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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Tuesday, 17 June 1958, at 2.30 p.m.

18 JUN 1958

President: Mr. CLAEYS BOUJAERT (Vice-President) (Belgium)

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific  
Islands: annual report of the Administering Authority for the  
year ended 30 June 1957 [38] (continued)

*atomic expl. 38,89  
- fiscal 31,72  
affirmation 62,68,87  
communications 7  
housing 7  
language 51,66  
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Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record,  
will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol  
T/SR.895 and will be subject to representatives' corrections.  
It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

## AGENDA ITEM 3d

## EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1957

(T/1383; T/L.850) (continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Nucker, Special Representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, took a place at the Council table.

Political advancement

*under-  
compr*

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): At the outset I should like to ask the indulgence of the special representative because this is the first time that I have attended a meeting of the Trusteeship Council and my questions may, therefore, be somewhat general and similar to those which have been asked in the past.

My first question is this. In previous years the Guatemalan delegation has expressed great satisfaction with regard to the holding of inter-municipal or inter-departmental conferences -- I might even call them inter-district conferences -- as preliminary steps designed to lead to the establishment of political institutions which would be of a more permanent nature. The members of the Council will remember, too, that my delegation has maintained that the citizens attending those conferences should be truly representative of their respective towns and islands, that they should genuinely reflect the desires of the population and that regard should be paid to the principle of continuity. By that I mean that the same persons might attend successive conferences. In view of this, I would ask the special representative, first, whether any consideration has been given to changing the system of selecting the representatives and, second, whether there has been any continuity in the attendance of representatives at these inter-district conferences.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We have given consideration to effecting continuity, and particularly to ensuring that the delegates are truly representative of their peoples. First, the delegates are chosen by the district congress or council, as the case may be. Second, our second conference, which was held last year, was attended by approximately 50 per cent of those who had been present the year before. I believe that continuity will come as a natural thing through the due process of local selection.

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): On previous occasions the Guatemalan delegation has expressed interest in the establishment of representative democracy in all Territories. Just two years ago the present permanent representative of Guatemala urged the Administering Authority to educate the inhabitants of the Pacific Islands in the meaning of representative democracy and also to train them in its processes. Consequently, I would ask that the special representative whether the responsible authorities have taken specific steps along those lines. For example, have they introduced subjects in secondary education or have they printed and published any pamphlets giving civic education courses, and so on?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): During the past several years we have developed a technique of meetings with the magistrates and the elected officials in each district for the sole purpose of discussing democratic processes; even Roberts Rules of Order now are used in most of our meetings throughout the districts. We also have made certain that in our secondary schools or intermediate schools courses are given in democracy and the democratic way of life.

*original*  
Mr. URPUITA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): We have taken note of the reasons adduced by the Administering Authority for returning in 1952 the Tinian and Saipan Islands to Naval administration. At the same time, we have noted that the Visiting Mission in its report for 1956 (T/1255) recognizes that the Administering Authority has given assurance that there exists quite complete co-ordination between the civil and naval authorities. However, in paragraph 307 of that report the Visiting Mission wondered whether the interests of the inhabitants of Saipan would not be better served if the administration of that district were to be transferred to the civil administration of the Territory. Perhaps the special representative could tell us whether such a transfer is contemplated, and if in the affirmative, he might give us the approximate date for such transfer?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The question of transferring Saipan and Tinian to the Interior Department from the Navy for administration has been under discussion constantly during the past six to twelve months. At the present moment there is no definitive decision at hand. There is, however, the understanding that the problem will be discussed further during this coming year looking towards the possibility of getting Rota, Tinian and Saipan in the same administration. This may involve Rota going to the Navy rather than Saipan and Tinian coming to Interior; but there is a common belief that the interests of the three islands would be better served under one or the other.



Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): My delegation recalls that the Visiting Mission in paragraph 311 of its report (T/1255) stated that housing conditions were deplorable in the Territory even for the territorial Government officials. Now, with regard to this matter, my delegation would be very grateful to the special representative if he would be kind enough to state the plans and the specific steps which the Administering Authority has taken or plans to take in the near future so as to alleviate this depressing situation. *Housing*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I will be the first to agree that housing within the Trust Territory is not State-side standard housing. I would be the last to agree, however, that housing within the Trust Territory is deplorable; it is a matter of opinion. We have in the past two years started a construction programme which has resulted in new housing being built in each district; as yet they are not sufficient. Our programme calls that for the next two to three or four years we will continue to add new housing in each district. I fully expect within the next four to five years to have adequate housing by any standard available in each of the districts.

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): We have also been informed that inadequate transportation and insufficient means of communication are obstacles making it impossible to transfer the headquarters from Guam to other districts. However, since this Council has reiterated its opinion that such transfer should be made, I would ask the special representative to be good enough to comment upon this matter and tell us whether tentatively a date has been set for such transfer. *Comm.*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): As yet there has been no tentative date set for the transfer of headquarters of the Trust Territory from Guam to the Trust Territory itself. The matter of transportation and communication is a vital matter and one not too easily resolved; but the problem goes deeper than just those two. The question of development of headquarters, logistics, the fact that anywhere we moved in the Trust Territory would not alleviate materially either the transportation or communication problem, all bear a part in the decision. As yet there is no definitive date set.

*case*

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): The delegation of Guatemala notes that the age for voting has become more and more uniform throughout the Territory, and we are very happy that this is the case. We are very glad that the Administering Authority had given us an assurance yesterday that in Palau the Congress reduced the voting age from twenty-six to twenty-one years. We believe, however, that the voting age should be eighteen years so as to make it uniform throughout the rest of the Territory. Now, what reasons led the Palau Congress to establish twenty-one years of age as the voting age rather than eighteen years?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I concur completely with the last statement made by the representative from Guatemala that in his opinion eighteen years is the proper age. Throughout the Trust Territory, with the exception of Palau, eighteen years has been the age at which the people may vote. Palau, because of its particular traditions, customs and family beliefs, has held up until just this year that a person was not mature enough to participate in the local political programme until he had reached the age of twenty-six. This year, the Palau Congress dropped that age to twenty-one -- which was a considerable concession on their part. It is now permissible for any person twenty-one years of age to vote for members of the Congress. In the municipal elections where they vote for the local magistrates, the secretaries of the municipality, the Palauans have held that eighteen years is sufficiently old to warrant participating in those elections. I think they have come a long way and I do not doubt that in a few more years eighteen years will apply across the entire Palauan district.

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Once again I should like to thank the special representative for this clarification. ↓

My delegation has also noted that on this same page 32 of the report for 1956 the Administering Authority states that the requirements in these elections vary from district to district, and some of these requirements are given. We are told that there is no statutory discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion and so forth. We are concerned that there may exist some discrimination in practice. Will the special representative be good enough to tell us whether indeed there is discrimination in actual practice no matter how slight it may be?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I can only say that I know of no discrimination in this regard which is practised in the Trust Territory. I think that evidence of this fact would be that the percentage of the voters who turn out at any election has consistently run over 70 per cent of the eligible voters for the district or the municipality involved.

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): The Administering Authority recognizes that there do not exist political groups or parties, but that there do exist groups of men and women who conduct some sort of campaign. My delegation would like to know whether these groups of men and women have as their objective the achievement of some political measure or goal. *political parties*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): At this stage of their political development I do not believe that any of the organizations taking an active part in any local elective process has a political view in mind at the time of taking the action. One must recognize that these organizations are quite informal. They have no avowed purpose of following a given programme or policy. They, as it were, participate in the elections on the basis of their desire to have an individual elected and not on the basis of following a political line one way or the other.

*municipalities*

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I have one final question. In his opening statement the special representative told us that in the course of the past year the Administering Authority granted twelve constitutional charters to towns or villages and that this was a lower figure due to the work which had to be done after two typhoons. This seems to be a reasonable explanation. However, we are concerned because the special representative also told us:

"In retrospect, it now appears that a longer orientation period is needed than we thought when the programme was launched." (T/PV.894, page 53-55)

Will the special representative explain this statement?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Members of the Council will recall that last year I anticipated being able to charter twenty municipalities during the year. We did charter twelve.

As I left Guam, two additional charters came in for approval, so that I think it is safe to say that in the year we actually chartered fourteen municipalities, six short of the goal. We did have at least two months taken out of our year by the typhoons. We did find that when we started talking to the magistrates and the leaders in the communities about a municipal charter much interest was aroused. The magistrates and the people wanted to ask many questions. We arranged, in most instances through our Educational Department, for a series of meetings to be held with the people in the new municipality for the purpose of explaining in detail and answering questions in connexion with the chartering programme and just what a municipal charter could do for the people. This took more time than we had originally anticipated.

This year, I have said that we expect to charter an average of ten municipalities a year. I believe this to be a realistic statement. I do not think that it represents a slowing down on the part of the Administering Authority of its desire to acquire municipal charters, but rather it represents a very realistic approach to the problem of acquiring these charters in terms of understanding of the people involved, which is, in my opinion, the only way we really should attempt this chartering programme.

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Mr. LAIL (India): Our first question to the special representative arises out of the very interesting information which he gave us yesterday about the political development at the district level. We were glad to hear that the Administering Authority regards this development as very satisfactory. Indeed, we noticed that the Charter for the Truk District materialized three years earlier than was anticipated. This unicameral congress for Truk held its first meeting last October, and the Administration has described this meeting as most successful. We would be very grateful for some details on the kind of work transacted at this very successful congress, and we would like to have some precise information as to the powers of this district body.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I am pleased to answer that question because I am proud of the attitude displayed at that first district congress session. I had the pleasure of attending two days of the session. The first five days in the main were taken up by the organizational effort -- the establishment of committees to discuss various items, financing, taxation and local ordinances thought desirable. The congress was organized so that they would understand the application of the various rules of order, when a person should speak and when he should await his turn. At the end of the five days, it dawned on one congressman that they were not going to be able to complete the items on the agenda within the ten days allowed for this first session. Thereupon, that particular congressman moved that the body sit another five days and that the extension of the session by these five days not be at the expense of the Trukese people, that the congressmen themselves sit without remuneration while giving their services.



(Mr. Mucker, Special Representative)

This to me is a most unusual attitude, to have a Congressman willing to work for nothing. So that I subscribe that their heart and soul is in their work. As far as some of the specifics of the meeting, they discussed at length the matter of payment of salaries to school-teachers and decided upon a rate of pay and a method of payment which would ensure promptness. The details of the other resolutions they passed escape me at the present time, but I can only say that their discussions solely surrounded what they considered to be needs of the Truk district.

Mr. LALL (India): That does show a very high sense of duty and a highly developed parliamentary sense among these eminent Trukese. But may I ask again what the precise powers are of this body?

Mr. MUCKER (Special Representative): Pardon me for not answering that part of the question. They have the powers of creating the law which I think would better be called "resolutions" and which are submitted to the High Commissioner for approval. Upon approval they become the law of the district. But they have the same ability to develop their thoughts into resolutions which become legislation upon approval of the High Commissioner.

*Ponape*  
Mr. LALL (India): In the same field, that is to say, the district level, we were very glad to learn that constitutional developments are afoot regarding the district councils for Ponape and the Marshalls. The question which arises is: What is the position regarding the four remaining districts? The only reference we find to any of these four districts is the reference in the targets which tell us that Palau will have a unicameral congress by 1960. What is the position regarding the three other districts?

Mr. MUCKER (Special Representative): In order to include each of the districts, I shall go down the lists. Saipan at the present time has a congress. Palau has a unicameral congress and in fact has one of the first districts having a congress. Yap does not have a congress; it has a Council of Island Chiefs who consult with the District Administrator and in effect make

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

recommendations. Just this past October, Truk came into being with its first congress. Ponape has in the past had an island congress having jurisdiction, as it were, over only the island of Ponape and having no reason for being with respect to the balance of the islands in the Ponape district. Currently, Ponape is developing a charter for a district-wide congress which will contain representatives from all of the other islands in the Ponape district. We expect to have that district chartered within six months.

Moving to the Marshalls, they have had a Marshallese Congress, since, I believe, about 1947. This congress has been bicameral and currently they are working on a revision of their charter, looking towards having a unicameral congress in the Marshalls and the elimination of the bicameral congress. I believe that includes the current story on each of our districts with respect to their congressional developments.

Mr. IALL (India): I am grateful for that information, but I recognize six districts as having been mentioned so far. One seems to remain. That is one point that arises. Another point that arises is with respect to the text of the High Commissioner's speech of yesterday wherein he said that by 1960 there would be four major districts with unicameral congresses. But has he not identified five for us today: Saipan, Palau, Ponape, Truk and the Marshalls? Yap Islands has this island chiefs meeting together. Then there is number seven, which we have not heard about yet.

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Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): This problem has become a little involved. The one district I forgot is the district of Rota, which is a single island with a population of 900. Rota has a council. It is not referred to as a congress and I normally leave it out of my thinking when I think of districts. With respect to having the unicameral congresses by 1960, I am including in that estimate Ponape, which at the present time does not have a district congress; the Marshalls, which now does have a bicameral congress, and which we expect to become a unicameral congress by 1960. This will give us, we hope, a unicameral congress in the Marshalls, a new congress in Ponape, and includes the Truk congress we now have and the Palau congress we now have.



(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

I had not treated Saipan as a district because it is under the Navy, and that is a slip on my part. That accounts for the four by 1960.

Mr. LALL (India): Does that mean that we are not being informed of what happens in the districts which are under the Navy? I mention this just as a point of information. I would like to know whether this information is restricted to a certain number of districts, the other districts being under the Navy? May I ask the special representative whether that is the position?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): It does not mean that we are not responding with respect to Saipan. It does mean that occasionally, since I work most of the time personally with the other districts, I am apt to leave Saipan out. I would appreciate any member of this Council asking me specific questions if they think I have done so.

Mr. LALL (India): May I just close that point? Saipan will have *Saipan* a District Congress by 1960, will it not? Or, in fact, does it already have one?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Saipan now has a Congress.

Mr. LALL (India): I have one last question on these District level bodies. Rota is the seventh District and, from what we have just heard, it does not seem to be a particularly populous island. I do not know whether it is particularly prosperous, but may I ask why it has been promoted to the status of a separate District? *Rota*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I think it was two years ago that Rota was given District status. This was done, essentially, for two reasons. One reason was administrative -- ease of comparison and treatment by headquarters staff -- and the other was for the purpose of satisfying the desires of Rota that it be given a status comparable to that of other areas within the Trust Territory.

Mr. LALL (India): I am not sure that I understand the reasoning for singling out this island -- I am not saying that there is any reason which I would not be able to accept, but I do not understand why, among about 900 islands, one has been singled out as a District while the other are taken together in large numbers and made into Districts. I am not trying to take away Rota's status, but I do not understand why, in this case, one island is a District and the other islands are included together.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I believe that if the representative of India would look at the map on the last page of the report, the reason for Rota's being made a District would become a little more apparent. Rota is just to the north of Guam. There are no other islands in that area except Saipan and Tinian. The rest of those islands are in the Saipan District, which comes under the Navy. We found ourselves with the peculiar problem of other islands being so located as to have been grouped in the past according to language, custom or other reasons. Rota, sitting alone under the Department of

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

the Interior, could not be grouped with any of the then existing groupings. Therefore, we made Rota a District for the sake of convenience rather than for any other reason. If this problem of Saipan, Tinian and Rota, as regards the Navy and the Department of the Interior, is resolved, Rota will come mainly with the Saipan orbit.

Mr. IALL (India): The matter is clear now. In short, if Saipan were under the Department of the Interior, then perhaps Rota would normally be included in that District. Not only have there been developments at District level, but there was an important Inter-District Conference held last October, which was the second of the series, and at that Conference a decision was taken to hold annual Inter-District Conferences. We would be most grateful for some information on the following points that arise in this question: (a) What business was transacted at the fifty-seventh Inter-District Conference? (b) Do these conferences have statutory powers in the field of legislation, taxation, etc.? If not, when will such powers be given to them? (c) Is it the practice of the High Commissioner to consult these Inter-District Conferences on all or any matters relating to this Trust Territory as a whole?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The business transacted at the last delegates' conference covered, I believe, discussions surrounding almost every problem which we deal with in Micronesia: shipping, copra, agriculture, taxation, political development, etc. At these meetings each delegate is allowed -- and, in fact, urged -- to present his views, his thoughts and those of the people of his district, after which discussion with other delegates takes place on whatever subject is at hand. Certain recommendations are made and, in some instances, decisions are arrived at on the spot. After the session is over, each delegate is sent a copy of the minutes of the meetings. These minutes are then translated into the local vernacular of each District and are given fairly wide distribution within the District, distribution being the responsibility of the delegates. The conference has never been blessed with any statutory authority; I do not know when such an event may take place, but I do not expect it to happen in the near future.

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

Consultation with the delegates on a formal basis does not take place during the year. Discussions are held with the delegates at the district level based on requests from the High Commissioner for the purpose of seeking information and advice from time to time on any particular problems at hand.

Mr. LALL (India): In that case, may I request the Administering Authority to consider the possibility of endowing, at a very early date, these conferences which will now take place on an annual basis, with certain specific powers; and, just as the Administering Authority now consults the District Congresses on certain specific issues of district significance, we should be grateful if the Administering Authority would consider the possibility of consultation with this inter-District body in matters relating to the Trust Territory as a whole. If the Administering Authority is in a position to say anything about the suggestion now, of course, we should be grateful.

*powers of the conference*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I appreciate the suggestion and will give it considerable thought. I should like to report more fully upon any actions which we might take at next year's meeting of the Council. We have this terrific problem of distances and of getting the people together. In principle, I have no objection whatever to the suggestion, but in fact, I can see difficulty in implementing it.

Mr. LALL (India): My next question arises out of the information given to us about the voting age which now exists in the Palau District, which is twenty-one. I believe that it is correct to say now that, in the whole Trust Territory, all adult men and women have the right to vote. Thus, there exists a sound democratic basis in this Trust Territory which, without wishing at this juncture to make comparisons, distinguishes it favourably from most Trust Territories. That is certainly an important point and an important development.

*Palau  
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(Mr. Lall, India)

In view of the fully democratic basis, what difficulties does the Administering Authority see, if any, in setting up fully democratic institutions for this Territory in the next few years? By fully democratic institutions, I mean institutions with full powers of legislation, including taxation, side by side, of course, with analagous executive powers.

The peoples of these islands appear to be extremely peaceful, and here I want to quote from the end of part IV of the report before us, which reads:

"During the entire period of United States administration there has been no collective violence or disorder involving Micronesians.

Serious crime is rare, and most offenses are of a minor nature."

It seems to us, in view of these extraordinary qualities of these people and of the fact that they now all have the right to vote, that there should be no difficulty whatsoever in making rapid progress with fully empowered democratic institutions. Indeed, in view of the peaceful attributes of these people, they might well be an example to many of us and to all other Members of the United Nations. It does not seem to me that there are any difficulties in the way of the rapid advance of political institutions. I would be grateful if the Administering Authority would comment on this suggestion.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The people are by nature extremely peaceful and kind and, in fact, they are a pleasure to work with. However, I must go back to what has been said at previous Council meetings. There are nine different root languages; there are twenty-eight different dialects; there is a population of only 65,000 scattered over 3 million square miles of water and living on 400 pieces of real estate; the 400 pieces of real estate are a part of a territory consisting of more than 2,100 islands. These people in the past have not in large measure mingled with each other. They have today an extremely insular, parochial approach to democracy and to administration. Our problem consists not in giving them the ability to vote, which they have, but in permitting them to have the time and the means to learn more about each other so that when they do vote on territorial matters and to have legislative and executive powers they will vote from a knowledge of the entire Territory, which they have not had in the past and which they are now slowly acquiring.

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

Given this understanding, this knowledge and this ability to communicate, I believe they will do a terrific job at some time in the not too distant future of developing their own organizations from a legislative and executive standpoint, but I do not think that they are ready at the present time.

Mr. LALL (India): I am grateful for that answer. We might revert to this matter in our statement simply in an attempt to be helpful about these interesting people.

I would now like to turn to municipalities. We find from the target that an average of ten will be chartered each year for the next five years. How many potential municipalities will remain to be chartered after that five-year period?

*municipalities*

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We have 102 municipalities within the Trust Territory. If we succeed in averaging ten for each of the next five years, that would be fifty. We have chartered fourteen, which would make sixty-four, leaving us short by thirty-eight. Frankly, I anticipate that more than ten will be chartered in each of the next five years.

The estimate of ten for each of the five years is based on a desire not to make the same mistake that I made in my estimations last year when I was overly optimistic. I truly believe that in five years we will have them all chartered.

Mr. LALL (India): That is very good news indeed. I come now to the question of organic legislation for this Territory. We learn from yesterday's statement that 1960 is no longer regarded as a realistic date for the enactment of organic legislation. We have some difficulty with this statement, particularly in view of the fact that at district level and at inter-district level progress has been much faster than anticipated. The Truk Congress has been chartered three years before the target date. In view of these developments, would it not in fact be possible to keep the target date of 1960 for organic legislation? We would also like to know what it is proposed to include in this organic legislation. We trust that it will set up a completely self-governing Territory.

*organic law*



Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I want to say at the outset that we are hopeful of having an organic act prepared for presentation to the United States Congress by 1960 for action by that body. An organic act, as we envisage it at the present time, will give us a complete set of laws for the governing of the Trust Territory. It will be the foundation from which administrative, legislative and judicial work will spring. Any action as important as this, when taken in an area such as the Trust Territory, deserves a slow approach and, above all, the inclusion of Micronesian thinking. Based on the work we have been doing regarding municipalities and congresses, I came to the conclusion that for the true inclusion of Micronesian thinking we might better advise this Council that it might take longer than 1960 before we had an organic act which we wanted. We still will try for that date.



Mr. LALL (India): I should like to turn now to some specific atolls. First, there is a question which arises out of Appendix A to the annual report for 1957. It relates to the agreement regarding the use of the Eniwetok Atoll, and on page 134 of this report there is this statement:

"Whereas, an assembled meeting was held on Ujelang on November 5, 1956, with the two hereditary chiefs of Eniwetak Atoll, Joanej and Ebream, and the majority of the people who possess rights in Eniwetak Atoll to discuss a settlement for the past and future use of Eniwetak Atoll".

We note that a similar phrase regarding the majority of the people is also used in the agreement relating to Bikini. What we are interested in knowing is whether the phrase "the majority of the people" implies that some of the people, a minority, were not consulted, or does it imply that some of the people were opposed to these agreements? We would be grateful for some information about this phrase.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The phrase simply means that all of the people were not on Eniwetok or not on Ujelang at the time of the discussion; all of the people from Bikini were not on Kili at the time of the discussion. It does not mean that there was any minority opposition at any point, but it is impossible for all practical purposes to get all of the people who formerly lived on either Eniwetok Atoll or Bikini Atoll together at one time.

Mr. LALL (India): May we take it, however, that a substantial majority of the people were there and that they agreed to this without any opposition?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): You may positively take that approach to the problem. Not only that. To me, of even more importance is that the people living on Ujelang and living on Kili who had a true personal interest in this settlement were there practically one hundred per cent.

Mr. LALL (India): My next question deals with the payments made to the Eniwetok people now living on the Ujelang Atoll. These people were displaced, I think I am right in saying it, in 1946. But from the papers before us, it appears that the first payment to them was made at the end of 1956, that is to say, after a lapse of ten years. What steps were taken in the intervening decade to

*Adams  
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(Mr. Lall, India)

re-establish these people, rehouse them and put them in gainful occupations? We should like some clarification on this point as it is not clear to me how these people subsisted for those ten years.

There is another point. The payment took the form mainly of setting up a trust of \$150,000. We should like to know what the purpose of this trust fund is. I believe it is administered by the High Commissioner, but I should like to know whether the accounts of the fund are available to the people on the atoll.

Mr. HUCKER (Special Representative): The people from Eniwetok, when moved to Ujelang, were given tremendous help in the establishment of the community of Ujelang. Over the years the administration has provided agricultural help and development officers to work with those people to get established. There are agricultural programmes to aid them in settling in this new community. Ujelang is not tremendously different in its ability to provide than was Eniwetok, so that there really was no great change in the mode of living; they were living on a new island. So far as the efforts to help them were concerned, I can only say briefly that they have been given that help which was thought necessary and desirable and which they wanted to aid in their adjustment. The trust fund is administered by the High Commissioner. The interest earned by that trust fund is paid to the people of Eniwetok twice a year.

I may not have answered a specific point. If not, I should like the question to be asked again.

Mr. LALL (India): There are two points left in my mind. I mentioned one of them and the other is a new one. One was: what is the purpose of this trust fund? Is it simply that the interest is paid to these people and they use it just as they wish?

