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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 5 February 1958, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Mr. ARENALES CATALAN

(Guatemala)

Conditions in Ruanda-Urundi /4b and 6b/ (continued)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.852 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEMS 4b and 6b

CONDITIONS IN RUANDA-URUNDI:

- (a) EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF RUANDA-URUNDI FOR 1956 (T/1338, 1352; T/L.810)
- (b) REPORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO TRUST TERRITORIES IN EAST AFRICA (1957): REPORT ON RUANDA-URUNDI (T/1346)(continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Leroy, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi, took a place at the Council table.

Economic advancement (continued)

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I should like to pursue the line of questioning begun yesterday by the representative of Burma when he addressed a few questions to the special representative on the ordinary budget of the Territory. I think it is the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi who is reported to have said that the budgetary situation showed dangerously increasing deficits. On page 341 of the annual report we find a tabulated statement which shows total expenditure from 1952 until 1957, and we see that this expenditure is steadily rising under all headings. The figures for 1956 and 1957 appear to be contrasting rather more than the figures for the earlier years. For instance, estimated expenditure for 1956 was some 746 million francs and that for 1957 920 million francs. Are there any specific reasons for this sudden rise in the estimated expenditure, or is it due to the general rise in costs?

I wonder if the special representative could give us his observation on this matter, and while on this particular question I should like to draw his attention to page 335 of the annual report where, under item 40, we find the expenditure incurred on subsidies to various missionary societies. There we see that in 1956 the estimated subsidies to these missionary societies amounted to some 100 million francs, whereas in 1957 they were estimated at 126 million francs. That is a sudden increase of about 26 million francs. Perhaps there are certain special reasons for this sudden increase in the annual subsidies, and I would appreciate some clarification of this point also.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): As surmised by the representative of India, the picture provided by the budget derives from an increasing cost of services and material, but it results also from the considerable expenditures undertaken during the past three years in the field of education. The Visiting Mission, in its report, pointed out that in 1958 expenditure on education would amount to 22 per cent of the ordinary budget. That is a considerable part of the budget and represents just about the maximum outlay which can be borne by any State for purposes of education in relation to expenditure as a whole.

Subsidies to missions -- again for education -- have increased because many new classes have been opened and because many existing schools have been expanded. The Council knows, and the Visiting Mission has emphasized in its report, that the State subsidizes all schools which are opened by the missions, there being a tacit agreement under which the missions do not open more schools or classes than suggested to them by the State, bearing in mind the budgetary burden which the State can bear. This would explain the situation in the budgetary field referred to by the representative of India.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My next series of questions concerns the ten-year development plan. As we know, this plan is being financed by annual interest-free loans of 400 million francs since 1952. We know that the cost of the implementation of this plan was heavier than originally estimated because of the rise in the costs of the services and also because of the rise in prices generally. Because of this increase in costs, was it not necessary at any time to increase the actual subsidy itself? On the other hand, I find that despite the increase in costs and services, the subsidy has remained more or less uniform since 1952.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): This subsidy is already a very generous one from the point of view of the Administering Authority. To make available to the Territory a loan of 400 million francs, that is, \$3 million per annum, interest free, with very little hope being harboured of ever receiving this money back, is, it seems to me, a rather liberal gesture on the part of the Administering Authority. I pointed out earlier that in 1958 this subsidy would in all probability be increased to 600 million francs, or \$12 million. I cannot commit Belgium to take similar decisions in the ensuing years. It may be that our Treasury, in 1959 or 1960, may compel us to return to the original subsidy which amounted to 400 million francs.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): This annual loan of 400 million francs, as far as I can see from the documents, has been used to strengthen the infrastructure of the country's economy; that is, it has been spent on matters like public works, communications, transport etc. I should like to know what effect this has had on increasing the general productivity of the Territory, and also, consequently, what effect it has had on increasing the public revenues of the Territory.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): It would be extremely difficult to give the amount of revenue for any territory and

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to assess the results of State participation in such expenditures. When millions are expended to build a road, it is very difficult to determine what will be the increase in revenue accruing to the territory as a result of the building of this road. To make any such assessment it would be necessary to have very complex and comprehensive sources of information. Even so, it might still be rather difficult to define such a relationship.

In some cases, however, the results were more evident. In 1956 and in 1957 the Administration used aeroplanes to spray insecticides over the cotton fields. The result was to bring about a substantial increase in production per hectare, as I pointed out, since it increased in certain areas to 957 kilogrammes per hectare and on the average to 824 kilogrammes per hectare, for an average harvest of approximately 650 kilogrammes. I think I mentioned this figure in my initial statement.

Another result was to be found in the campaign of pruning the coffee bushes. Thanks to favourable atmospheric conditions, the coffee production increased from 16,000 to 18,000 tons in 1957. The same results might be found if one were to take other aspects of the production of the country. But to calculate the exact results to be obtained by investment would, may I say, call for extremely complex calculations, and I do not think that the Administration of Ruanda-Urundi could provide any such figures at the present time.

Mr. CIAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I would like to call the attention of the representative of India to the fact that one can have an idea of the indirect impact of the road network by calculating the duties levied on an egress from the Territory. They are mentioned in the budget, and from 1956 to 1957 they increased from 85 million francs to 127 million francs. This is a budgetary revenue and shows an extension in public prosperity which goes along the general development of the infrastructure and the improvement in the transportation medium made available to the community.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I appreciate the difficulties involved in finding a precise answer to my somewhat general question. I do recognize, at the same time, that the revenues of the Territory have been increasing during the last five or six years since the implementation of the plan had actually begun and I was hoping that economists might have been able to assess what impact the implementation of the plan had directly on increasing the revenues of the Territory. However, I think that this is a point which would be of considerable interest to us in the years to come, because I am sure that the Administering Authority itself would like to know what is the relationship between the implementation of the plan and its repercussions on the ordinary revenues of the Territory.

The representative of Belgium referred just now to the development of communications and the effect that it has on the flow of goods into the Territory and outside the Territory. I think that yesterday the representative of Burma referred to the problem of the collection of customs duties. It seems to me that the improvement of Ruanda-Urundi's communications may lead, on the other hand, to an increase in the customs duties of the Belgian Congo, which at the moment are not recouped by Ruanda-Urundi. I think the special representative said that this was a question which was being considered by some special committee in the Territory.

These are some general comments which I have to make at this stage. My next question concerns the annual loan. I may preface my question by commending the Administering Authority for its very generous gesture of granting this Territory an annual loan of 400 million francs. But I should be grateful if the representative of Belgium could tell me why annual subsidies are treated as a loan and not as an outright grant. Since the development of the Trust Territory is a responsibility voluntarily assumed by the Administering Member, I should have thought that developmental expenditure of this kind would ordinarily be covered by grants and not by loans.

I have in mind, for instance, the British Colonial Development Welfare Fund which makes grants for development purposes to the various colonies and Trust Territories.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The question raised by the representative of India seems to stem from a somewhat special concept of certain words, especially the words grant, loan without interest or subsidy without interest. Whatever the name, the procedure is the same. In the mind of the Belgian Government, the purpose is to attract the attention of native opinion, and it is better not to use a word which might imply generosity or charity on the part of the Administering Authority. That is something they do not like and we do not want it. It is quite normal that these sums should not be forgotten and that they should be regarded in the light of what they actually are, namely, advances without interest for a given period of time and not a mere act of charity.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I am grateful to the representative of Belgium for this clarification.

My next question arises from a remark made by the special representative in the course of his opening statement. Referring to the mining industry, he said, "the position of the mining industry, on the other hand, is much less satisfactory. The quota system for the production of tin...". Could the special representative clarify this quota system? What is it and how does it operate, particularly in regard to the production of tin?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I do not have specific information to state here because these factors are due to the general condition of the world tin market. This is not related to local measures taken in Africa or in Ruanda-Urundi. I am not very well informed as to how these international market organizations operate. I do know that the tin producers in Ruanda-Urundi were invited by their Belgian administrations, following international conversations, to restrict their production and exports. This placed them in a difficult position and several industries closed down because they could not export their produce.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My next question stems from a statement attributed to the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi. It is stated in the Secretariat working paper that the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi has said that the Territory should proceed resolutely along the path of industrialization. I think the representative of the

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Soviet Union put a few questions in this regard, but my questions are somewhat different from his. I should like to know what industries the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi had in mind when he made this statement. Are they, for instance, secondary industries which are based on the primary produce of the Territory, or are they primary industries themselves? I ask this question because it is said that the prospects for the mining industry are not believed to be bright. Yesterday the special representative stated that ~~industrial development may be mainly in the hands of private enterprise~~. While I agree with him, I do feel that at the same time some guidance on industrial prospects and incentive may have to be given by the Government itself. Can the special representative throw any additional light as to the lines along which this industrialization will progress?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): As the representative of Belgium pointed out yesterday, the Administration as such is not establishing industries. It is not setting up industries itself, with the exception of engaging in certain spade work activities. I have stated, for example, that the Administration would shortly set up a tea plant with a view to encouraging the planting and cultivation of tea in the northwestern part of the Territory. The Administration has concentrated its efforts essentially in this field on electrification. Several industries had planned on extending their activities in the Territory but had to abandon them because there was insufficient power.

As regards the nature of the various industries involved, it is obvious that this depends largely on private initiative and on the chance of success in protecting their investments. A sugar industry has come to the Territory. Several breweries have been built. We have textile industries, metallurgical plants, soap plants and oil extraction plants. These are the principal activities in this connexion, and their further development can be foreseen.

I have already mentioned that we hope to have a meat industry, and perhaps a hide tanning industry. However, the results so far have not been very encouraging. The statistical data in the report give detailed information on what we have in the Territory to date. Those which I have mentioned I believe are the most important of those in the Territory.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): Paragraph 127 of the report of the Visiting Mission states that the Governor has said that the most important question for the future of Ruanda-Urundi was not that of obtaining foreign capital but rather the thorough and systematic remodelling of present methods for developing the country's natural resources. I wonder how the Government of the Territory proposes to go about remodelling the present system. Will a national survey be undertaken or is it intended to set up a type of committee or commission to examine the economic structure and to recommend changes? I would appreciate some clarification of this statement made by the Governor.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

The Administration at the present time is placing much hope in two institutions, and the Visiting Mission has spoken of them in its report. They are, first of all, the rural engineering brigades which are studying means for improving the agriculture of the country, especially as regards the water problem. These rural engineering brigades are going to study hydrography, the particular problems of each region, the possibility of building dams, of drainage and irrigation. Another institution is the so-called pilot sectors which were mentioned in earlier years and which are experiments that are undertaken in order to study problems, questions of balance in a region between the resources of an area, the number of heads of cattle, the water situation and the qualities of the soil. It is chiefly in those two institutions which are carrying out scientific research that the Government is placing its hopes for the development of the economy of the Territory.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My last question concerns the European Common Market. As we know, this new arrangement envisages an investment fund. I wonder if the special representative or the representative of Belgium could tell us now what Ruanda-Urundi is likely to receive from this fund. If they do not have the information now, I shall not press my question, but I was hoping that they might have considered this matter and that they might have reached certain tentative conclusions.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): To my knowledge, so far no special steps have been taken along the lines suggested by the representative of India.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): My first question with regard to economic affairs refers to budgetary matters. Would the special representative be kind enough to turn to page 380 of the annual report submitted by the Administering Authority. In accordance with the table which appears on page 380, as between 1926 and 1955 there was a total surplus in the budget of 433,277,659.48 francs. From 1956 onward, the budget was a deficit budget. Could the special representative tell me whether the surplus thus

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accumulated has served to cover subsequent deficits and, if so, whether anything still remains of that accumulated surplus? My delegation would like to know what use has been made of these sums which were accumulated in past surplus budgets. Were they used to cover ordinary parts of the budget or were they transferred to the extraordinary budget for economic development of the Territory?

Mr. IEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Since 1955, the budgets of the Territory -- and in particular the ordinary budget which is mentioned here -- have been deficit budgets, and the surpluses in previous budgets have now been absorbed. In 1958, as I stated earlier, Belgium will have to make a further advance of 125 million francs in order to balance this regular budget. Therefore, this fortunate situation of the budgets from 1926 through 1955 has now been absorbed by, I repeat, and in a large part, social expenditures and by education.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): The ten-year plan provides us with a good example of a plan having intermediate target dates and final target dates. It contemplates various types of development of the economy, certain things which are to be used for the economic infrastructure, and other things to foster economic development in the country such as the purchase of equipment, the improvement of the social situation and other related objectives. It is our understanding that this plan is under review. The Visiting Mission, in paragraph 122 of its report, refers to the fact that the Administering Authority plans to give priority to productive investments so as to resolve the danger of a recurrent deficit in the budget. Could the special representative tell us in greater detail what these productive investments are that the Administering Authority has in mind?

Mr. IEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The social expenditures in Ruanda-Urundi at the present time have reached such a scale that it is no longer possible to envisage their further increase. Twenty-two per cent of these expenditures are devoted to education, 16 per cent to medical services; there are also other expenses for other social services such as, for example, the labour inspection service, the unskilled workers service,

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the services devoted to indigenous affairs in general. Now we note that in spite of this considerable proportion allotted there, we are not succeeding, especially in the field of education, in satisfying even half of the requirements of the Territory. The Administration was thus obliged to concentrate its future efforts on economic investments which would increase income and which would improve the economic structure of the Territory.

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The experts of the International Bank have visited the Territory several times. Their studies have led to the conclusion that expenditures for the road network specifically and for harbour installations would have a greater chance of success and would be more remunerative than other expenditures. It was for that reason that the loan was entered into. That is also why the present efforts are being largely devoted to economically viable projects.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): With regard to the loan of \$4.8 million which was secured by the Administration from the International Bank various questions have already been put to the special representative. To complement these questions, I should like to find out whether these negotiations with the Bank have already been completed.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): To my knowledge, yes.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): The Administering Authority intends to promote industrialization in Ruanda-Urundi, particularly by means of prospecting for mineral resources and for natural sources of hydro-electric power. This is mentioned in paragraph 127 of the Visiting Mission's report. We know, moreover, that there is abundant manpower available in the Territory and that cotton is also produced there.

My delegation would like to know whether any interest has been shown in the Territory in and whether the Administration plans to promote the establishment of a cotton-milling industry, bearing in mind that this is one of the most important aspects of the import picture if we study the trade patterns of the Territory.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The Administration has given thought to the situation. There exist textile plant in the Territory. I recall, for instance, a plant that produces blankets. Then there are a number of other textile plants in Albertville in the Belgian Congo close to Ruanda-Urundi. As you know, there are no customs barriers between the two Territories.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Does the special representative feel that with an expansion of these cotton textile industries it will be possible to reduce the level of imports, as cotton represents 9.3 per cent of all total imports by Ruanda-Urundi from the Belgian Congo?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I cannot give a definite answer to this question. The imports from the Belgian Congo have no nefarious effects on the economy of the Territory since, as I said, there are no customs barriers between the two countries.

I forgot to mention in my reply to the last question of the representative of Guatemala that the textile combine in Albertville has branches and different branch workshops in Ruanda-Urundi, especially in Usumbura. We see -- and this is, I think, the reason for the large number of imports by Ruanda-Urundi -- considerable interest on the part of the indigenous inhabitants for Japanese textiles. The import of these textiles into the Territory is restricted, but nevertheless they come in. Some are smuggled in, particularly from Uganda and Tanganyika.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): A few moments ago, I called attention to the fact that the Administering Authority has expressed an interest in increasing the industrialization of the Territory so as to provide a wider fiscal basis. In the Belgian Congo there are a large number of industries and the economy of that Territory seems to be much more dynamic than that of Ruanda-Urundi. Under these circumstances, can the special representative tell us whether the customs union between the two territories may not act as an obstacle to the industrialization of Ruanda-Urundi and the bolstering of its economy?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The customs union certainly cannot represent an obstacle to the industrialization of Ruanda-Urundi. The two territories, the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi,

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are under Belgian administration and that administration will certainly not take the trouble to create artificial rivalries between the territories, which would be tantamount to cutting off one's nose to spite one's face. The industrialization of the Territory and its economic development result from the economic potential of the Territory itself. The representative of Guatemala took note of the view expressed by the Visiting Mission that the Administration was devoting its attention to the electrification of the Territory and to mining exploration. I must make a reservation here. We are very much in favour -- as much as possible -- of the electrification of the Territory. However, it would seem to us that the sub-soil of Ruanda-Urundi, even though it is still insufficiently surveyed, unfortunately does not offer the possibility of very many pleasant surprises. The only thought is that rare ores can be found in small quantities and can be economically exploited. But for the time being we have no such indications.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I had planned at a later stage to put a question in connexion with hydro-electric plants. Since the special representative has now touched upon this matter, I would like to ask him for what reason the Administering Authority now proposes to establish various hydro-electric plants in the Territory rather than one or two main plants which could meet the requirements of the whole Territory.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): This is a question which has been discussed at length by experts, engineers, technicians and electric power companies. There is no doubt that the Ruzizi River, which runs from Lake Kivu to Lake Tanganyika, will be able to supply all of the electric power which the Territory may require, whatever its subsequent development over a period of many years. However, the building of several dams on the Ruzizi River and the powerful plants will need very large investments indeed and considerable work.

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That is why, while reserving our decision to undertake these installations, it was decided to set up two smaller plants which would satisfy the present requirements pending the establishment of larger plants on the Ruzizi River. Such is the situation; and, as the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi pointed out to the Mission, it is only a question of months before the Taruka power plant will go into operation. If I remember correctly, the Governor mentioned the date of November-December 1958. The Mission, I read in the report, was "glad to learn that a hydroelectric plant... will be supplying Usumbura by December 1958 and, unless the plans for the construction of the Taruka plant are delayed, the chief mining areas of Ruanda will also have a source of power in August 1959".

(T/1346, paragraph 205)

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I return now to the original order of my questions. Paragraphs 133 and 134 of the report of the Visiting Mission mention the fact that, apparently, there are certain unfavourable circumstances for Ruanda-Urundi stemming from its customs union with the Belgian Congo. The special representative has already replied to questions regarding certain aspects of this matter; however, there may be other points which call for clarification which, possibly, the special representative will be able to supply. Is there any system for providing compensation so as to credit Ruanda-Urundi for the value of import duties levied on goods coming from outside the Territory but purchased by Ruanda-Urundi in the Belgian Congo? I am referring to goods having already entered the domestic market of the Belgian Congo and being later exported from the Congo to Ruanda-Urundi.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): If the merchandise being exported from the Belgian Congo to Ruanda-Urundi has been imported from abroad into the Belgian Congo, although no further charge is levied, it goes to Ruanda-Urundi, and that is what was stressed by some members of the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi. But there is some merchandise that comes into Ruanda-Urundi from, for example, Dar-es-Salaam, and which is sent from Ruanda-Urundi to the Belgian Congo. On this, Ruanda-Urundi charges dues that are not reimbursed to the Belgian Congo. Here there is a sort of inter-play of compensation and, if it were possible to ascertain the exact situation, it is not at all certain that Ruanda-Urundi benefits from it.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): As the special representative pointed out, one can discuss endlessly whether the balance of the present regime gives a few millions to Ruanda-Urundi, or whether it plays in favour of the Belgian Congo. But what is certain is that, in the future, the economic union with the Belgian Congo, or with any other larger economic unit, will not be to the detriment of Ruanda Urundi. What could be to its detriment would be its economic isolation. Ruanda-Urundi, we hope, will have an industrial future, thanks to its numerous population. When I was in Ruanda-Urundi, I intervened in order to encourage textile industry, for example, and the textile industries in Albertville moved some of their plants into Usumbura. This is the beginning of a move, but if it proceeds as we hope -- as is now the case with textiles and sugar -- it will be a mortal danger for Ruanda-Urundi to close itself in within its own borders; by setting up a barrier between Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo as regards these imported goods, obviously that barrier would also affect the goods which it produces. Since Ruanda-Urundi has a dense population, obviously it should be industrialized, subject, of course, to existing raw materials. But such industrial future can only be envisaged from the point of view of an association with a broader market to which the industrial goods could be exported. Therefore, it would be extremely dangerous to look at this problem of dues in an isolated manner, or a rather petty manner, if I may say so, without taking into account the larger interests of the Territory which are, of course, involved here.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): As stated by the representative of Belgium, it may well be that the core of the whole problem depends on the speedy industrialization of Ruanda-Urundi so that the value of this trade may redound in favour of Ruanda-Urundi.

There is another point on which I would appreciate some clarification. According to the data in the annual report, particularly the tables on pages 404, 405, 410 and 411, we note that there is an unfavourable balance of trade as between Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo -- unfavourable, that is, to Ruanda-Urundi. Moreover, the consumer in Ruanda-Urundi seems to pay certain taxes for goods produced in the Belgian Congo. Could the special representative tell us what is the situation in this respect? Are all these matters at present under examination, and what measures does the Budgetary Committee of the General Council advise to remedy the situation?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I do not quite understand the purpose of this question by the representative of Guatemala. The Belgian Congo, being a huge country and one which was in contact with the Belgian Administration far longer than Ruanda-Urundi, is therefore more highly developed industrially. As the Council knows, it also has more resources than Ruanda-Urundi possesses. Therefore, it is understandable that Ruanda-Urundi should supply itself from the Belgian Congo in a number of cases. I therefore do not quite understand the reference to a production tax. I think that this question should be elucidated by the representative of Guatemala before I can really answer it usefully.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I was referring to certain aspects which are covered in paragraph 133 of the report of the Visiting Mission. What I had in mind in particular is a sentence which reads:

"He believed that to this loss should be added the loss resulting from the levying, to the benefit of the Belgian Congo, of excise duties on goods bought by Ruanda-Urundi ...".

Mr. CLAEYS BOUJAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): This is a very simple problem. Here, again, the representative of Guatemala was referring to the views of the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi, which, in order to promote the budgetary integration of Ruanda-Urundi with the Belgian Congo, had complained in a rather unilateral way of the advantages which the Belgian Congo was deriving from the fact that the Ruanda-Urundi market is associated with it without customs frontiers or boundaries. But I would say, as I said before, that, on the contrary, we regard this association as necessary. We would like to reverse the trend. Because of the more numerous population of Ruanda-Urundi, we think that Ruanda-Urundi should become an industrial basis, a processing centre for some of the goods that will be consumed by the Belgian Congo. This is not the case yet because, for historical reasons, the Belgian Congo was more advanced in industry than the Territory was until now. But this situation is changing. Ruanda-Urundi,

(Mr. Claeys Bouuaert, Belgium)

for instance, used to import a certain quantity of beer each year. Until 1956, this beer was produced in the Belgian Congo and there was an excise tax on this beer which benefited the budget of the Belgian Congo. In 1957, thanks to interventions where the initiative of the Administration is not extraneous, a brewery came to the Territory, and Ruanda-Urundi is importing far less beer from the Belgian Congo. Soon it may be able to export beer to the Congo, and then the excise taxes, which until now were paid to the budget of the Belgian Congo, will benefit the budget of Ruanda-Urundi. The same applies to sugar, and that is the reason why we are favouring the establishment of a sugar mill and of a textile mill in the Territory.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I am extremely grateful to the representative of Belgium for the clarification he has just provided. I feel sure that he will appreciate how pleased we are to hear that the Administering Authority intends to have Ruanda-Urundi play a predominant role in the economy of both Territories. I feel sure that he will fully understand our concern when we read, for instance, paragraph 216 of the report of the Visiting Mission. In that paragraph, we have the reproduction of a statement made by a Visiting Mission in 1950, a statement to the effect that, because of the density of the population of Ruanda-Urundi, it will in future be an industrial centre which will supply other parts of the area. None the less, the 1957 Visiting Mission has this to say:

"The Mission recalls that since these lines were written (about 1950), the indigenous population has increased from 3,808,151 (at the end of 1949) to 4,415,595 (at the end of 1956), an increase of 607,404, or nearly 16 per cent, whereas" --

and this is the point which gave rise to my concern --

"industrial progress has been negligible, and the import of primary products for processing from neighbouring territories and the creation of a highly specialized working force are apparently far from becoming realities."

The statements made by the representative of Belgium have cast light on this problem, and my delegation is certainly confident that a new trend toward an increased industrialization of the Territory has already become apparent.

(Mr. Rolz Bennett, Guatemala)

I now go on to another question, which relates to coffee cultivation and the coffee industry. According to page 434 of the annual report, there are twenty-three establishments for the processing of coffee, of which two belong to Africans, nine to Belgians, and twelve to other residents of the Territory. I would be very grateful if the special representative were to tell us whether the two belonging to Africans belong to individuals, to companies or to co-operatives.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): These two plants belonged to co-operative societies at the end of 1956 -- and, as I said in my preliminary statement, these co-operatives are more numerous at present.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Could the special representative tell us whether these are producers' co-operatives or consumers' co-operatives -- industrial co-operatives, properly speaking?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): These are largely producers' co-operatives, but several of these societies are beginning to go further: they are beginning to process coffee. Some of them are even envisaging exporting coffee directly.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Also in connexion with the coffee industry, could the special representative tell us whether any interest has been shown in establishing an industry which would supply instant coffee or soluble coffee in the Territory?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I think the answer is "No" for the present. I have not heard of anything of the kind.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): In paragraphs 191 to 201 of its report the Visiting Mission makes various comments on the mineral resources of the Territory. We find that the Administering Authority is interested in supporting an expansion of the mining industry, but that as yet the geological and hydrological services seem not to have sufficient personnel and resources. It would seem that there are problems with regard to keeping personnel in these departments. Could the special representative comment on the suggestion made by the Visiting Mission in paragraph 201 to the effect that it is necessary to strengthen the geological service and to study the possibility of establishing a mining service similar to that existing in French Overseas Territories?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Before I reply to that question may I give the representative of Guatemala a few details which I have found here on the operation of three co-operatives. The three principal co-operatives that deal in coffee have now good equipment for picking, drying and washing coffee, valued in each case at an estimated 4 million francs. One of these co-operatives serves 11,000 planters, and the other two serve 5,000 planters each. They have organized regional assemblies and have set up a representative's agency. *over here*

With regard to the question which has just been put to me about mining resources in the Territory, the research that has been carried out hitherto does not seem to hold out great hopes. None the less, geological and hydrological teams have been established. One of the hydrological teams consists of four research workers who are operating in the eastern area of Ruanda, if I recall rightly, and a geological service which did not exist two years ago has now been established in Usumbura. As far as I know, it comprises three officials, and there is no intention to reduce the staff.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Finally, I should like to put a question with regard to the association of the Territory with the European Economic Community, and would be grateful for any information which the special representative -- or possibly the representative of Belgium -- could give me. First of all, I should like to ask whether the population in the

Territory has been consulted -- either directly or through the higher administrative bodies such as the General Council -- with regard to its association with the common European market.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): Such consultation has not yet taken place.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): Could the special representative tell us whether the General Council has received any information on this subject of association with the common market, and whether it has discussed the terms on which such association might be based?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): No. This subject did not appear on the agenda of the last General Council session.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): Lastly, in this connexion, I would be very grateful if the special representative could tell us whether the inhabitants of the Territory will take part in the executive bodies of the common market and, if so, what kind of participation theirs will be.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I do not think that the special representative is qualified to reply to that point. He is here to comment on the report for 1956 and on what may have happened since it was drafted, whereas the question just put to him comes within the competence of the Belgian authorities in Belgium, so that he is therefore not competent to reply.

Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I have no further questions. I am extremely grateful to the representative of Belgium and the special representative for the information they have been kind enough to give me.

Mr. KOCLANCICH (Italy)(interpretation from French): I read in paragraph 183 of the Visiting Mission's report that the solution of the problem of surplus cattle could be worked out in three distinct but concurrent shares - first of all, the division of the cattle, then destocking, and then, improvement of remaining livestock. Leaving aside the question of improvement, it would seem that the effect of the division of cattle has not been very significant. This seems to stress the importance of the second operation contemplated here, namely, destocking -- that is to say, the elimination of excess cattle and the absorption of their produce. I would therefore like further clarification from the special representative with regard to the circumstances which compel the Administering Authority to abandon the Ten-Year Plan with regard to the building up of a State institution for a meat industry which was mentioned in the last Visiting Mission's report.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): The administration of Ruanda-Urundi had expected very good results from the division of the cattle herds. We felt that this would make a large number of head of cattle available on the market. It was our feeling that the large cattle owners who, as the result of the abolition of the ubuhake, would find themselves owning very large herds would be unable to provide sufficient pasture for them, and would thus be more or less compelled to eliminate some cattle which would enter the consumer market. It is only from a secondary point of view that we thought in terms of a large scale action by the veterinary service to bring about destocking by actual elimination of excess cattle.

(Mr. Leroy, Special Representative)

Although the division of cattle in point of fact did affect a large number of heads of cattle -- between 350,000 and 400,000 heads of cattle in Ruanda alone -- the impact of this division on the market was less than had been anticipated. Moreover the usual increase in the number of cattle, together with the efforts made rather paradoxically by the Veterinarian Service in struggling against epidemics amongst cattle herds led to a situation in which the reduction in the number of heads of cattle was not as significant as had been hoped by the Administration.

As regards the second method, that of destocking, this is a method which in Ruanda-Urundi is rather delicate from a political point of view. As is known, cattle raisers and cattle owners are extremely attached to their cattle. It frequently happens that the owner of a single head of cattle, a native living in very modest circumstances, owns a rather uneconomic head of cattle which normally should be eliminated if we were to simply follow the rules of reason. But this would be a heavy burden upon those who are economically less fortunate.

That is why the Administration has always been reluctant to make such destocking compulsory and that is why even at the present time we are reluctant to do this. We encourage the disappearance and elimination of cattle heads which are not economically viable, but we do not make this compulsory in any systematic way.

That is why livestock in Ruanda-Urundi has not decreased in number as planned in the ten-year plan.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy)(interpretation from French): My second question refers to the problem of migration. In his preliminary remarks, the special representative told us that action was undertaken to open up to the immigrants from Ruanda-Urundi certain areas in the Katanga in the Belgian Congo. May I now ask the special representative if he could furnish a few more details in this connexion? I am saying this because in our belief migration is of great importance in the solution of demographic pressures in the Territory.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): This question is really a social matter rather than of economic scope. However, I have no objection to replying to it now. At the present time negotiations are under way with the Belgian Congo and with the indigenous authorities in the Belgian Congo, within whose province we find these specially populated areas. The transfer of a large number of persons represents a very delicate procedure and, as the Council will be aware, it calls for careful, very detailed and thorough-going preliminary spadework. This question is still in the study stage.

Mr. KOCLANCICH (Italy) (interpretation from French): If the special representative thinks that this question comes within the social field, I will be glad to postpone it until that time. I also have other questions of a strict economic nature. The next question relates to the advance of 400 million francs which the Belgian Parliament has been voting yearly since 1952. Several speakers before me have made reference to this loan. What I would like to know now is whether there has been any machinery envisaged for the reimbursement of this loan?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): As was explained earlier by the representative of Belgium, Belgium calls this a loan. This is a rather euphemistic term; actually we cannot really see how Ruanda-Urundi could reimburse this loan. I personally have great difficulty in seeing how this could be done. I think that the position of the Belgian Government must be the same because so far no machinery has been envisaged to deal with reimbursement.

Mr. KIANG (China): I have two groups of questions. Some of them fall in the category of co-operatives; a few other questions will fall in the category of land. I shall start with the co-operatives. Last year this Council was informed by the special representative that certain new legislation on the indigenous co-operatives had extended their life from five years to thirty years, and we also knew that the control of the administration over those co-operatives had been considerably reduced, leaving some important decisions for the approval of the Governor. Could the special representative tell us what sort of important decisions, if any, the Governor himself had to make in the past year?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Since this question of co-operatives may be raised by some other member of the Council, I think I might very briefly mention the way in which these co-operatives are organized. The twelve co-operatives at present are accredited in Ruanda-Urundi come under the Decree of 24 March 1956. Administration supervision over the co-operatives is exercised in the following fashion. Certain powers are specifically vested in the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi, such as the creation of the co-operative, approval for the choice of the manager of the co-operative, and the provisional advance which is granted by the State to these co-operatives.

A delegate from the Administration, usually an official from the Indigenous Affairs Office, is charged with protecting and guiding the co-operative movement. His control powers are unlimited and he has a right of veto on decisions taken by the manager, the directing board or the general assembly of the co-operative; that is, if any decisions are contrary to law, contrary to the status of the co-operative or against the interests of the association. There is an auditor who is an official of the government and who supervises the accounts.

(Mr. Leroy, Special Representative)

The co-operatives are administered by a manager and a directing board. The manager represents the co-operative in all judicial and extra-judicial cases. He is chosen by the administering board with the agreement of the Governor-General. The board is elected by the general assembly. It is empowered to add one or several technical advisers to its membership. The general assembly includes all the members of the co-operatives. Apart from approving the budget, it decides each year upon the distribution of eventual profits. In highly developed co-operatives, the general assembly is replaced by an office of representatives. Generally one general assembly is set up for each sub-chieftdom in the area. Each one elects a certain number of representatives -- it is usually one per 150 members. These in turn make up the office of representatives, which possesses all the powers of the general assembly.

I think this will give a sufficient picture of how the co-operatives operate under the decree of March 1956.

Mr. KIANG (China): I am grateful to the special representative for his general account of the co-operatives. I think at some future stage the question which I raised will also be answered, and I shall be content to wait until then.

It is very encouraging to note that the number of co-operatives has increased in 1956. To what extent have the Africans really understood or accepted the idea of co-operatives?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): A distinction must be made here. There are the producer co-operatives, such as the three which I mentioned earlier. These are of great interest to the producers of coffee and they are expanding. On the other hand, there are the consumer co-operatives, which are popular in the indigenous centres because they assist in stabilizing prices. However, the consumer co-operatives outside the extra-tribal centres, such as those in the mining centres, have received less interest. The indigenous inhabitants regard them more as a useful means of obtaining certain necessary goods and they are not particularly interested in their development. They do not look upon them in a broader perspective.

Mr. KIANG (China): In the light of this answer, could the special representative tell the Council the measures which the Administering Authority has taken so far in its continued efforts to encourage the co-operative movement.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Here once again I think we must bear in mind the two types of co-operatives. In the case of the coffee producers' co-operatives, the Administration has encouraged the co-operatives primarily by advancing funds and by appointing an official from the Indigenous Affairs Services who deals exclusively with co-operatives and promotes their activities. This official is looked upon very highly by the indigenous inhabitants and he works very closely with them. He is to a large extent responsible for the sound development of these co-operatives.

Mr. KIANG (China): I come now to the land problem. The Visiting Mission in its report gives an interesting account of the three types of agricultural projects now being carried out in the Trust Territory with a view to alleviating population pressure, to increasing production through better farming methods and to preserving the fertility of the land. I think it is not necessary to enumerate those three projects, particularly the indigenous agricultural settlements and the pilot sectors. Could the special representative state the rights the settlers enjoy in regard to the land on which they have settled?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): One must bear in mind the general land tenure situation in Africa, which can be summed up fairly briefly. A detailed explanation of the land tenure situation on the African continent would take up a considerable amount of time. I think the Council is sufficiently well informed to realize that the indigenous inhabitant has full rights over the land and its produce so long as he occupies and uses it. An abandoned piece of land becomes available for someone else. The situation is somewhat similar in the indigenous agricultural settlements (paysannats). The inhabitants are in the role of tenants. They do not have to fear eviction so long as they live on the land and use it. If they leave the land, the Administration naturally will allocate it to other inhabitants.

Mr. KIANG (China): I come now to another feature of the land problem which was treated in great detail in the report of the Visiting Mission, namely the Rural Engineering Mission. What stage has been reached in giving effect to the proposal of the Governor concerning the establishment of a Rural Engineering Mission, which I understand was submitted to the General Council at its last session?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): This brigade has been appointed and it is initiating its work; it has begun its studies. I am afraid that I cannot give any further or more precise information at this time.

Mr. KLANG (China): I am quite content with the answer just given to my question.

A moment ago the special representative referred to the general land question in Africa, and he was very modest in giving his answer to the first question I raised. I now come actually to this very general question in connexion with land.

When we come to the land problems in Ruanda-Urundi, first of all I must say that the Administering Authority deserves every word of praise for its having done so much in seeking ways and means to solve the land questions in the Territory which have such an unusual and unique character. And, as I have just said, the indigenous agricultural settlements and the pilot sectors experiment, together with rural engineering, are all in the right direction and their success, I am quite sure, will contribute immensely to the solution of land problems in that particular Territory. I may also say that they may serve as very good examples for other Territories having problems of a similar character.

The report of the Visiting Mission has given us to understand that a member of the High Council of Ruanda has proposed to make a study of the land situation in other countries such as in Uganda. I understand, of course, that this suggestion was not adopted by the Council except that it was agreed that documentary material should be obtained. This suggestion reminds me of the 1955 report of the Royal Commission on East Africa. I remember that I dealt with that report when we discussed the land problem in Tanganyika last year.

What I should like to know from the representative of Belgium or from the special representative -- I am sure both of them must be very familiar with the recommendations of that Commission -- is this: Has the Belgian Administering Authority found any recommendations of that Royal Commission on the land problem very pertinent and stimulating so far as the land problems in Ruanda-Urundi are concerned? As we all know -- we have read the report -- the Royal Commission dealt in great detail with the land problems in Uganda and also of course in Tanganyika and Kenya. I would be very grateful if the special representative would comment on this aspect of the question.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I can mention one present rather happy characteristic in Ruanda-Urundi. Two or two and a half years ago an official from Ruanda-Urundi who was extremely well acquainted with the local language, and who had very close contacts with all the chiefs and all the wise men in the hills, undertook to carry out a study together with the indigenous inhabitants on the question of land tenure in Ruanda. At the present time this official is completing this study. He is polishing up the drafting. This official has just been appointed to fill certain semi-diplomatic functions in Uganda and perhaps at a later stage in Kenya. One of his roles will be to keep in touch with a large number of Banyarwanda who have emigrated from Ruanda territory. Therefore, this official will have every opportunity to complete his study in the light of the documentation which he can secure in Uganda where he is at the present time. I cannot now prejudge the date when this report will be published, but I think that we can expect it in the rather near future.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We will now take our usual fifteen-minute recess.

The meeting was suspended at 4.15 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

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Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to follow up the questions asked about co-operatives by my friend, the representative of China. I am very interested in the development of the co-operative movement in Ruanda-Urundi. Can the special representative give us any information on the development of certain particular types of co-operatives, first of all in the sphere of fisheries and secondly in the sphere of farming? When I say "farming", I do not mean producers' marketing co-operatives. I appreciate, of course, that this is the most favourable form of co-operation for development in a country like Ruanda-Urundi or for that matter Tanganyika or, I think, for any other tropical African country. Co-operatives for the marketing of produce are probably the most favourable to develop, and I appreciate that these are the co-operatives which inevitably have made the most progress so far in Ruanda-Urundi.

What I am asking is whether there has been any progress first of all in co-operatives of fishermen and, if so, whether the special representative will be willing to give us any information on the progress made and the type of work undertaken; and secondly whether there have been any co-operatives with regard to farming, either for the production of cash crops or for any other purpose.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): To date, there have been no fishermen's co-operatives. As regards the other co-operatives, there are at present twelve co-operatives in Ruanda-Urundi. Of these, three are major co-operatives, such as I described earlier; they gather together coffee producers, are equipped with large installations for the cleaning, washing and drying of coffee and are very active indeed. Their membership is large.

Then we have co-operatives which buy up the coffee of the producers. There are two of them in the area of Ngozi. There are two other co-operatives located close to Usumbura in the area of Bubanza. Their purpose is to process the agricultural produce of their members. At present, the purpose of these co-operatives is limited to corn, manioc and palm oil. These two co-operatives propose to merge into a larger organization this year.

(Mr. Leroy,
Special Representative)

In addition, there exist five consumer co-operatives. One of them is located in Kigali, two in the mining areas of Georuanda and Semuki, a fourth in the Ngozi area and a fifth in the Nyanza area.

Furthermore, three other co-operatives are at present in the process of being established. There is one in Kisenyi which will be a consumers' co-operative affecting the workers of a mining company. Then there is an agricultural co-operative in Ngozi which has processed in 1957 100 tons of coffee and which is being run along the lines of the present coffee co-operatives. Finally, there is a co-operative in the chefferie of Muramvya in the area of the same name, which will also be a co-operative for the production of coffee.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to thank the special representative for that very informative answer. May I just make one further point. Am I right in thinking that these farmer co-operatives or co-operatives for marketing the produce and possibly for the common purchase of implements and other necessary machinery are not actually co-operatives for the cultivation of the land? In other words, I am asking whether there has been any co-operative in Ruanda-Urundi so far for the co-operative farming of the land.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): No, there are no co-operatives of this type.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to ask a question with regard to the processing of coffee. From what the special representative said in reply to an earlier question, I understand that there are two coffee-processing plants owned by co-operative societies. Am I right in thinking that the bulk of the coffee grown in Ruanda-Urundi is processed by plants under the control of what I might call a Government or State corporation? Or is it done by private enterprise? What proportion is done by co-operatives at the present stage, and does the special representative think that this proportion is likely to increase? I appreciate, of course, that there are different stages in processing and that the co-operative might start the process and that somebody else might continue it afterwards.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The first three co-operatives which I mentioned, and which are important groups, already have equipment for the shelling, washing and drying of coffee beans, but they have gone no further than that. After the coffee beans have been shelled, washed and dried, they are passed on to private plants in Usumbura and these plants do the sorting and conditioning that are required prior to export.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to ask some questions about land. May I say, first of all, in relation to what the representative of China said, that it seems to me that if anything is to be learned, it is at least as likely that we can learn from what is happening in Ruanda-Urundi as that those in Ruanda-Urundi can learn from what is happening in any neighbouring British Territories. I am delighted to hear that an official of Ruanda-Urundi is studying some of the things that are going on in East Africa, and if I am right in thinking that this official is Mr. Risdorf, whom I had the honour of meeting when I was in Ruanda-Urundi eighteen months ago, I am even more delighted.

If the number of questions asked about land in this Council are fewer in number than those on some other subjects, this may be due to theoretical obsessions about the priorities of economic development, or it may be due to the difficulties of the subject. There is no doubt whatever, I think, that by far the most important subject in Ruanda-Urundi, as in some neighbouring Territories at the present time, is the subject of land, and my delegation is extremely interested in the progress of the most remarkable studies which are being carried out at the present time in Ruanda-Urundi under the direction, ultimately, of the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi. Would the special representative be prepared to tell us anything -- and I realize that this is a pretty general question -- about the progress of the studies made in questions of land utilization, which may be at the root, I believe, of the whole economic development of Ruanda-Urundi? We have heard the representative of China refer both to the paysannats and to the pilot sectors. These are both extremely interesting experiments and studies, particularly the pilot sectors, and I should like to ask the special representative whether he has anything to say on this very important subject.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

The studies which are at present the most advanced are those which the agricultural services will undertake in connexion with the various pilot stations or experimental centres. They will study which lands are most appropriate for the growing of coffee. Research is being carried out also in the northwestern part of the Territory in order to see which lands there are suitable for growing tea. I think I might also point out that, earlier, these same services had studied the lands which were suitable for reafforestation. I mentioned this, I believe, several years ago to this Council.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Would the special representative be prepared to say how it is likely that tea production will be developed? Will this be done on plantations? Will it be done by peasants producing tea with expert advice and supervision? Or will it be done in some other way, and is it thought that this can be fitted into the customary methods of land tenure, the customs of the people and the availability of land?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

Up to now, individual European planters have been mainly engaged in the planting of tea, particularly since the decline in the quinine market. Many of these plantations had been planted with quinine trees, but with the appearance of synthetic drugs, these plantations have become no longer economically exploitable and, therefore, several European planters have tried to make a switch and to transform their quinine plantations into tea plantations. In the Shangugu territory, for example, tea seems to grow extremely well, and these plantations, therefore, could be extremely profitable. The Administration is eager to encourage the indigenous inhabitants to plant tea also. We do not know how these activities will proceed, but it is probable that it will be similar to the situation as regards coffee and cotton. They will be carried out on family or individual plantations.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Would the special representative agree with me that if this could be successfully established, it would be one of the most important things that could be done for the benefit of Ruanda-Urundi and might equally be of great interest for the development of neighbouring territories?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I, as well as the Administration, have some hopes regarding the cultivation of tea. Our studies have not gone far enough for us to know whether the soil will prove suitable for such cultivation, but in any event, we see in this the great advantage that it would mean a departure from a mono-crop economy. Only yesterday the representative of Guatemala reminded us of the danger of such an economy.

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Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): On page 1 of the Manifesto of the Bahutu the following statement appears: "...we would welcome a rapid growth of the trade union movement" -- I am not concerned with that for the moment -- "and efforts to assist and encourage the constitution of a strong middle class". This ties up with a lot of questions and answers which were given yesterday on the subject of political development. It may be that the growth of a strong propertied middle class in Ruanda-Urundi, as has been found elsewhere in many parts of the world, will conduce to the development of the country as a whole, and I should like to ask the special representative whether he can give us any information on the progress made in the evolution of a propertied middle class, and -- to make this question rather more precise -- to what extent the indigenous inhabitants of Ruanda-Urundi take part, first, in trading as individual traders, retailers or wholesalers; secondly, in transport -- and by that I mean transport particularly by trucks and lorries; thirdly, in crafts and industries; fourthly, in small mining operations; and fifthly, in any other ways which I have not specified and may not have thought of. I think this subject is a very important one indeed in a country as overpopulated as Ruanda-Urundi.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): During the course of the past few years, the activities of the indigenous middle class have been greatly expanded. An ever-growing number of indigenous inhabitants have been engaging in trade, small businesses, handicraft industries and so forth. There are a number of persons in transportation who own two or three trucks and who can provide transportation over the whole of Ruanda-Urundi.

On page 418, the report gives figures for 1956, statistics on the number of companies active in the Territory -- whether trade, agricultural or industrial companies, or companies having manifold activities. Since that time, this movement has shown a substantial development. One of the authors of the Manifesto of the Bahutu, Mr. Habyarimana, who has already been mentioned here and who is a member of the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi, is one striking example of this trend in the development of the middle class in Ruanda-Urundi.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Might I also ask whether the experience of the Administering Authority has suggested that there are any special ways in which the Government of the Territory can assist in this process of the development of an African middle class? In particular, has it been found necessary to provide special credit arrangements so that capital may be available in suitable quantities, under suitable conditions, for the kind of people whom the special representative has mentioned? Have there been any other ways in which the Government has felt it necessary to assist this movement, either by helping with advice or with transport or wholesale facilities or in any other way?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): The question of granting credits to indigenous business has been brought up frequently in the Council. Credit is primarily a banking matter, and financial institutions are rather unenthusiastic about advancing funds unless they are provided with sufficient security. The granting of credit facilities to indigenous inhabitants is as yet a question which it is rather difficult to resolve because it is a matter of relationships between private individuals. The State does not intervene

(Mr. Leroy, Special Representative)

except in the case of advances being made available to co-operatives which make it possible for these co-operatives to get under way and to survive during the first few years of operation. Advice and non-financial material assistance have always been given by the Government and Government officials whenever this proved possible, and especially whenever this was requested by the indigenous inhabitants. I do not think I can add anything more on this question.

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Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Arising out of that very interesting reply, might I ask whether the fact that, not only in Ruanda-Urundi but in all Territories with which I am familiar, commercial banks are naturally hesitant to make advances without the normal kinds of security and under the normal kind of conditions has not made it necessary, in the view of the Administering Authority, for the Government to envisage special kinds of credit assistance adapted to the present stage of development of the African inhabitants of the Territory. Banks are, after all, made to serve the interests of the inhabitants of the Territory rather than the other way around.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I do not see exactly how the Government could intervene directly. I cannot quite conceive of the Government's granting funds to businessmen or tradesmen so that they could set themselves up in business. This takes place via the co-operatives, the Government having certain powers to guide and supervise the work of the co-operatives. But it is more difficult to conceive of such action in our general economic system.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): Perhaps I could give the representative of the United Kingdom some additional information which I draw from my memories of my visits to Ruanda-Urundi. It would be inaccurate to think that in all cases, and systematically, it is impossible for an indigenous inhabitant to receive credit from a credit institution on the same footing as an Asian or European. These cases are becoming more numerous, but they are not always known since banks usually do not indicate the race or nationality of their clients. There is a possibility of intervention not on

(Mr. Claeys Bouuaert, Belgium)

the part of the central Government of Ruanda-Urundi but on the part of the local councils. Cases have occurred, and still occur, in which local councils grant loans to the members of their constituency to start a given enterprise which is recognized as being useful to the economy of the area. The Administration generally approves of such steps on the part of the local council when the matter is one of general interest which warrants the granting of credit.

I now come to the question of principle. It seems to me that there is a clear danger in setting up on behalf of the indigenous inhabitants, and on their behalf alone, a special credit system making it possible for them to enter certain professions which they have not practised in the past. This would lead to the creation within the community of certain elements who would rather easily become accustomed to starting out in competition with other members of the community while enjoying certain advantages and being given special kid-glove treatment. This might make it chronically impossible for them ever to acquire, of and by themselves, the qualities and skills which would make it possible for them to compete genuinely in production and in business.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to thank the representative of Belgium and the special representative for the information and views which they have given me on this, to my mind, very important subject. May I turn now to the question of industrialization. I want to ask one or two questions arising out of the earlier questioning because, if I may say so, it seems to me that this subject is fruitful in theories, and it is very important that this Council should address itself to the practical problems concerned.

First of all, am I right in thinking that the general view of the Belgian Administration at the present time is that the State can best intervene in this subject -- to which, it is evident from the papers before us, the Belgian Administration attaches the greatest importance -- by the provision of basic economic services? And by "basic economic services" I mean, in terms of Ruanda-Urundi, road and port installations and electric power. Am I right in thinking that these are the things which, first of all, appear to be necessary to produce so that the elements in which industrial development can go forward can be provided?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): That is indeed the opinion of the Administration, and it is the opinion also of the experts from the International Bank who visited the Territory.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Am I right in thinking also that the fact that the provision made in the ten-year plan for actual investment in industries or expenditure on industrialization may be comparatively limited is due also to the fact that, very largely, industrialization has taken place with investment provided by private enterprise rather than in the private sector of the economy?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Yes, that is indeed so.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to draw attention to the very considerable number of industries already existing in the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi which are listed on page 150 and following pages of the annual report for 1956. We have heard that other industries, such as textiles, are under consideration. I would like to ask the special representative -- having regard to the fact that Ruanda-Urundi is probably the most densely populated area in the whole of tropical Africa, which of itself gives rise to the need for new economic occupations -- whether any consideration has been given, or whether any action has been taken, with regard to promoting what I might call an industrial survey, that is a survey by experts to show what the possibilities of industries might be and what would be the most suitable industries to establish. It may be that there is an organization established by the Government of Ruanda-Urundi for this very purpose, and I would very much like to hear from the special representative what the position is and what has been done or what may be contemplated in this connexion.

Mr. LEROY (Spécial Representative) (interpretation from French): Several years ago the Administration of Ruanda-Urundi established an office for the assessment of local produce in the Territory which concerned itself principally with agricultural and livestock produce. It sought to improve the quality of the local output but, generally speaking, its studies were not too fruitful. It went into the question of wax, then it studied the processing of certain products such as peas, haricot beans and local crops. But gradually the activities of this office became, by force of circumstances, geared to such research work as rural engineering and secteurs pilotes, which was research of a preliminary character. It seemed that such research should precede the assessment of products of the soil and livestock.

Somewhat aside from its immediate objective, this office also looked into the question of the production of fish powder, because there are quite large amounts of small fish which are found in Lake Tanganyika. But these various activities met with little success. The office was dissolved on 31 December 1947 and such of its activities as were fruitful were carried on -- incidentally by the same persons -- within the framework of the Administration of Ruanda-Urundi. The one somewhat exceptional activity which has been maintained is that mentioned by the Visiting Mission in its report -- namely, the studies relating to the production of methane gas in Lake Kivu.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Would the special representative agree that by far the most important economic studies which can take place in Ruanda-Urundi are in relation to the correct utilization and safeguarding of the land?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): That is one of the aspects of the economic development of the Territory, and of course it is one of the most important aspects. I think I agree with the representative of the United Kingdom.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to ask one final question which concerns the policy of the Belgian Administration in relation to industrialization. We hear so many observations and questions on this subject that I think that it is necessary to be quite clear about it. Am I right in thinking that it is the policy of the Belgian Administration to pursue industrialization by every means that is possible, and that any suggestion that industrialization is being held back for reasons of theory or policy would be quite incorrect? I hope the special representative will forgive me for asking this question, but I am moved to do so by some other questions which I have heard during the course of this interrogation.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The Administration of the Territory of course desires ardently the economic development of Ruanda-Urundi as fast as possible, but in this economic field we are obviously bound by local conditions. I have already mentioned the geographic, demographic and other conditions which in past centuries have made this Territory a very poor one indeed.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to thank the special representative for the answers he has given me.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France)(interpretation from French): The explanations which were given by the special representative and the representative of Belgium in reply to questions raised by several members of the Council, particularly the representatives of the Soviet Union and Burma, regarding the loan of the World Bank, exhausts, to a large extent, the questions which I wished to put in this connexion. It goes without saying that the fact that the International Bank agreed to a large loan upon the recommendation of experts, whose competence and indeed whose exacting qualifications are known to us, is in itself a favourable verdict on the economic prospectives of Ruanda-Urundi. Therefore, notwithstanding certain reservations, the Administering Authority has accepted this loan and is prepared to go forward. But, as regards the Administration, is this loan a sort of example? Following this first loan, are they expecting other public and private investments which could promote the development of the Territory? The special representative might be able to tell us what the prospectives are?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I cannot anticipate the future in this regard. But the Administering Authority, and in particular the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi, in October 1957, did view with favour, without having taken any final decision on this subject, a procedure which would call for further loans from the International Bank if that proved necessary for the development of the country.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France)(interpretation from French): My second question deals with mining. The Visiting Mission, in paragraph 201 of this report, indicates that in its belief the geological service of the Territory should be strengthened. The Visiting Mission also suggests the establishment of a "mining office as we have them in French territories. Such an agency could help in the establishment and extension of mining resources. In reality, a bureau minier is not identical with the geological service. After all, the geological service deals with surveying and prospecting, whereas the mining bureaus deal with

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France)

development. We do not think that the same methods are valid in all territories of Africa. Therefore, I think that the mention of a mining bureau is merely a sort of indication. Would the special representative tell us, however, whether the Administering Authority envisages the establishment of a mining bureau or a similar office for the development of mining concessions which would have both private and public capital and which could benefit from the strengthening of the geological services.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I should like first of all to make it clear that as regards the geological service, it comprises five engineers and at the present time the Administration is of the opinion that this staff is sufficient and that to increase it would unduly burden the budget of Ruanda-Urundi with additional expenditures without any additional advantage being derived therefrom.

As regards the question of mining, which comes under the mining service referred to by the representative of France, may I make the following point. All mining companies set up in Ruanda-Urundi are companies in which the State takes part, because under the mining legislation of 1937, the State automatically participates because it contributes the mining deposits, and very often increases these deposits by subscribing part of the capital in liquid currency. All these companies, therefore, are jointly owned companies in which the State intervenes since it contributes the mining deposits as well as funds. Details on this State participation will be found on page 51 of the annual report.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France)(interpretation from French): My last question deals with the problem of cattle farming. The special representative pointed out, and this was also stressed in certain questions, the extent of the difficulty of this problem in Ruanda-Urundi, and it was pointed out that there were not only economic but also social and moral obstacles to a solution of this problem. I think, therefore, that we should welcome the building of a modern slaughterhouse and also the planning of freezing installations. But I would now like to know what is the share of meat products in the nutritional regime of the inhabitants. Can one expect an increased consumption of meat products following the rise in the standard of living of the population? *Cattle*

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): This is a highly topical question. It is clear that if a population of 4.5 million people, having on its territory one million head of cattle, would begin to eat meat regularly as part of its diet, the problem of over-stocking would be resolved and within one year the herds would be brought down to normal numbers and we would have no further worry about eliminating surplus cattle, since they would have

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been eaten by their owners. But at the present time the indigenous inhabitants are not meat eaters. They eat very little meat. The great majority eat meat only when a head of cattle has died accidentally or through diseases, despite the close control which the Administration exerts on such sources of meat supply. I hope, together with the representative of France, that when the standard of living rises and when the social values change, the cow will no longer be a luxury item and will only become a source of nutrition.

This obviously would resolve a great part of our difficulties. This is also one of the reasons why we are rather reticent with regard to compulsory destocking.

urgent subject
Mr. FIELD (United States of America): While the general subject matter of some of the questions I had in mind asking has already been dealt with in the replies which the special representative and the representative of Belgium have given to certain previous questions, at this stage in the questioning, as one would expect this to be the case, I should still like to explore somewhat further certain aspects of these subjects in which I think some further information would be valuable. At the same time, my delegation is most appreciative at the very full and responsive and informative replies which the special representative and the representative of Belgium have ~~already~~ provided to the members of the Council upon so many questions. To begin with, I should like to return for a moment to a question asked earlier by the representative of Burma on the normal or operating budget deficit. My delegation believes that the prospect of a recurring deficit in the ordinary budget is essentially unhealthy since it implies that the demand for social and other services is outstripping the Territory's capacity to pay for them. I should like to ascertain the special representative's views, first, on the importance of this phenomenon which he has stated may continue for some time, and secondly, on the measures contemplated to ameliorate or eliminate it.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): One can appreciate the importance of the problem from the following. We have in the Territory an administration which is understaffed. We have fewer than 1,800 people in public employment with a total population of 4.5 million inhabitants. This proportion unfortunately cannot be improved. For example, in the medical field we have a total of seventy doctors for this population. In the field of education, we have only a small group of people who have received higher education. Approximately 60 per cent of the population have not had primary education. Bearing this situation in mind and bearing in mind the fact that our budget is a deficit budget, it will be seen that we have a real difficulty for which it will not be easy to find a solution. All our hopes, therefore, rest on the economic efforts that can be undertaken so as to increase the revenues of the Territory to meet expenditures. These attempts are clearly illustrated in the report of the Visiting Mission, which has in most cases endorsed them. We are doing all we can in this field.

Mr. FELD (United States of America): I should like to thank the special representative for his very enlightening answer. Could he furnish some more information or more specific details concerning the budget itself, that is the formulation of it and a description of the elements which go into formulating it?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): The answer to this question may be found in the annual report, paragraph 29, page 45. I do not think that I need read it out.

Mr. FELD (United States of America): It is my understanding that the ordinary budget provides only for normal operating government expenses. For example, a school might be constructed from funds earmarked from the development budget and thereafter become a charge on the ordinary budget every year. Is this correct?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): Yes, sir; we have two types of expenditures. We have the recurrent expenditures, the periodic expenditures, and they must be regarded as permanent, and then we have the less permanent expenditures which are largely investment expenditures. As the representative of the United States surmised, the building of a school comes within the extraordinary budget, the investment budget. The rebuilding of the school once it exists will also come within the extraordinary budget. However, its upkeep, the payment of the salaries of the teachers and similar expenses will come within the ordinary budget.

Mr. FELD (United States of America): The point I was trying to make was simply that with the expansion of educational and other social services, the pressure on the ordinary budget increases at a rather great rate, and I was interested in pursuing the matter of how this ordinary budget will eventually be brought into balance.

I should like to ask one other question in the general field of the budget. Does the special representative not believe that economic ties, including a common budget, will in the long run prove as powerful a unifying force in the two territories of Ruanda-Urundi as any political or social measures that might be taken?

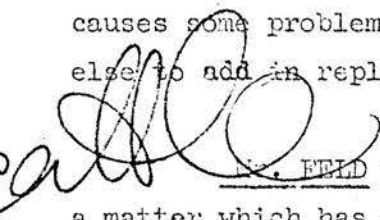
Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): This seems to be rather theoretical -- I would consider the union of these two budgets, simply to bring together two deficit budgets, a union of poverty. Ruanda and Urundi may always, after all, seek solutions together, but I do not know whether this would bring them together in the full meaning of the term. This does exist at the present time since the budget for the Territory is a budget common to both and independent of the budget for each of the two States. It is that budget which is at present under examination.

may not be sufficient
Mr. FELD (United States of America): I have a question with regard to the production of food. We are frequently told that Ruanda-Urundi is self-sufficient where food is concerned, although the irregularity of rainfall has caused certain serious famines in the past. What measures, such as stockpiling of food, international agreement and so forth, has the Administration taken to minimize or perhaps eliminate these risks of famine?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): So far, and despite a substantial population increase every year, the Administration has succeeded in preventing any danger of famine or even of food shortage since 1943. This has been done by extending the cultivation of cash crops, by draining marshes so that the land could be reclaimed, by irrigating arid zones and by introducing manioc, which can remain in the soil two years before it is consumed.

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It also set up stocks of food in certain barns which were set up for this purpose; five of these were set up. However, the establishment of such food reserves gave rise to serious problems. First, it was necessary to purchase the foodstuffs, and then it was necessary to replenish these stocks. In the case of peas and beans, which were easy to conserve, the peas and beans get dried up, and then it is not possible to dispose of this food in periods when the population has sufficient food available. This represents a loss to the Territory, and it is necessary to provide protection against dampness and insects. This also causes some problem and entails some expenditures. I do not have anything else to add in reply to the question of the representative of the United States.

 Mr. FIELD (United States of America): I have one question relating to a matter which has already been discussed, the reduction in the number of cattle in the Territory. I think it is generally agreed that this a desirable development from a political, social and economic standpoint. However, accompanying any decrease in cattle, there seems to be an increase in the population of sheep and goats, which are more destructive of pasture resources. I wonder if the special representative would comment as to whether the Administration is concerned about this increase in sheep and goats and whether it feels that the harmful effects that might result from this increase can be controlled without great difficulty or may pose a problem as difficult as that of overstocking of cattle.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): So far the problem of smaller livestock has not been a very serious one. We must not lose sight of the fact that owning such animals, and in particular goats, provides a large number of indigenous inhabitants with the only way in which they can obtain animal fats which they need and also proteins which are necessary. It would be a very delicate matter to launch a campaign against the owning of goats and sheep, particularly bearing in mind the comment, a very relevant comment, that was made earlier by the representative of France, to the effect that if the Barundi and the Banyarwanda increase, as may be expected, their consumption of meat, this temporary surplus of smaller livestock will only be a temporary phenomenon and very soon only a normal number will remain.

Mr. FELD (United States of America): I have one final question I would like to pose. In paragraph 127 of the Visiting Mission's report it is stated:

"The Governor stated that the most important question for the future of Ruanda-Urundi was not that of obtaining foreign capital but rather the thorough and systematic remodelling of present methods for developing the country's natural resources in order that the public finances of Ruanda-Urundi might rest on a sound economic structure. The Administration plans to encourage this change-over."

The Mission in the following paragraph fully endorsed this plan for the future of the country and stated that it had confidence in the Administering Authority's energy and ability. It did raise the question, however, of the fact that the success or failure of such a plan depends mainly upon the indigenous population itself and that the psychological element will play an important part. Then the Mission went on to ask a number of questions with regard to the psychological factors entering into this important problem. I wonder if the special representative would comment or give his views as to what is being done or can be done by the Administration working with the population itself to assure that the psychological climate in the Territory is such that its development will be assured.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): For this question, as in the case of any number of other questions, we have reached a turning point in the history of Ruanda-Urundi. The time has passed when the Administration can impose certain types of work and call for certain efforts to be made. It is evident that when they achieve a higher degree of political and social development, the population will become less and less subject to any sort of pressure or constraint. All that we can do is to hope that the population will understand the need for work and that it will agree willingly to abide by this labour law, which is even more imperative in Ruanda-Urundi than elsewhere in view of the demographic and geographic circumstances obtaining in the Territory. The Press is disseminating these ideas. The Chieftain Councils, aided and abetted by

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the Administration, also disseminates these ideas. We must trust that the indigenous inhabitants will understand the need for the effort which is asked of them and that it will understand that this is in their own interests.

Mr. KELLY (Australia): Initially, I should like to express my deep personal appreciation of the contribution to our examination of the problems of Ruanda-Urundi made by the special representative. My own attention, as the representative of a dairying country, has been particularly engaged by paragraphs 187, 188, 189 and 190 of the Report, and particularly by paragraph 190. It is clear, I think, that one of the major economic problems of the Territory is the excessive number of cattle.

(Mr. Kelly, Australia)

I have noted, in particular, the conclusion reached by the Visiting Mission. I invite the special representative, through you, Mr. President, to say whether it is unrealistic and therefore unreasonable to set any intermediate or final target date for the reduction, let us say, to 600,000 of the ~~number of bovine cattle in the Territory~~. I do not often hear a reference to intermediate or final target dates in a precise economic and social context.

It seems to me important that we should realize the extreme difficulty of setting precise goals in the field of what I might call technical actuality. Political evolution is, in its turn, dependent primarily on social evolution; and social evolution itself is, of course, the fruit of psychological, spiritual and intellectual growth and of economic growth and development.

The number of cattle in the Territory, their quality and the use that is made of them seem to me to have some association with the considerations put forward by other representatives in relation to final or ultimate political objectives. Because of that, I, in short, ask you whether you would in fact concur in the view of the Mission with respect to cattle that a long road lies ahead and that the technical solution of the problem of rational and economically valuable stockbreeding may not be easy.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): I quite agree with the remarks of the representative of Australia. I would remind the Council that it was in the case of the cattle that the ten-year plan had envisaged certain concrete achievements. It was not able to meet these deadlines for the many reasons I cited earlier. One of these reasons is the rather impractical attitude of the population in matters of livestock.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Thus we have come to the end of our questioning period on economic advancement in Ruanda-Urundi.

Social Advancement

U THIN MAUNG (Burmese): My first question in the social field is in connexion with emigration. In his opening statement, the special representative observed that the figures quoted in paragraph 217 of the Visiting Mission's report were rather on the conservative side. Of course, these figures are given by the Administration and they relate only to emigration encouraged or controlled by the Government of Ruanda-Urundi.

The special representative drew our attention to a large-scale and spontaneous movement of people out of the Territory towards the province of Kivu in the Belgian Congo and towards the neighbouring Territory of Uganda. The exact number of these emigrants is not known, but it is estimated, according to the unofficial observation of officials who visited these emigrants, that the number amounts to several hundred thousand. Considering that the total population of Ruanda-Urundi is only four and a half million, I think that these figures are rather spectacular.

Could the special representative tell me, first, since what year and for how many years these people have been leaving the Territory; secondly, whether the officials who have visited these emigrants could tell the Administration why these people have migrated; thirdly, whether the so-called spontaneous emigration was motivated by attractive conditions of living obtaining in the neighbouring Territories; fourthly, whether the officials who visited these emigrants did not find these people sometimes homesick and going back to their own Territory, even for short periods; and fifthly, whether these emigrants are well treated in those Territories to which they have migrated?

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative)(interpretation from French): The Council has heard many times statements on the situation with regard to emigration. There was an emigration that was encouraged to the Kivu area near the northern part of Ruanda-Urundi. Aside from that, there has been a fairly important seasonal migration which involved a fairly large number of people -- several tens of thousands a year -- who go either towards Uganda or towards Tanganyika and who come home after an absence of four or five months. Aside from these migrations,

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which the Administration has either encouraged or which it controls at the border, as is the case with seasonal migrants, there is also, especially between Ruanda and Uganda and Urundi and Tanganyika, a fairly large movement back and forth, which is very difficult to control. Both Administrations -- the British and our Administration -- have never really objected strongly to these population changes. At certain times, however, working conditions were more pleasant in Tanganyika and in Uganda than in Ruanda-Urundi because of a difference in the currency rate. This was also an encouragement for seasonal migration. Some seasonal workers who went off in this manner found wives on the other side of the border, settled there and did not come back. Indigenous persons from Ruanda who have gone to Uganda consider themselves Uganda Banyaruanda. They do not lose their national characteristics or consciousness. It is difficult, therefore, to say when they left the Territory and to what extent they are the first, second or third generation. It is possible that some of them may have left during the 1943 famine and have not returned since. As to whether these people have a feeling of nostalgia for their motherland, I think I can say that this is not the case because when they have such a feeling they simply go home. Nothing can stop them from going home. Nothing can stop them from entering Ruanda-Urundi or from leaving it.

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Special Representative)

All these people have a great liking for travel; they like to take to the road. I think that is the best answer that I can give to the various points raised by the representative of Burma. I believe that the representative of Belgium has, during his time in the Kiva area, encountered some of these roving migrant communities. He might be able to tell the Council something about them.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUMAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I have really little to add to what has been said by the special representative. He mentioned the essential point, namely, that the boundary is quite open. No one can prevent a Banyaruanda from settling in Uganda or the Belgian Congo; no one can prevent his return if he is homesick. For the time being, the movement back to the Territory is not as pronounced as the movement out of the Territory, which is due to the internal demographic pressures in Ruanda-Urundi.

To quote a few figures from British statistics -- and I must apologize if perhaps I am infringing on the prerogatives of the representative of the United Kingdom -- there are at present in Uganda about 300,000 Banyaruanda or of Banyaruanda origin; that is, Africans classed as Banyaruanda or of Banyaruanda or Marundi origin -- no distinction is made. This involves persons coming from both countries. In the Belgian Congo there are certainly more than 150,000, and there, again, the majority, who are called Banyaruanda and Banyaruanda or Marundi, have settled for a longer period. Sometimes they have been residents for a generation.

Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I have one more point to add. The representative of Burma was rather astonished at this high proportion, but he may not have quite the right figures as to the total population. The total population is four and a half million or more. Therefore, the proportion is not as great as he may have thought.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before calling on the representative of Burma, may I ask him whether he would be prepared to have the Council adjourn at this time. I still have some announcements to make. We could proceed with the questioning period tomorrow.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I shall be glad ~~to~~ ask my questions tomorrow.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to advise members of the Council that a request has been received for an oral hearing at this session; it has been circulated in document T/1357. This request comes from Prince Alexandre Douala Manga Bel, one of the Deputies of the Cameroons in the French National Assembly. This request for a hearing has been sent via the Administering Authority. The petitioner, appears to wish to discuss the general situation in the Cameroons at present. In view of the fact that the examination of conditions in the French Cameroons is scheduled for 17 February, I would suggest to the members of the Council that this request for a hearing should be taken up as the first item on our agenda tomorrow. If there is no objection, this request will be included on our agenda for tomorrow's meeting of the Council.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.