OF THE US AND BRITAIN IN THE PACIFIC? MUST FRANCE CONTINUE TO POMPOUSLY IGNORE THE TIDE OF PUBLIC OPINION REGIONALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD WHICH SAYS, "ENOUGH!!"?

THE FACT THAT THE LATEST TEST WAS YOUR LARGEST UNDERGROUND EXPLOSION TO DATE ONLY DEEPENS OUR OUTRAGE; AS WELL AS BELYING YOUR REPEATED ASSERTIONS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS THAT FRANCE WOULD ONLY CONDUCT 'SMALL' TESTS TO REFINE THE "FORCE DE FRAPPE". MR. PRESIDENT, A BOMB MORE THAN TEN TIMES THE SIZE OF THE BOMB THAT DEVASTATED HIROSHIMA IS NOT A SMALL TEST.

THE TIME TO STOP NUCLEAR TESTING IS NOW. AND GREENPEACE, THE RAINBOW WARRIOR, AND NUMEROUS OTHER VESSELS WILL BE GOING TO MORUROA LATER THIS YEAR TO REINFORCE OUR VIEW. WE APPEAL TO YOUR REASON AND YOUR HUMANITY TO STOP TESTING AT MORUROA BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

SINCERELY,

THE CREW OF THE GREENPEACE SHIP 'RAINBOW WARRIOR'
MAJURO, REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS