



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Thirty-first Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

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NEW YORK

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President: Mr. F. H. CORNER (New Zealand).

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, China, France, Liberia, New Zealand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea: annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1963 (T/1621, T/L.1071) (continued)

[Agenda item 4 (a)]

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY AND REPLIES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AND THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Toogood, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, took a place at the Council table.

1. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) requested additional information on the results of the elections to the new legislature.

2. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that there were sixty-four seats, fifty-four of which were elected and ten official. Of the fifty-four elected seats, ten were special seats which had been included after a Territory-wide inquiry carried out by a select committee of the Legislative Council had revealed that the people wanted the assistance of the Australian people to continue and insisted that Australians should retain a certain percentage of the seats. Many of them had requested that half the legislature should be composed of Australians. However, the Government had preferred to limit Australian elected representation to ten seats. The ten special seats should not be confused with the official seats, which were for nominated government officials who would assist in the general running of the Assembly.

3. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) wished to know the total number of seats held by non-Papuans and non-New Guineans.

4. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that there were twenty-six: six held by Australians elected in the general elections, ten by official members and ten special or reserved seats.

5. Miss BROOKS (Liberia), noting that out of a total of sixty-four seats, twenty-six were reserved for non-Papuans and non-New Guineans, inquired whether the special representative regarded that as a fair distribution.

6. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) emphasized that the six Australians he had mentioned had been elected by the entire population and their seats had in no way been reserved. Thus, the Council had thirty-eight indigenous representatives as against twenty-six non-indigenous representatives, six of whom had been elected by the indigenous people themselves. That distribution seemed fair for a population of more than 2 million.

7. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) did not agree. In view of the fact that six Australians had been elected on the common roll, she felt that her delegation had been justified in stating, at the previous session, that it was unnecessary to reserve special seats and that they should all be filled by election from a common roll in which the people would be allowed to decide freely.

8. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) stated that ten seats had been reserved at the express request of the indigenous people, who wanted to be sure that enough seats would be held by experienced persons in the legislature; it was not the result of a deliberate policy on the part of the Administration. Moreover, he wished to make it clear that the six Australians had been elected by universal suffrage on a common roll and that they had competed with indigenous candidates.

9. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that in a Territory where indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants lived and worked together in harmony, there was no reason for reserving special seats for a specific group.

10. She asked the special representative to explain the functions of the "regular constabulary" as compared with those of the "Native constabulary".

11. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that there was a regular constabulary known as the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary which had been operating in the Territory for many years and a special force consisting of auxiliary officers, which performed duties with the assistance of the regular constabulary in areas that had not been taken over as full police areas. Moreover, the Native constabulary had been incorporated in the Papua and New Guinea Constabulary and no longer existed.

12. Miss BROOKS (Liberia), referring to page 32, sub-paragraph (a), of the Administering Authority's

annual report,^{1/} which concerned the abolition of the Department of Customs and Marine, asked what steps had been taken for the collection of customs revenues in the Territory.

13. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the change was merely an organizational one. The Department of Trade and Industry, organized some two years earlier, had now absorbed the functions previously performed by the Department of Customs and Marine. Customs revenues continued to be collected as before.

14. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) remarked that the two departments mentioned in sub-paragraph (a), namely, the Department of Customs and Marine and the Department of Information and Extension Services, had been grouped together only because they had been reorganized at the same time.

15. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked how many civil service posts there were in the Territory and how many of them were held by indigenous inhabitants.

16. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that there were 5,283 civil service posts, of which 1,281 were held by indigenous inhabitants.

17. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) wondered why the number of indigenous civil servants was so small.

18. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the number could not be considered small. It had taken time for the people of the Territory to become familiar with methods of government and to be given the training necessary to enable them to work on the same level as Australian civil servants. However, the number of indigenous officers was increasing more rapidly each year.

19. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked how many indigenous inhabitants were graduates of high schools, colleges and universities.

20. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that while no indigenous persons held university degrees, twelve were at present studying in Australia in the faculties of humanities, law, economics, science and agriculture. It was difficult to give the exact number of graduates from secondary schools. At present, there were 1,884 indigenous persons in secondary schools; in addition, 655, who had completed their secondary education, were now in teacher-training institutions; forty-seven were in the Papuan Medical College; twenty-seven were in the Posts and Telegraphs Training College; and still others were studying in agricultural schools.

21. Miss BROOKS (Liberia), noting a reference on page 220 of the annual report to imports from other countries, surmised that imports from Commonwealth countries were meant. On the same page, there was a heading reading: "Other Commonwealth Countries". She wished to know what Commonwealth countries were included.

22. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that he could not provide any definite information at that stage, but would request it and transmit it to the Liberian delegation.

23. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether South Africa was included.

24. The PRESIDENT observed that South Africa was no longer a member of the Commonwealth.

25. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) recalled that South Africa had only recently left the Commonwealth and asked whether New Guinea had commercial relations with South Africa.

26. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that trade between Australia and South Africa had always been and still was infinitesimal; although precise figures could not be given, it could safely be stated that trade between the Trust Territory of New Guinea and South Africa was virtually non-existent.

27. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said she took it that there was some trade, on however limited a scale, between South Africa and the Trust Territory of New Guinea. She wished to know whether, in view of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Australian representative felt that the Territory should maintain commercial relations of any kind with South Africa.

28. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) pointed out that, contrary to the interpretation offered by the Liberian representative, his reply had been negative. There was no trade, or virtually none, between the Trust Territory and South Africa.

29. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) observed that the word "virtually" could not be regarded as synonymous with "absolutely".

30. The special representative had stated that helicopters had been used successfully to establish contact with the inhabitants of various regions. She wondered whether even better results would not have been achieved if such aircraft had been used earlier.

31. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that in such a mountainous territory only the most modern helicopters could carry adequate loads and fly at sufficient altitudes to be able to meet the people's needs.

32. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) wished to know the size of the budgetary appropriation for the Territory.

33. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the appropriation for the current year was £37.5 million, of which £25.5 million represented a grant by the Australian Government. The latter had also spent £5 million directly from Australia on works and services in the Territory.

34. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether it was not true that, despite the efforts referred to by the Australian representative and the special representative, the development of the Territory still left much to be desired. She asked those representatives what budgetary appropriations had been made for the Territory in past years.

35. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that in 1954 the budget had amounted to approximately £8.3 million, of which £5.5 million had been provided by the Australian Government. That figure had continued to grow year by year.

36. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) wondered whether, in view of the need for "crash" programmes in order to overcome the backwardness of the Territory, the Australian representative did not feel that the present appropriations were inadequate.

^{1/} Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations: Administration of the Territory of New Guinea, 1st July 1962—30th June 1963 (Canberra, Commonwealth Government Printer, 1964). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1621).

37. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that, contrary to what the Liberian representative supposed, New Guinea was making extraordinary progress in the economic and social fields—particularly in health—and in communications and education. Whereas ten or twelve years earlier there had been few hospitals and schools, there was now a hospital at every major centre, and every patrol post had at least an aid post where the indigenous inhabitants could obtain some form of medical care. Moreover, schools were being built at every new post as soon as the particular circumstances in the area permitted, and existing schools were being enlarged year by year. Viewed in relation to the amount of money spent, the results were very significant.

38. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) observed that much remained to be done in view of the present level of education, the fact that in some regions nothing had yet been done to educate the people, and the fact that there were no political parties in New Guinea. She wondered whether the present appropriation was large enough to permit sufficiently rapid development to ensure the early attainment of self-government by the peoples of the Territory.

39. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that Australia was doing everything that could be done. In a country where 706 languages and more than 2,000 dialects were spoken, it was impossible to contact the people without using two or three interpreters, who had to be trained before the people could be given even an elementary education.

40. There were now nearly 7,000 miles of road in the Territory, linking the coast with the interior, and two thirds were of trunk-road standards. The sum of £1 million was being spent on the development of the Markham River valley road and another £2 million was to be voted in 1965 for its further development. At the same time, work was under way on the construction of wharves and of the airstrips required to expedite the delivery of supplies and initiate development programmes. He therefore felt that the amount being spent was commensurate with the Territory's rate of development.

41. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) added that a twentieth-century economy could not be introduced overnight in a country which had been living for 2,000 years in the Stone Age. Australia had never limited its appropriations for New Guinea. The Australian Government's grant had risen at an annual rate of about £5 million. The grant had remained at the present level not because Australia had refused to increase its contribution to the Territory's budget, but because the money had to be spent gainfully and not wasted. It could not be put to the most effective use without introducing modern techniques in the Territory and obtaining people with the needed skills.

42. The Liberian representative felt that there were not enough indigenous persons in the Public Service. However, intensive and increasingly successful efforts had been made to increase the number. The opening up of new areas which lacked a modern economy and modern skills and techniques created a choice between helping the inhabitants to help themselves and importing more and more specialists and administrators from outside. It was not an easy problem to solve. The answer was not to increase the appropriations but to determine how the available money could be used most effectively.

43. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked the Australian representative to refresh her memory as to how long Australia had been administering the Territory.

44. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that Australia had actually begun to administer the Territory in 1921, when only one half of the population had been subject to its authority. The existence of nearly one million other inhabitants had remained undiscovered until shortly before the Second World War. Since the end of the war, the development of the area had been so rapid that peoples whose life had remained the same for 2,000 years, and whose existence had been unsuspected by the outside world, were now represented in a modern democratic parliament.

45. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked what language was used in the Territory's schools and to what extent the schools had been integrated.

46. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the official language was English; the languages generally used in communication with the indigenous inhabitants were Motu, which was derived from Melanesian, and Pidgin, which had been introduced into the Territory before Australia had taken over its administration.

47. Complete integration was possible only at the secondary level. There were already six fully integrated schools in the Territory.

48. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said her delegation had always held that integration gave more satisfactory results at a lower level. She would therefore suggest that the special representative review the theory he had put forward.

49. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) explained that schools in urban areas were attended by children of all races, and that in those circumstances there could be integration at the elementary level.

50. In reply to another question from the Liberian representative, he said that the Administration's policy was that English should be taught in all schools in the Territory. The only schools at which English was not taught were unsubsidized mission schools. All mission schools could receive a subsidy provided that they adhered to the policy laid down by the Administration.

51. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether there were medical facilities throughout the Territory and whether there were integrated hospitals.

52. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that medical facilities were available throughout the Territory. In the areas which had only recently come under the Administration's control, where there were no hospitals, patients were flown to the nearest hospital free. The same applied to patients at the smaller hospitals who needed specialized attention; they were immediately flown to larger centres.

53. As far as the question of integration was concerned, the hospitals were open to all inhabitants, whatever their race. There were just one or two hospitals where medical treatment had to be paid for if the patient wanted extra comfort. But at those same hospitals fully adequate treatment was given free in all departments to the population as a whole.

54. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked the special representative to compare the present system of government with the previous one.

55. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the Territory's first parliament had been formed in 1951. It had consisted of the Administrator, as president, three elected members, nine appointed members and sixteen official members. It had had twenty-five non-indigenous members and three indigenous. In 1960 the parliament had been reconstituted; the Administrator had retained his office as its president, but there were now twelve elected members, including six indigenous persons, ten appointed members, of whom at least five had to be indigenous, and fourteen official members. As it happened, there had been twelve indigenous members in that parliament instead of the eleven for which provision was made, and twenty-four non-indigenous members. The 1964 elections had led to the establishment of a House of Assembly with an elected speaker, fifty-four elected members and only ten official members. Thirty-eight members were indigenous and twenty-six non-indigenous.
56. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked how many people there were on the common electoral roll and what was the total population of the Territory.
57. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were 1,029,192 on the common electoral roll. Enrolment was compulsory but voting was voluntary. The total population of the Territory was 2,059,000.
58. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked what were the qualifications for voting in the Territory, whether women were allowed to vote, and if so, at what age.
59. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there was universal suffrage in the Territory, with the usual disqualifications of past imprisonment or mental deficiency. On the other hand, there were no economic or educational qualifications. Women had the vote on the same terms as men, from the age of twenty-one.
60. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether the figure of 1,029,192 persons represented all the men and women of the Territory over the age of twenty-one.
61. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that that was approximately so. The figure in question was more than 50 per cent of the population, but it should not be forgotten that the life expectancy of the people was much lower than in more advanced societies—less than forty years in the more backward areas, and up to sixty in the more developed parts.
62. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether there were any qualifications for voting other than age.
63. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were only those which were applied in any normal community.
64. Mr. YATES (United States of America) referred to the special representative's statement that two women, one Australian and the other New Guinean, had been candidates at the elections, but had not been successful. Was that an indication of the mores of the community?
65. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said he did not think so. Both candidates had polled very well, but there was still a feeling in New Guinea that a woman's place was in the home and not in politics.
66. Mr. YATES (United States of America) said he understood that the Administering Authority intended to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Tertiary Education. He asked what measures were being taken by the Administration to provide further educational facilities for students at the new expanded elementary schools and to increase the number of New Guinean students at the university level.
67. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the Administration was taking every possible step to keep pace with the demand for both secondary and tertiary education; so far there had been ample opportunity for students reaching the higher level to go on to Australian universities. Scholarships were given every year to students who had the required qualifications.
68. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked what proportion of children went to primary school, secondary school and university.
69. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were 175,000 children at primary school and 3,097 at secondary school. There were 655 students in the Territory training to be teachers. There were eight students at universities in Australia and four at agricultural colleges.
70. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether it was easy to recruit teachers for the Territory's schools.
71. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the Administration was not meeting any real difficulty in that respect. What was more difficult was to bring members of the indigenous population up the level required for teachers. Last year ninety primary-school teachers, fifty-five special-course teachers and eighty teachers fully qualified to teach at all levels had been recruited in Australia. In addition, twenty-five qualified secondary school teachers had been recruited overseas and had just taken up their appointments.
72. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether there were any parts of the Territory that had not yet been developed.
73. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were: an area of about 3,700 square miles had still not been developed, although it had been penetrated by patrols. Its population was estimated at something less than 9,400. The people in question were located in isolated pockets in an inaccessible area. Those were the only remaining pockets not under the full control of the Administration.
74. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked how the Administration established contact with the people of such remote areas.
75. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that as a rule, a patrol was sent into a particular area. Usually it set out from a village where contact had been established, with an interpreter from that village. It proceeded to the next village, which might be between five and forty miles away. Reaching the next village often was very difficult and took a long time. The next difficulty was contacting the people. The patrol could easily do that if the interpreter accompanying it was able to communicate with the group concerned. If he could not, the patrol might have to stay for several weeks endeavouring to find someone who could talk with the people. After that, a patrol post was usually set up in a strategic position with

respect to the village and to any other villages which might be in the vicinity. Then the development of the area and the consolidation of the Administration's influence began.

76. After the area was considered safe, equipment was brought in by helicopter. An airstrip was established, for light aircraft at first; that made possible the transport of supplies, equipment and personnel. The Department of Native Affairs sent in the first patrol, then the Health Department established health services; later, efforts were devoted to agriculture, education and, finally, community development.

77. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether any opposition was found to the change of traditional customs that was involved in the Administering Authority's efforts to develop the Territory.

78. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that it was only in the very early stages that difficulties sometimes occurred. The local inhabitants were suspicious because they feared the unknown; once they were reassured of the Administration's intentions, they were willing to co-operate to the fullest.

79. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether the Administering Authority experienced difficulty in connexion with changing the traditional land tenure customs to meet modern conditions.

80. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the land tenure system had constituted a very serious problem in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. The land ownership pattern there was most complex. It varied from area to area; land might be owned by individuals, clans, families, tribes or groups. For that reason, a new tenure conversion ordinance had recently been introduced, and legislation had also been enacted to provide for a Native Lands Commission, which was to proceed from area to area to determine the land ownership patterns. The Administration had enlisted the aid of the indigenous people themselves. Committees were set up in a particular area to determine the most suitable land pattern for it. Two such committees had just been established in New Britain near Rabaul.

81. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked why the offer of permanent appointments for new expatriate officers had been discontinued and replaced by a policy of fixed-term appointments; was it in order to permit greater employment of New Guineans?

82. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) explained that the Administration intended to promote the indigenization of the Public Service as soon as practicable; consequently, it could see little prospect of career service for overseas officers. It had therefore had to limit appointments to terms varying from two to six years, depending on the field in which the officers were to be employed.

