

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

T/PV.1470
15 May 1978

ENGLISH

Forty-fifth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTIETH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 15 May 1978, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. BYATT (United Kingdom)

later: President: Mr. GARRIGUE-GUYONNAUD (France)

Opening of the forty-fifth session

Adoption of the agenda

Report of the Secretary-General on credentials

Election of the President and Vice-President

Organization of work

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1977: Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

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The co-operation of delegations in strictly observing this time-limit would be greatly appreciated.

The meeting was called to order at 11.00 a.m.

OPENING OF THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

The PRESIDENT (Mr. Robin Byatt): I declare open the forty-fifth session of the Trusteeship Council.

I should like to begin the proceedings of the session by welcoming those who will be taking part in it, particularly those who are newcomers to the Trusteeship Council. Although they are in varying degrees veterans of the United Nations, I believe that Mr. Cooks, as representative of the Administering Authority, and Ambassador Kharlamov, of the Soviet Union - who is not yet with us - are both appearing in this Council for the first time.

I should like also to extend a special welcome to the representatives from the Trust Territory. The High Commissioner, Mr. Winkel, has been with us before, but Governor Camacho, of the Northern Marianas is, I suspect, making history by appearing in this Council as an elected Governor from a Trust Territory.

I am also very pleased to see with us the Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Sablan, and Senators Nakayama, Guerrero and Olter and Congressmen Henry, Ogo and Setik.

Members will notice that we are meeting in unaccustomed surroundings. Unfortunately, the Trusteeship Council chamber is not available this year because builders are making certain improvements there. I am sure that the Secretariat will keep to the minimum the inconvenience which the Council has to suffer at this session because its own chamber is not available, and I am sure also that, even if we have to lead a somewhat nomadic life during the session, the Council will, as it always has done, give the closest and most responsible attention to the affairs of the one remaining Trust Territory.

(The President)

I should like to take this opportunity to inform members of the Council briefly of my activities in my capacity as President since the last session.

In addition to the customary message to the people of Micronesia on the occasion of United Nations Day in October, I sent, on 9 January this year, a message to the newly elected Government of the Northern Marianas when it took office. In addition, I have held informal consultations, in accordance with the Council's decision last year, about administrative arrangements for a visiting mission to observe the forthcoming referendum in the other six districts of the Territory.

The Secretary of the Council, Mr. Abebe; and Mr. Kriendler, of the United States Mission, have done some excellent preparatory work in this regard, which will certainly assist the Council when it comes to consider the relevant item on its agenda.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (T/1788)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Are there any comments on the provisional agenda?

Mr. COOKS (United States of America): Although my delegation does not object to the proposed agenda, I should like again to observe that the United States doubts the propriety of the inclusion of items 10-13 in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of this Trusteeship Council. My Government does not believe that those items are relevant, since the Council's focus is exclusively on the strategic Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I note that the representative of the United States does not wish to make a formal objection. His remarks will, of course, be reflected in the records of the Council.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My delegation supports the inclusion of those items in this session's agenda. We do not object to adoption of this agenda, but I wish to recall the well-known position of the Soviet Union expressed at previous sessions of the Trusteeship Council with regard to the exclusion of the question

(Mr. Kovalenko, USSR)

of the submission of a report to the General Assembly as well as to the Security Council. We reaffirm all our statements and objections in that connexion.

The PRESIDENT: I note that the representative of the Soviet Union also has no formal objection to the agenda, but the reservations he has expressed will, of course, be reflected in the records of this meeting.

With those reservations on the record, I take it that the Council decides to adopt the agenda in document T/1788.

The agenda was adopted.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform members of the Council that the Secretary-General has still not received the credentials of all members of the Council. May I suggest, therefore, that this agenda item be considered at a future meeting? If there are no objections, I shall take it that it is so decided.

It was so decided.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT: I now invite members of the Council to elect a President for the forty-fifth session. This election will be carried out by secret ballot pursuant to rule 41 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Mr. Pierre Garrigue-Guyonnaud (France) was elected President.

The PRESIDENT: Before I surrender the Chair to Mr. Garrigue-Guyonnaud I take this opportunity to make my last remark as President and also to speak on behalf of the United Kingdom delegation in extending to him congratulations on his election and in saying that I am convinced that the Trusteeship Council could not have elected anyone better qualified to be President than Mr. Garrigue-Guyonnaud. He has followed the affairs of this Council with close attention over a number of years, and is probably, amongst the United Nations representatives in this room, the best versed in the affairs of Micronesia. I have every confidence that the forty-fifth session will be conducted with great efficiency and dispatch under his presidency, and I trust that he will enjoy his task as much as I have enjoyed mine.

I now invite him to take the Chair.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. Pierre Garrigue-Guyonnaud) (interpretation from French): Before we proceed to the election of the Vice-President, I should like to say to the members of the Council, on behalf of France and of myself personally, how pleased and honoured I feel to have been elected to the presidency of the Council.

My country has a long tradition of co-operation with this one of the principal bodies of our Organization. France, as is known, has been in the position of an administering Power reporting to the Council on its fulfilment of its responsibilities in that regard. This will convey the value that I attach to the office to which I have been elected, an office whose importance I recognize and of which I hope to be worthy.

(The President)

I have taken part in nearly five sessions of the Trusteeship Council, and I can bear witness to delegations' satisfaction with the Trusteeship Department. In this connexion, I should like to greet Mr. Tang, the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization, and Mr. Rifai and thank them for the help that they have always given. I should not fail at this time to stress the professional conscientiousness of our Secretary, Mr. Girma Abebe, who has always been the best of advisers for delegations and, I am sure, for all my predecessors in this post. In the days to come, we shall need his talent and his patience.

I referred to France's former responsibilities to explain the reasons which have led my country to follow the debates in the Trusteeship Council with the greatest attention, but I also have more personal reasons for heeding the aspirations of populations of the Trust Territories. I had the honour, in my capacity as a member of the French delegation, to take part in the independence ceremonies in Papua New Guinea in September 1976. Need I say that at that time it never occurred to me that one day I should be elected to the high office of President of the Trusteeship Council. I am indeed grateful to members of the Council for that honour and I crave their indulgence, the more so because I am replacing Mr. Byatt, whose skill and high-mindedness we have all been able to appreciate. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Council, I should like to express our gratitude to him for the extreme courtesy and the authority that he showed throughout his term of office.

While the scope of the mandate of our Council is now limited to following the evolution of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, our responsibilities remain the same.

We should, as regards Micronesia, ensure the scrupulous application of the Charter and respect for the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement. I am sure of the co-operation of all delegations in the accomplishment of this mission.

I am pleased to see around this table and in this chamber so many familiar faces, so many experts in Trusteeship Council affairs belonging to each and every delegation.

Lastly, I should like to say how pleased I am to welcome here the members of the delegations of Micronesia among whom I personally recognize the High Commissioner and Deputy High Commissioner and certain other figures well

(The President)

known to the Council, in particular President Nakayama and Representative Setik. I should also like to welcome the distinguished persons who have come from Washington.

We shall now proceed to the election of the Vice-President of the Council.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Miss Sheila Harden (United Kingdom) was elected Vice-President.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): In my capacity as President I should like to congratulate Miss Harden whole-heartedly on her election. She is a very well-known and respected, I might almost say loved, personality in the United Nations and no one could be better fitted than she to assume this responsibility, and I wish to congratulate her.

Miss HARDEN (United Kingdom): Mr. President, I thank you for your very kind and flattering words of congratulation. I feel very honoured at having been elected Vice-President of the Trusteeship Council, and I should like to thank the members of the Council who elected me. I will try to prove worthy of their trust. I hope I do not need to assure you, Sir, of my fullest co-operation in the work ahead to be accomplished under your wise guidance.

I am greatly looking forward to my first visit to the Trust Territory of Micronesia next month to observe the referendum and also, I hope, to enlarge my understanding of the many complex problems which we consider in this Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of the United Kingdom for the kind words she addressed to me.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): On behalf of the Soviet delegation, I should like to express my thanks to the retiring President of the Trusteeship Council, Mr. Byatt, with whom we co-operated very closely during the previous session of the Council and in the interval between that session and the present one. I hope that we shall continue to co-operate equally fruitfully during the present session of the Council.

I should like also to congratulate you, Mr. President on your election to that lofty and responsible position. We are convinced that we can find common ground throughout the complex and difficult work we have to carry out at this session.

In addition, I should like to congratulate the new Vice-President, Miss Harden of the United Kingdom, on her election.

I sincerely hope that we shall co-operate closely throughout the work of this session, both during our discussion of the items on our agenda and during the preparation of the report of the Trusteeship Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of the Soviet Union for the kind words that he addressed to me. He is a seasoned expert in these sessions of the Trusteeship Council and I am sure of his complete co-operation.

Mr. COOKS (United States of America): First I should like to congratulate our Vice-President elect, Miss Harden. I look forward to working with her here in the Trusteeship Council.

Mr. President, on the occasion of your election as President of the Trusteeship Council, I should like to express my sincere congratulations and my delegation's commitment to give you its full support. I am sure that the dedication, intelligence and eloquence which I have heard have characterized your participation in many United Nations bodies, including this Council at previous sessions, and your knowledge of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands will ensure that this proves to be a very productive session of the Trusteeship Council for the people of Micronesia.

I also wish to pay a particularly warm tribute to your distinguished predecessor, Robin Byatt. During the year that we worked with him we found him to be an exemplary President whose wise and decisive leadership contributed greatly to our deliberations here.

My delegation also congratulates the former Vice-President, Mr. Ricardo Duque of France.

We pledge our sincere support to the President and the Vice-President in the work here in the Trusteeship Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of the United States for the kind words that he addressed to me. We are confident of the co-operation of the United States delegation. I should like to welcome Mr. Cooks as representative of the United States delegation to this session of the Trusteeship Council.

Mr. BROCHEMIN (France) (interpretation from French): First of all, on behalf of the French delegation, I should like to thank Mr. Byatt, our former President, who guided with such distinction and elegance the work of the forty-fourth session of the Trusteeship Council.

I have no hesitation, Mr. President, in congratulating you on your election because I know perhaps better than anybody here your qualities as a worker and how you have interested yourself in recent years in everything that concerns Micronesia. I am sure that you will receive effective and friendly co-operation from Miss Harden.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of France for his kind words. I know that he is also a leading defender of the French language, and as President I can assure him that I shall endeavour to ensure the distribution of all documents in French, as in previous years and with the co-operation of Mr. Girma Abebe

Mr. BYATT (United Kingdom): I wish merely to repeat, from this less elevated position, my congratulations to you, Mr. President, upon your election, and also to extend my congratulations to my colleague and neighbour, Miss Harden, on her election as Vice-President. Knowing her as I do, I am sure she will serve the Council extremely well.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank other members of the Council for the kind words they have said about me.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Secretariat has prepared and distributed to the members of the Trusteeship Council a provisional time-table for the forty-fifth session. It was drawn up in order to give members of the Council a general idea of the work to be done and the time necessary to do it. The Council is free, of course, to modify its programme of work according to circumstances or the wishes of its members; we have a tradition of great flexibility in the Council. The Secretariat has foreseen that we should

(The President)

be finishing our work on Monday, 5 June, but in case we have difficulty in keeping to that time-table the Secretariat has made arrangements to prolong the session by a few days.

If no one has any observations on the proposed time-table, I shall consider that the Council agrees to follow it as closely as possible.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have no objection to the plan of work which has just been submitted to us with your comment to the effect that we may show the usual flexibility with regard to how we proceed. We may be able to make rapid progress in some cases while having to spend more time on others if we encounter difficulties. I fully support the observations made and therefore I do not object to the plan of work which has been submitted to us.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that we shall do our best to ensure that delegations are not stuck with a rigid time-table, particularly when preparing their statements. It is a delicate matter because delegations will have to take into account statements made by the administering Power and, at that point, they will probably need some extra time. As members are aware, traditionally in the United Nations meetings it has been hard to keep to the time-tables as originally drawn up, and I appeal to members of delegations to come on time for meetings of the Council so that we can carry out our task as well as possible.

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1977: TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (T/1786; T/L.1208)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Council will now begin its consideration of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. COOKS (United States of America): It is a pleasure to be here today to discuss developments in the Trust Territory during the past year.

As in the past, several officials from the Trust Territory are on the United States delegation and will make statements reviewing developments with which they are particularly concerned. Members of the Council will remember Adrian Winkel, High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, who was with us last year. He is accompanied by his deputy, Mr. Juan Sablan, who happens to be the first Micronesian Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, and Mr. Milaro Danis, District Administrator of Truk. I am also honoured to introduce the Honourable Carlos S. Camacho, the first elected Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands. Representing the legislative branch we have Senator Bailey Oltor and Representative Raymond Setik, from the Congress of Micronesia, and Senator Lorenzo Guerrero, President of the Northern Mariana Islands Senate. Ambassador Peter Rosenblatt, the President's Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, has come from Washington, D.C. to join us. Laurel Shea, David Stewart and William Bodde, all of whom are from the Department of State, have also come from Washington to act as advisers to the delegation. Most members already know my friend here, John Kriendler, of the United States Mission.

(Mr. Cooks, United States)

I wish to extend a very warm welcome to the presiding officers of the Congress of Micronesia who are here today - Senator Tosiwo Nakayama, President of the Senate, and Bethwel Henry, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and I should like cordially to welcome the many petitioners who are here with us today.

I hope that this session of the Council will provide many opportunities for us all to come to know and understand each other better and to build on the bonds of friendship and common purpose which already unite us.

The last year has seen major progress in two important areas - in negotiations on the future status of the Marshall Islands and the Caroline Islands, and in the area of increased self-government for the peoples of the Trust Territory while the Trusteeship Agreement remains in effect.

In October formal political negotiations were renewed at Molokai, Hawaii, ending a 17-month hiatus. The Molokai meeting was significant in a number of respects. It was the first formal negotiating session at which the Marshall Islands and Palau were represented by their own status commissions, negotiating with the United States on both the multilateral and the bilateral level. That arrangement reflects the wishes of those districts as expressed by their legislatures and is the result of a negotiating format initially proposed by the United States during the round-table conference held on Guam in July of last year. The discussions at Molokai provided a valuable exchange of views both between the Micronesians and ourselves and among the three Micronesian status commissions. However, they disclosed significantly different interpretations of the concept of free association.

Following the Molokai round, the United States began work on the specific language of a draft compact of free association, which was presented to the Micronesians at a meeting of heads of delegations in San Diego, California, in January of this year. The San Diego meeting offered a forum at which significant new compromise solutions were explored. On the basis of the proposals growing out of the San Diego meeting, the United States reconsidered its long-standing positions and drafted a set of eight principles embodying a new concept for a future political relationship of free association. Those principles were presented to and discussed with the Micronesian political status commissions at a meeting of heads of delegations held in Hilo, Hawaii, 7-9 April 1978. At the conclusion of that meeting a statement incorporating those principles was signed by the heads of

(Mr. Cooks, United States)

the three political status commissions and the United States, marking a major breakthrough in the long and complex negotiations. We are confident that a commonly acceptable agreement of free association based on these agreed principles can be achieved in the months ahead.

The eight principles agreed upon in Hilo will provide Micronesians with the maximum of authority and responsibility for their own affairs consistent with the free-association relationship. The political relationship will be one of Government to Government, and will be terminable at any time, either by common consent or unilaterally through a plebiscite by the peoples of Micronesia or by the Government of the United States acting in accordance with its constitutional processes. The United States will assume specific defence and security responsibilities for a fixed term. Micronesians will have full authority over their internal affairs and will have full authority over non-defence-related foreign affairs, including the right to control their own marine resources and to seek direct participation at international conferences on this and other appropriate subjects. United States economic assistance to Micronesia will be furnished for a fixed term at levels which have yet to be negotiated, and the agreed levels will not be terminable by a unilateral United States termination of free association.

The United States approach to its future relationship with Micronesia continues to be based on the tenets enunciated by the United States representative at last year's session of the Council. As was pointed out at that time, we feel that any commonly agreeable arrangement must provide an appropriate allocation as between the authority of the peoples of Micronesia to act on their own behalf and the responsibility of the United States for Micronesian actions. With our agreement to these eight principles the range within which the Micronesians will have the authority to take independent action on their own behalf has been significantly expanded. It follows, therefore, that the responsibility of the peoples of Micronesia for their actions must likewise increase. We believe that this points to a healthy relationship suited to the interests and aspirations of the Micronesians.

(Mr. Cooks, United States)

In sum, we feel we have made real progress during the past year, and we are hopeful that we can continue this progress based on a spirit of mutual co-operation to enable us to reach our goal of terminating the trusteeship by 1981.

As the Council is aware, the peoples of the Marshall Islands and the Caroline Islands will go to the polls on 12 July to vote on whether to adopt the proposed Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia. While the United States stands ready to assist where possible, a referendum board established by the Trust Territory Government in accordance with Congress of Micronesia legislation will be responsible for the conduct of the referendum. Last year we invited the Council to send a visiting mission to observe the referendum, and I wish to renew the invitation at this time.

The 12 July referendum has a double significance. Apart from expressing their will on the Constitution and the structure of the government to be formed under it, the peoples of Micronesia will also decide the question of their political unity. Assuming that the Constitution is approved by the necessary majority in at least four of the six districts in which it will be put to a vote, a negative vote in any particular district will constitute a mandate for the exclusion of that district from the government to be formed under the Constitution.

While the United States continues to believe that the peoples of the Marshall Islands and the Caroline Islands would benefit from common links among the districts, the question of political unity is clearly one to be decided by the Micronesians themselves. We were therefore encouraged by the fact that all three of the Micronesian negotiating commissions agreed in principle at the Molokai Conference that common links among the districts would continue in the post-trusteeship period and that these links would be defined by an agreement among the six districts.

At the same time that the foregoing developments have been unfolding, progress has been made in the drafting of district charters in accordance with Congress of Micronesia legislation. District charters providing for elected governors have been approved for Truk, Yap, Ponape and Kosrae.

(Mr. Cooks, United States)

Elections are scheduled for August in Truk, and it is anticipated that they will be held at an early date in the other districts.

In the Northern Mariana Islands, as I indicated earlier an elected governor has already been installed. Governor Camacho will wish to speak about developments in the Northern Marianas, so I shall limit myself to pointing out that the Northern Mariana Islands are now governed by an elected governor and legislature, in accordance with the Covenant which was approved by the people of the islands in a plebiscite observed by a visiting mission from this Council in June 1975. My Government is proud of the achievement of self-government by the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in accordance with their wishes and the principles of the Trusteeship Agreement. We look forward to the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States, following the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I should now like to invite the Honourable Adrian Winkel, High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and Special Representative of the Administering Authority; the Honourable Carlos Camacho, Governor for the Northern Mariana Islands and Special Representative of the Administering Authority; the Honourable Senator Bailey Olter of the Congress of Micronesia, Special Adviser; the Honourable Representative Raymond Setik of the Congress of Micronesia, Special Adviser; and the Honourable Senator Lorenzo I. Guerrero and the Honourable Misael Ogo, Special Advisers, from the Northern Mariana Islands Legislature, to take their places at the Council table.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Winkel and Mr. Camacho, Special Representatives; and Mr. Olter, Mr. Setik, Mr. Guerrero and Mr. Ogo, Special Advisers, took places at the Council table.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): On behalf of the Trusteeship Council I extend a warm and cordial welcome to the Special Representatives and the Special Advisers. I should like to welcome also the Honourable Tosiwo Nakayama, President of the Senate, Congress of Micronesia; the Honourable Bethwel Henry, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Congress of Micronesia; the Honourable Ruth Van Cleve, Director of the Office of Territorial Affairs, Department of the Interior; the Honourable Peter R. Rosenblatt, Personnel Representative of the President of the United States for the Micronesian Status Negotiations; the Honourable Juan Sablan, Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; Mr. Lazarus Salii, Director of the Office of Planning and Statistics; Mr. Neiman Craley, Special Representative for Legislative Affairs of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; Mr. Leo Falcam, Washington Representative for the Congress of Micronesia; and Mr. Edward Pangalinan, Washington Representative for the Northern Mariana Islands.

Finally, I should like to extend a very cordial welcome to Mrs. Winkel, who is also attending our meetings.

The representatives from Micronesia are here to provide the Council with information on the latest developments in Micronesia in the political, economic and social fields. This will greatly facilitate the Council's examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

I now call on the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Special Representative Mr. Winkel.

Mr. WINKEL (Special Representative): First, I should like to congratulate you, Sir, and Miss Harden on your election as, respectively, President and Vice-President of the Trusteeship Council. We look forward to working with you and the Council as a whole during the coming year, and particularly, of course, during this session, as well as during the forthcoming constitutional referendum in the Trust Territory in July. We pledge to you our total support.

We wish also to thank the outgoing President and Vice-President for the warm and cordial welcome they extended to us at last year's session of the Council and for the assistance they have given us during the past year.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

I should like to express my personal pleasure at this opportunity to participate for the second time in the deliberations of the Trusteeship Council. Before I present my opening statement, I should like to take a few moments to introduce, as the President has just done, some members of the delegation from the Trust Territory Government.

First, it is my privilege to introduce Mr. Juan Sablan, Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory Government. Mr. Sablan is the first Micronesian citizen to serve in this position, and it was my honour to recommend him for this appointment by the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Cecil Andrus. I can say, on the basis of my own experience, that Mr. Sablan is one of the most professional public administrators - in the very best sense of the word - that it has been my pleasure to know and to work with.

Next, I want to introduce Mr. Lazarus Salii, Director of the Office of Planning and Statistics, Trust Territory Government. Mr. Salii may be known to some members of the Council as the Chairman of the former Joint Committee on Future Political Status of the Congress of Micronesia. As Director of Planning, he carried a responsibility for the Executive Branch of the Trust Territory Government concerning the United Nations Development Programme project and the five-year indicative plan comparable to that exercised for the Legislative Branch by Congressman Ray Setik, who is known to all of you.

I wish also to introduce to the Council Mr. Neiman Craley, Acting Administrator of Administrative Services, Trust Territory Government. More immediately, it is significant that Mr. Craley is serving at present as the Chairman of the Constitutional Referendum Board, which is the policy-making and oversight body for the administration of the 12 July constitutional referendum that will be observed by this Council.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

Some members of the Council and of the Secretariat may remember that Mr. Craley served as Executive Director of the Office of the Plebiscite Commissioner in connexion with the vote on the Northern Marianas Covenant, which was also observed by this Council.

Also, it has been the tradition that a District Administrator should attend the annual Council session as a member of the Trust Territory delegation.

I introduce to the Council Mr. Mitaro Danis, District Administrator of Truk District. Mr. Danis is in some respects a symbol of the end of an era in the Trust Territory inasmuch as before this summer is over he will be succeeded by an elected Governor of Truk District. That person will, of course, become the second elected Governor of a District of the Trust Territory, preceded only by Governor Carlos Camacho of the Northern Mariana Islands.

I am honoured also to present to the Council Senator Bailey Olter of Ponape District and Congressman Ray Setik of Truk District, who have been designated to serve our delegation as special advisers from the Congress of Micronesia. Both men are truly representative of the Congress and of the people of Micronesia, and we are pleased to have the benefit of their knowledge and experience in participating in these proceedings.

If events in Micronesia maintain their present course and speed, the time is foreseeable when there will no longer be a High Commissioner nor will the necessity exist for a delegation such as ours to appear before this Council to report on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Many of us share the Micronesian hope that, instead of a High Commissioner and instead of a Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, there will be a president - or his or her equivalent - and a Micronesian government which will report to its own people. We also share the hope of the Micronesians that the Government and the people of Micronesia - or the several governments and peoples of Micronesia, as the case may be - will live in a more stable political environment than they have enjoyed before and in free association with the United States or as a completely independent State if that is their desire. As senior resident representative of the Administering Authority in Micronesia and as High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, I pledge to this Council and to the people of Micronesia that I shall do my utmost to make the transition to

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that day as orderly, and as nearly in accordance with the best interests of the people of Micronesia and my Government, as I possibly can.

In April a significant breakthrough was reached at Hilo in the Micronesian status negotiations. I shall be delighted as High Commissioner to welcome the distinguished members of this body who will be observing the constitutional referendum on 12 July. The preparation and conduct of that referendum have been entrusted to a Referendum Commission created by the Congress of Micronesia under the terms of Public Law 7-75. As I just stated, the Chairman of the Commission is Mr. Neiman Craley, who is also a member of our delegation. The other members are Senator Ambilos Iehsi of Ponape, Vice-President of the Senate; Congressman Luke Tman, Floor Leader of the House; Mr. Johnson Toribiong from the Palau Political Status Commission; and Mr. Anton de Brum, Vice-Chairman of the Marshall Islands Political Status Commission. All these people are individuals who command the respect of their respective constituencies. They also have my full respect and confidence in their ability to ensure that the results of the referendum, no matter what they may be, can be respected and honoured by this body.

In my appearance before the Council last year I stated that the Trust Territory Government was moving on four fronts to achieve as orderly a transition as possible to the termination of the Micronesian trusteeship. These four fronts comprised administration, economic development, health and education, and capital improvements.

In the area of administration, I am pleased to report that significant achievements were accomplished in placing more Micronesians in positions of responsibility and in reducing the size of the administrative bureaucracy. During the last session of the Congress of Micronesia, House Bill No. 7-402 was enacted by the Congress, and I have signed it. The Bill deals with the reorganization of the executive branch of the Government at headquarters. The existing eight departments are to be reorganized and combined to form three. It is my intention to nominate Micronesians to head two of these newly created departments, in addition to the previously mentioned appointment of Mr. Sablan to the position of Deputy High Commissioner. To head the

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Department of Community Services, which includes the Bureaux of Education and Health Services and the Division of Community Development, it is my intention to nominate Mr. Resio Moses, also a Micronesian, who is at present Trust Territory Executive Officer.

At the district level, Mr. Jacob Nena was appointed Deputy District Administrator in Kosrae. In Ponape, which has not had a Deputy District Administrator for nearly two years, Mr. Strik Yoma, our former Director of Public Affairs and a person well known to many members of this Council by reason of his numerous appearances before this body in the past, has been appointed Special Assistant to the District Administrator.

During the year the Trust Territory continued to make progress in its efforts and programmes to increase government effectiveness and reduce over-staffing and over-spending.

In conjunction with the reorganization mentioned above, the total Executive Branch organization was reviewed for structural streamlining and staffing consolidation. We expect that it will be possible to reduce the number of positions by 100 or more at headquarters over a period of time.

Under the new salary plan proposed by the Administration to the Congress of Micronesia, personnel costs will be more closely controlled and salary increases based on performance will replace automatic pay increases.

The process of decentralization continued with the enactment of legislation establishing chartered district governments in Yap, Ponape and Kosrae, in addition to Truk, whose charter was enacted last year. Elections will be held in August of this year in Truk to elect a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and members of the District Legislature under the new charter. In Yap and Kosrae Districts similar elections will be held later this year, in November, and in Ponape District elections will be held next year.

Efforts to improve the quality of management and performance were continued. A most significant seminar for top-level management was held during the year and was hailed by all participants as being a most worthy and beneficial exercise.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

On the economic development front, the Administration continues fully to recognize that development in Micronesia is tied in very closely with the move towards self-government or independence. In this connexion it is significant that included among the eight principles announced in the Hilo status talks was the principle of Micronesian control of its marine resources. The ability of the Micronesian people so to control their marine resources will of course be an invaluable asset in the development and exploitation of the vast ocean surrounding the islands.

The Trust Territory Five-Year Development Plan and the various district development plans continue to be the basic policy guidelines for economic development efforts in Micronesia. In our attempt to develop a more comprehensive overview of our economic development opportunities, a survey is now under way throughout the six districts under the supervision of the Headquarters Bureau of Resources and Development. The survey is aimed at providing the Office of the High Commissioner with a comprehensive inventory of economic development opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, tourism and the service industries. We expect this survey to be completed within the next few weeks.

Among examples of other activities, sharp focus is also being given to attracting investment to Micronesia by using such techniques as direct mailings spotlighting specific opportunities and targeting response from preselected investors for sea-weed culture, aqua-mariculture, tropical spices plantations and small tourism hotels.

In 1977 a total of 22,260 visitors came to the islands and spent approximately \$2.3 million. Tourism has thus become our second leading export industry, following copra production and processing.

In February 1978 a skills-and-occupations survey was completed with traditional and formal skills of all household occupants being recorded. This information is expected to facilitate the recruitment of Micronesian employees and to lower the influx of skilled aliens into Micronesia.

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The past administrative organization under which the Economic Development Loan Fund (EDLF) programme was administered did not lend itself to sound business practices. To resolve those problems, a new EDLF Operation Plan has been designed and is now being reviewed in Washington by the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget. The Plan should provide for a more effective and viable lending programme than has heretofore been possible. The final approval of that new EDLF Operation Plan will also permit the release of more than \$3.5 million by the United States Government to the new Economic Development Loan Commission.

I should like to mention at this point a policy initiative on the part of the Administering Authority and the Trust Territory Government which promises to impact heavily on the economic development of Micronesia. Continuing the process of liberalizing foreign investment in Micronesia which began in 1974, the Administering Authority recently formalized its policy to make it possible for third-country Governments to extend grant and technical assistance to the Trust Territory. Selected American embassies have been instructed by the United States Government to approach their host Governments about promoting Micronesian economic development. Under that policy, the Administering Authority endorses grants or technical assistance to Micronesia by third-country Governments.

The Secretary of the Interior's Order 2969 authorized the return of public land held by the Trust Territory Government to the district governments' control in December 1974. Since that time three districts - Palau, Yap and Ponape - have passed the necessary legislation and created public land agencies to administer their lands. Yap has not requested transfer of its public lands, and the Marshall Islands and Truk have yet to determine how they wish to proceed with the transfer. Kosrae is preparing legislation to effect the transfer of its public lands.

Other activities such as a Trust Territory-wide soils classification and forestry resources survey will be started before the present fiscal year ends on 30 September. Also a Ponape pepper plantation feasibility study will soon be completed. By the beginning of calendar year 1979 we should begin the second phase of the development programme under the Five-Year Indicative Development Plan, namely, the implementation phase. That will entail the

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identification and designing of projects which can be developed successfully with available resources and which can produce revenue.

At this point I should like to acknowledge, as I did last year, the outstanding contribution that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has made to the economic development of the Trust Territory. I should also like to pay a tribute to Dr. Robert J. Trusk, the outgoing project manager, who left the project in March. Dr. Trusk will be missed by the Trust Territory Executive Branch and the Congress of Micronesia. And, speaking of the Congress, I want to take this opportunity also to pay a tribute to the leadership of Congressman Ray Setik. Without his unceasing work, the UNDP project would not have been possible.

We are actively recruiting a replacement for Dr. Trusk whose major responsibility will be to develop projects in connexion with the implementation of the various development plans. At the moment we have two United Nations staff members who are making invaluable contributions in our development planning efforts. With their assistance, the Trust Territory has published the first issue of a Bulletin of Statistics and various surveys and censuses are in progress or being planned. While the immediate product of those various efforts is of immense value, a more critical contribution on the part of those United Nations experts and advisers has been and will continue to be the training of Micronesians who will carry on the work after the advisers leave Micronesia.

Action has been initiated also to resolve the long-standing matter of the indefinite land-use agreements, which exist primarily in the Truk and Marshall Islands districts. In 1977 the Under-Secretary of the Interior established a study commission consisting of representatives of the Congress of Micronesia, the Trust Territory Government Executive Branch and the Department of the Interior. The Commission unanimously agreed on procedures and actions by which agreements could be arrived at between the land-owners and the Governments concerning the use of the land involved. The first step, namely, securing appraisals of all the parcels of land involved, has been initiated.

Perhaps the major contribution the Administration can make to the future economic development of Micronesia, in addition to whatever development assistance may be included in the relationship arrangement between the Government

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of Micronesia and the United States, is the establishment of the necessary infrastructure to permit the development and growth of the private sector and attract foreign investment. In this connexion, I should like to report on developments in the Capital Improvement Programme (CIP). It is the policy of the Administration, as I stated last year, to put in place a viable infrastructure for all the districts prior to the termination of the Trusteeship.

In the immediately recent past, attention had been directed towards the basic infrastructure requirements of the outer islands of Micronesia. I have presented to the Department of the Interior a preliminary briefing document for proposed second-level CIP programmes for those islands and atolls which are outside the district centres. The proposed programme is to utilize the remaining years of the Trusteeship to develop, fund and initiate the construction of the basic amenities of life in the outer islands and to provide a greater opportunity for economic development for their inhabitants. Projects include facilities for drinking-water, pit toilets, radio communications, dispensaries, classrooms and sea-walls. The programme also includes power facilities, docks, airstrips, roads, copra warehouses, freezing facilities and special equipment for other types of economic development. That programme would not duplicate the regular CIP programme being managed by the United States Navy Officer in Charge of Construction but would be an addition to it.

Parts of that infrastructure for the outer islands are designed to provide cargo and passenger service to all islands and atolls with sufficient population or productive capacity to warrant service. The intent is to incorporate into the existing field trip ship service and the existing commercial air service supplementary levels of service by smaller vessels and smaller commercial aircraft. The entire proposal is based on the premise that most of the over 50 per cent of the total Trust Territory population which lives and works on the atolls and islands outside the district centres must be more active and direct participants in and contributors to the economic, social and cultural life of the Trust Territory if the Trust Territory is to realize its full potential.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

The implementation of the regular Trust Territory CIP programme continues. The remaining portion of that programme which was started in fiscal year 1976 and is scheduled to be completed prior to the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement is estimated to cost a total of \$203.275 million. Over \$41 million of that amount was funded for fiscal years 1976 and 1977. In fiscal year 1978 over \$22 million were funded. All those figures include United States Federal assistance grants for sewer and airport projects as well. During fiscal year 1978, design will be completed in CIP projects involving roads, docks, airfields, marine resources, and water, sewer and electrical power systems estimated to cost over \$127 million.

Capital improvement projects recently awarded for construction will be advertised for bid during fiscal year 1978 totalling over \$49 million - also including docks, roads, airfields, hospitals, bridges, and water, sewer and electrical power systems. Capital improvement projects scheduled for completion in fiscal year 1978 total approximately \$14 million, including the types of facilities previously mentioned.

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In addition, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands became eligible, in fiscal year 1977, for construction grant funds under the Local Public Works Capital Development and Investment Programme of the United States Government, from which a grant of over \$6 million was received. These projects are all at present under construction, with completion scheduled for fiscal year 1979.

At this point I should like to mention the efforts of the Administering Authority to improve conditions on the island of Ebeye in the Marshall Islands District. We have presented to the Department of the Interior a briefing document on Ebeye with a proposal for a comprehensive approach to resolving the problems on that island.

The plan includes the renovation of housing units on Ebeye itself, the construction of some new public facilities and a civic centre, and the development of new settlement complexes on the nearby island of Gugeegue. Gugeegue will contain 250 housing units to relieve the population on Ebeye.

The Enewetak Clean-up Programme, under the direction of the Defence Nuclear Agency, is proceeding on schedule. The rehabilitation and resettlement aspects, which are being handled by the Department of the Interior and the Trust Territory Government, are also proceeding according to plan. The Defence Department Clean-up Programme, which runs for 30 months, has a completion date scheduled for April 1980. The rehabilitation and resettlement aspects also should be completed by that time, and the moving of the people should take place in 1980. There will be follow-up work required on the planting programme for a considerable period of time following return of the people of Enewetak to their home atoll.

The United States Congress has provided for this purpose \$20 million to the Defence Department for the Clean-up Programme, in addition to authorizing the use of Defence Department military forces resources. Additionally, the United States Congress has granted \$12.4 million to the Department of the Interior and to the Trust Territory Government for the resettlement and rehabilitation programme.

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Recently, the 1968-1969 recommendations that the island of Bikini could be used for residential and agricultural purposes have had to be modified in the light of recent analysis of the recycling of radionuclides by agricultural products from the soil of Bikini island. Although it would be possible for the people to live on Bikini island if they followed stringent stipulations - such as growing and eating no local agricultural food, not using ground water, etc., it has been decided that normal community life cannot be carried on on the island of Bikini under such stringent prohibitions.

The Congress of the United States has before it a \$15 million rehabilitation and resettlement proposal which sets forth possible alternatives for resettlement, excluding, for the present, the island of Bikini. The most feasible alternative at present under study is that of the use of other islands in the Bikini atoll, plus the rehabilitation of Kili island for those who wish to remain there. The island of Enyu, some 10 miles from Bikini island, is being most carefully considered as a possible relocation site.