83. Mr. YATES (United States of America) thanked the special representative for the information he had given the Council and congratulated him on his thorough grasp of the affairs of the Territory.

84. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) observed that the discussion on the Territory at the thirtieth session of the Trusteeship Council had been dominated by the question of the election to be held; at the present session the Council was particularly interested in the results of that election. In that connexion, he asked what was the present Papuan population, the number of Papuan electors and the ratio between Papuans

and New Guineans among the thirty-eight indigenous elected members of the new House of Assembly.

85. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Papuan population numbered slightly more than 500,000. The number of electors was between 240,000 and 250,000, and the new House of Assembly included twelve Papuans.

86. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked whether the issue of taxation had been raised during the election.

87. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the question had not been raised as a major issue anywhere except in some of the local government council areas, where the members of the councils were not always in agreement as to the amount of the tax.

88. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked how many electors had recorded their votes with the assistance referred to by the special representative in his opening statement (1225th meeting).

89. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the number was probably one fifth of the electors; however, that was a personal estimate.

90. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) recalled that at the preceding meeting the special representative had said that 298 candidates had stood for election, thirty for the ten special electorates and 267 for the forty-four open electorates. He asked whether the 267 was out of the total of 298.

91. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that those figures were correct: one candidate standing for a special electorate had been elected without opposition.

92. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) said the annual report had indicated that the number of indigenous members of the House of Assembly was to be increased from eleven to a possible maximum of forty-four. According to the information received, thirty-two Australians had stood for twenty-two of the forty-four seats. He wondered therefore whether those twenty-two seats contested by Australians had been allocated to non-indigenous candidates.

93. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said it was a fact that thirty-two Australians had stood for election in twenty-two of the forty-four open electorates; however, only six had been elected.

94. In reply to another question from the Chinese representative, he said that there had been approximately 14,000 non-indigenous electors and that 7.6 per cent of the votes had been cast for non-indigenous candidates.

95. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked which of the seven districts of New Guinea had the highest percentage of indigenous electors. He also asked for a list of the electorates in New Guinea.

96. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said he would be happy to provide the Chinese representative later with information on those two items.

97. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked the special representative whether he had anything to add to what he had said in his opening statement with regard to the Administering Authority's evaluation of the election results and to events that had occurred during the election.

98. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Administration and the people of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea had been extremely pleased with the result of the elections. On the whole, they had gone very satisfactorily. The fact that six Australians had been elected to open seats and that the people had asked that seats should be reserved in the House of Assembly for the special electorates showed the confidence of the people of the Territory in the Australian people. The elections had genuinely helped the people of Papua and New Guinea to advance further on the road to self-determination.

99. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) recalled the statement made at the preceding session that the Administering Authority would appoint thirty members of the new House of Assembly to posts as parliamentary under-secretaries after the elections. He wished to know whether those appointments would be confined to the indigenous members of the House.

100. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that those under-secretaries would be chosen from among the indigenous elected members and that provision had been made for the appointment of fifteen. Ten of that number had already been selected.

101. He was not in a position to indicate which departments would be represented by the parliamentary under-secretaries. However, a number of departments which were not yet represented would be among them and in that way it would be possible for all sixteen functional departments to be represented in the new House.

102. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked how the seven elected members of the Administrator's Council would be chosen.

103. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that it would be the prerogative of the Administrator to choose, from among the elected members of the House, those whom he wished to have on the Council. He could not indicate at that stage how many would be chosen from the indigenous members and how many from the non-indigenous but it was known to be the Administrator's firm intention to select a representative number of the former.

104. In reply to another question from Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China), Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the ten official members of the House had now been appointed; he listed them by name and title.

105. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) recalled the special representative's statement that no political party had taken an active part in the elections. He asked whether the United Progress Party was no longer in existence or had simply not been active in the electoral campaign.

106. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the United Progress Party, established three or four years previously, had ceased to exist owing to its lack of popular support. The only movements which could be considered political were now developing through the trades groups; they were not, however, political parties as such.

107. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China), recalling that interference by officers of the former Department of Native Affairs had sometimes caused difficulties for the district commissioners, asked whether such difficulties were likely to arise in the future, now that

that Department had been replaced by the Department of District Administration.

108. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Department of District Administration had been set up as the result of an exhaustive inquiry by a special committee studying the functions of the Department of Native Affairs. That inquiry had revealed both that the Department of Native Affairs had been virtually a central administrative organ and that the district commissioner, who was the direct representative of the Administrator in a district, belonged to one department while the members of the Department of Native Affairs belonged to another, although carrying out virtually the same functions. It had therefore been decided that an administrative reorganization which would eliminate any break in the chain of command was in order. The Department of District Administration had thus in effect become the central organ of administration, to which all other departments and services were supplementary. It could be said that the work of the Department of Native Affairs would now be carried out by the Department of District Administration. However, that was the unanimous wish of the population itself. Wherever the special committee of inquiry had gone in the Territory, the inhabitants had expressed the wish that the officers should continue to aid them in the field in more or less the same capacities as before.

109. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked whether the post of Native affairs officer would be abolished in each district. He also wished to know what were the composition and status of the new Central Policy and Planning Committee.

110. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that according to the new nomenclature the district officials would have the titles of district commissioner, deputy district commissioner and assistant district commissioner. The officers at the lower level would be called patrol officer and cadet patrol officer.

111. In reply to Mr. Kiang's second question, he said that the Central Policy and Planning Committee had been set up by the Administrator to consider all matters of general policy. It was composed of the Administrator, who was its chairman, the Assistant Administrator (Services), the Assistant Administrator (Economic Affairs), the Treasurer and the Director of the Department of District Administration. It could at any time call upon the services of any other officer at the head of a department which was concerned with the matter under discussion.

112. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked the special representative whether all democratic organizations in the Territory enjoyed full and unrestricted freedom.

113. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied in the affirmative. The Administration in most cases welcomed such activities, particularly those of youth organizations. Most of the international youth bodies were represented in the Territory.

114. In reply to another question from Mr. YATES (United States of America), Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the inhabitants enjoyed complete freedom of association and expression and that the Press and broadcasting were entirely free.

115. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether there were any laws or legislative measures in the Territory providing for racial discrimination.

116. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Administering Authority had taken steps to eliminate in the Territory any law which could be construed as being of a discriminatory nature, and that an ordinance prescribing penalties for anyone practising racial discrimination had recently been passed. There was no legislation providing for racial discrimination of any kind.

117. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked whether there were any prohibitions or restrictions which could be imposed on the activities of political parties.

118. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied in the negative, and explained that the Administration endeavoured to promote workers' organizations of all kinds and to use such organizations as a means of settling differences between workers' groups and employers.

119. Mr. YATES (United States of America) asked the special representative whether to his knowledge any persons had been imprisoned for political offences and whether any residents had had to leave the Territory because of their participation in activities to promote independence or self-determination.

120. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that to his knowledge there had been no such case. If any persons had been in the position described by the United States representative, he himself would certainly have known of it.

121. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) asked the representative of Australia whether the Administering Authority contemplated forming a ministerial government by the time the next elections were held in 1968.

122. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that he could give no firm assurances on behalf of his Government with regard to that point. It was a matter of evolution. His Government looked forward to the day when such a system could be introduced, but it was not yet possible to say how and when that could be

done. The appointment of parliamentary under-secretaries was designed to provide training in executive departmental responsibilities and was a forerunner to a ministerial system.

123. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether non-indigenous persons who had resided in the Territory for one year prior to the elections would have been entitled to vote in them.

124. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that any person who had established residence in the Territory a year prior to the elections could have voted.

125. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that she did not think it was fair to give the right of suffrage to persons who had resided in the Territory for so short a period of time. The special representative's reply raised certain misgivings in her mind.

126. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that he would like to make it clear, for the benefit of the representative of Liberia, that the elections had not been rigged. The Administering Authority, although it would have been able to consider it, had never thought of bringing a large number of people into the Territory twelve months before the elections. It would not in fact have had time to do so, for between May and February it had had not only to prepare the elections and familiarize the people with the electoral process but also to draw up a common electoral roll.

127. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that she had not been questioning anyone's motives, but had merely asked whether it was fair to establish a one-year period of residence as a qualification for voting.

128. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that residential qualifications had had to be established and that the period chosen, which was of a purely nominal character, was the same as in many other countries.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.