In the area of transportation, on 4 April of this year, the Trust Territory took delivery of the first two of the seven new ships which will replace our aging fleet. The seventh ship is scheduled for delivery on 20 March 1979.

Still with respect to transportation and capital improvement projects, in Truk a contract for the \$19 million airport improvement project was awarded on 31 March of this year. When completed, the new Truk International Airport will be equipped for all weather and night operations. The design of the new Kosrae Airport has been completed. In Palau, the \$21 million airport project underwent a 30 per cent design review and should be advertised for bids by 15 October 1978.

In the Marshalls, a \$4.5 million construction contract for a new wharf on Majuro was awarded on 30 December 1977, and in Yap District a similar contract was awarded on 20 January 1978 for a \$4 million wharf. Designs were completed for a new dock at Kosrae, and in Truk and Palau design work started on new wharf facilities.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

In education and health, the Administering Authority continues to respond to the needs of the Micronesians and to meet its responsibilities under the Trusteeship Agreement. On 7 April 1978, the new 35-bed Kosrae Hospital was occupied. In Ponape a new 116-bed hospital was dedicated on 20 April 1978. It is planned that this new hospital will develop into a teaching/referral institution, beginning in fiscal year 1980. In Yap, a new 50-bed hospital is scheduled for completion in September of this year, and in Palau a new out-patient building is due for completion in June of this year.

Highlighting developments in education in the Trust Territory during the year was the creation of the College of Micronesia. The College was created by legislation providing for the merger of the Community College of Micronesia, the Micronesian Occupational Centre and the Trust Territory School of Nursing. A Board of Regents was established which will be the policy-making and oversight body for the College, which, in turn, will be administered by a Chancellor to be appointed by the Board of Regents. The United States Congress has authorized up to \$8 million for the ultimate funding of such a college.

In June 1977 the Micronesian Occupational Centre was granted full accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. In March 1978, the Community College of Micronesia had its final accreditation visit, and hopes for full accreditation in June of this year.

All districts of the Territory increased efforts in teacher education in the light of the Micronesian Board of Education's promulgation of teacher certification regulations. Within five years, all teachers in the Territory must have acquired a two-year college degree.

The Micronesian Board of Education has called for plans from all District Education Departments and Boards of Education for the integration of academic and vocational programmes. Progress in this area is evidenced by efforts in the development of a secondary school curriculum in tropical agriculture, written in the Territory for use by Micronesian students and teachers.

(Mr. Winkel, Special Representative)

In January 1978, a consortium of the Trust Territory, the State of Hawaii and the University of Hawaii began operation of a Bilingual Materials Development Centre at the University of Hawaii. Ten Micronesian curriculum developers are working with Hawaiian curriculum developers, under the guidance of university language experts and with the assistance of graphic illustrators, to produce learning materials in English and the local languages of the Territory for use by Micronesian school children.

The United States Federal Government has funded a continuing programme in metric education whereby Micronesian children may be instructed in the metric system of measurement.

During the past year, one reference grammar and two dictionaries of the local languages of the Trust Territory were published. To date, five grammars and seven dictionaries of the indigenous languages of Micronesia have been published, and work is continuing on the remaining languages. Publication of these works makes possible the development of bilingual language arts material for use in the schools of the Territory.

That concludes my opening statement before this session of the Trusteeship Council. My colleagues from the Executive Branch and from the Congress of Micronesia and I are prepared and will be most happy to respond to any questions from the members of the Council on what we have reported, as well as on any other matters of interest to this Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I am sure members of the Council will have questions to put or will wish to seek clarification on his highly substantial statement.

I now call on Governor Camacho, the Special Representative.

Mr. CAMACHO (Special Representative): I am honoured to be here on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. Before I proceed, I would like to introduce my Special Adviser, who accompanies me, Mr. Vicente Santos, and I will give an opportunity to the President of the Senate to introduce the Special Advisers accompanying him.

(Mr. Camacho, Special Representative)

On 9 January 1978 the Northern Mariana Islands Government separated administratively from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I was inaugurated as the first Governor of that administrative unit; the flag of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was raised, and several hours later the first legislature of the new Government was convened. Thus, the people of those islands passed from a long and dark period of colonialism through a brief and productive period of transition and development into self-government and self-determination.

Appropriately, therefore, I come before this Council today with a sense of personal gratitude and profound respect. I come also, as spokesman for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands who would have members of this Council know that the Council's task of bringing them to political maturity and to an important decision has been discharged with honour. Shoulder to shoulder, we people of the Northern Mariana Islands stand before this Council, in the pride of accomplishment - the Council's accomplishment and our accomplishment - but also with the sadness of a young family member who has come to the point where natural events command him to stand on his own two feet and show himself worthy of his rearing and tutelage. In my inaugural address, I said to the Administering Authority, the Trust Territory Government:

"Please know that nothing much has changed between us except that we have changed our post office box number and have new letterhead stationery.

Let us continue to find ways for working profitably with each other.

And let me say that you are welcome to continue sharing this island with us".

Let me recount several events and attitudes that have led directly, step by step and rationally - I believe - to my being here today to make this acknowledgement.

There are two histories of the Northern Mariana Islands. There is an external history that has to do with world events and the complicated strategies of great Powers and their many great and bloody undertakings that have been documented in textbooks and that have made the term "Bloody Saipan" a household word in some areas. This history is well known to members of the Council and needs no further comment by me. There is also an internal history. This is the history of a subject people who have somehow kept internal faith among

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themselves through a series of four conquests, through the catastrophe of one of the most ferocious wars ever fought, through centuries of fifth-rate citizenship, forced labour, humiliation, beatings and even, at a remote time, an actual attempt at genocide. This is the history that no one knows thoroughly except those of us who have been nurtured on it and have lived through its recent times. It is the one that we citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands attend to, for it tells us who we are and it is the basis for our judgements.

What manner of people are we, you may ask? Our ancient history, almost indistinguishable from myth, speaks of valorous deeds akin, perhaps, to those of the ancient Greeks. Were we not the ones, for instance, who discovered that sling stones heated red-hot and slung at the invading forces' canoes would ignite their sails and repel their invasion? At least, that is what we told each other during our darkest moments of despair, and I suppose that it is as this kind of ingenious and self-sufficient people that we still see ourselves - even when external appearances show us as servants of a foreign Power.

I provide the Council with this background so that members will understand that the coming of the United Nations Trusteeship to the Northern Mariana Islands was a momentous event.

I reflect on these 30 years of trusteeship and see them, not as popular critics describe them - as a period of fumbling stewardship or of "betrayed trust" - but as a period when the scars and fatigue of 400 years of colonialism were effectively removed and replaced by a kind of confidence, aggressiveness and sheer exuberance that is strange in a thoroughly defeated subject people. It is as if direct continuity had been re-established with our pre-Magellan ancestors. If anyone doubts this transformation, let him come to the Northern Mariana Islands, attend any village meeting there and stand up and propose any contrary idea he may choose. I assure this Council that our people will listen politely and attentively, but someone - young or old, man or woman - will stand up and confound him with oratory worthy of a Chamorro or Carolinian Thomas Paine, with arguments that have been carefully thought out and organized, and with a kind of joy in having found a worthy opponent to confront. Truly, we have become an alert, politically astute and contentious people. The freedom, the degree of self-determination and the opportunities

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of commonwealth government fit these moods magnificently. No other choice is conceivable. I say this from my heart and with the deepest conviction. This was, as the Council knows, the overwhelming opinion of our electorate on 6 March 1977 when, by a majority of 93.2 per cent, a constitution was approved that assured this union.

For 400 years we have lived with four different colonialist Powers. We have intermarried with them, absorbed many of their words into our vocabulary and many of their foods into our diet. We have learnt their manners and their laws. Rhetorically, then, I ask, was ever a subject people so well prepared to make a selection of the one it wished to join in permanent and equal union?

Last year in this Council, Mr. Erwin Canham, Resident Commissioner of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands at that time, reported to its members:

"... the institutions of self-government are growing stronger in the Marianas every day.... Stewardship in operating the new government passes wholly into the hands of the constitutionally elected officials.... Their responsibilities will be heavy".

Encouragingly - and, I would like to believe, with prophetic discernment - he added:

"But a generation of very talented public officials has come into being. I am encouraged by their capacity to make decisions for themselves and to turn to expert professional help when it is needed". (T/PV.1460, p. 47)

I reread those words with humility and look over our record and find some areas in which we have not yet fulfilled Mr. Canham's expectations, and other areas where I think we need not apologize. I think that the over-all attitude is that the economy is moving, that new opportunities are appearing and that developments are at hand. This is reflected in the number of entrepreneurs who visit us every month, urging new projects in fisheries, small industries, agriculture and entertainments, and offering, oftentimes, solid sources of financial support.

I think that it would be appropriate at this time to present plans for various extensive developments, especially those involving improved health care and educational facilities, but this would require more time than seems appropriate. Instead I am offering to members copies of my inaugural address in which I have elaborated on these matters.

(Mr. Camacho, Special Representative)

I foresee the need for continued and intensive training for those involved in health, educational and cultural activities, and I hope that we may continue to participate in those programmes which we have learnt to depend on and to work with. I am thinking of such programmes as those provided under the auspices of the World Health Organization as well as of several United Nations Member Governments. These, in the past, have offered a variety of scholarships and other forms of technical assistance.

I would call to the attention of members of the Council the matter of unresolved war claims from the Second World War that are still with us and that disturb us. These claims go back 34 years, and many worthy claimants have died while waiting and can no longer be compensated. Technical matters and disagreements between the Governments of the United States and Japan are delaying a solution. This matter has been discussed in detail many times. I am bringing it up again because the delay is incomprehensible to our people, who are beginning to question the good faith of the parties to the negotiations.

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Representative)

I commented earlier on the extensive developments that are already taking place or are being planned. I should like to make a further comment on them at this time. These changes in themselves are stunning, but they are external trappings. They document the favourable upturn of our temporal fortunes, but they tell little of the satisfaction, or lack of satisfaction, that we find in them; and they tell nothing at all of the serious dangers of acculturation that they may herald. Let me assure the Council that we are not blind to these dangers. We know that when we first exercised our right to self-determination we assumed the full weight of this responsibility; and whenever two of us meet we are apt to be speaking and warning each other of the cultural damage that various projects may cause. Fortunately we are blessed with the advantage of vast historical perspective, which the present developed nations did not have when they were at our stage of development. We are heir, with hindsight, to their failures, their false starts and their successes, and we must put this information to good use. Moreover, we are a backward-looking people, and we are a forward-looking people, and we move easily from veneration of an ancient heritage to the planning of a pragmatic future.

Manpower development under the Trusteeship, as Mr. Canham has noted, is a priority, and is continuing. A measure of the success of this priority is shown by the fact that a sizable number of positions of leadership in government departments and business are filled by local citizens, and that they are performing their jobs just as efficiently as did their predecessors. New construction is altering the face of Saipan and there is little left of the Quonset ghetto that once shocked our visitors. A tourist industry is now firmly established; plans are afoot for improvements in agriculture and fisheries, and for the development of small industries, and the dream of ultimate self-sufficiency no longer seems beyond our realization.

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Self-determination carries with it responsibility for more than commercial developments. It carries with it the responsibility for maintaining a cultural heritage and identity, and for adapting their verities to current changes. With this in mind I will conclude my remarks to the Council by paraphrasing a section of my inaugural message.

Each generation is charged with the responsibility of maintaining continuity between its past and its future. Now it is our turn. The responsibility is heavy on us, for in just one generation we must establish continuity between simple island life and complex twentieth-century technology. Soberly and with full recognition of our recent history I pray that the new Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as it struggles to fulfil its expectations, will be remembered by you of the United Nations as a worthy stepchild which has matured successfully under your guidance.

Mr. President, I thank you for this opportunity to be a part of the United States delegation and to appear before the Council. Again, my congratulations and best wishes on your election to the presidency.

I have brought with me the new Northern Mariana flag and, on behalf of the people, the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands and the legislature, I should like to present it to you at this time.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank Governor Camacho, Special Representative, for his kind words about me. I also thank him on behalf of the Council for having been kind enough to offer copies of both his curriculum vitae and his inaugural address. These documents will be preserved in the records of the Trusteeship Council. I believe that each delegation has received a copy and can study it at leisure.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.