Secondly, in what is this trust fund invested and what rate of interest does it earn?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The purpose of the trust fund is to create interest which is paid to the people to be used by them as they see fit. The fund is invested in Government Bonds which were bought at a discount and which are paying on the face value of the bonds, considering the discount, approximately 4 per cent per year.

Mr. LALL (India): I have another question about the people of these two atolls, that is, the Eniwetok and Bikini people, who have been now resettled on other atolls. Would it be possible for the Administering Authority, having regard to the unusual case of these two communities, to consider setting up atoll councils, with the express purpose of submitting a report from these councils to the High Commissioner and through him to the Trusteeship Council, so that we might have some first-hand knowledge of how these resettled people are making out.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I am hesitating in my reply not because I have any objection whatever to information reaching this Council as to how these people are living, but I am trying to analyse on the spot how such a programme would work. The councils which we would set up in either island would report to our District Administrator, he to the High Commissioner and the High Commissioner to this council.

I stand ready to attempt to answer any questions if there are any specific points which we could obtain by this technique which are not otherwise available. I would be more than willing to consider it to see if we could work it out.

Mr. LALL (India): We might return to that in our statement. My only purpose is that, having regard to the special fate, as it were, which has befallen these people, the Council might have a little more information as to how they are progressing. But we can leave that just now. If the Administering Authority has any other suggestion as to how it should be done, we would be very happy indeed to learn of it. But I should like now to come to a few questions relating to the Administration.

(Mr. Lall, India)

*[Handwritten signature]*  
The High Commissioner yesterday gave us some very interesting figures, quite early in his statement, telling us of the Government positions now held by Micronesian inhabitants. He told us that thirty-three positions which were held by United States staff members are now held by Micronesians, and he then gave us some instances of the sort of posts which they hold. These statements lead to the following questions:

First of all, if thirty-three of these posts are now held by Micronesians, how many are still held by United States staff members?

Secondly, what is the programme in fact for filling these posts with Micronesian personnel?

Thirdly, the instances given are in the fields of health, education, finance, nursing -- and I think that is all. Now, what about the direct administration -- law and order, magistrates, district officers? Are none of these posts held by Micronesians? If not, what steps are envisaged to select suitable Micronesians for these posts?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): At the present time, there are approximately 230 United States employees engaged in administration and operation within the Trust Territory and there are approximately thirty-eight or forty United States personnel engaged in our construction activity, which is temporary in nature. The thirty-three Micronesian positions mentioned should be compared with the 230 Americans still remaining in administration and operation. Four years ago, there were more than 300 American positions authorized within the Trust Territory for administration and operation. Today, as I have mentioned, we have 230 Americans and thirty-three Micronesians in place of that group of approximately 300.

We are constantly training Micronesians to take over additional positions now held by Americans. The listing is not quite complete as previously given. We have Micronesians in agriculture and in almost every field -- in a few not mentioned in that listing.

(Mr. Nucker,  
Special Representative)

In the field of law and order, mentioned by the representative of India, our sheriffs and our entire constabulary force in each district are made up solely of Micronesians. We have an attorney-general or chief counsel, a public prosecutor and a public defender, and a man who works with the constabulary in training -- a public safety director -- heading the entire law and order programme. Under those four positions, all other positions are held by Micronesians.

At the present time, we have two Micronesians selected -- one in school, and one to go to school within the next few months -- to work toward a degree. If and when they get their degrees, they will return, and one will be the public prosecutor and the other will be the public defender. I am looking forward to the day when our two top lawyers in Micronesia will be Micronesians.

I hope that answers the question.

Mr. LALL (India): That gives us some information, for which I should like to thank the special representative. What I should like to ask, however, is this: Is the Administering Authority considering putting recruitment for the top posts in these islands on a fifty-fifty basis, let us say -- that is to say, half Micronesians and half Americans for the next five years, say, after which the position can be reconsidered?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I should like to be able to put it on a stronger basis than fifty-fifty -- having more Micronesians for these top posts than we now have Americans in the top posts. Again, however, I must stress the fact that in all of Micronesia today, I think, we have only two individuals or perhaps three who have degrees or have skills which permit us to place them in some of our top posts. Our recruitment is not predicated on competition between Micronesians and Americans. Our placement -- rather than recruitment -- is predicated upon our ability to find a Micronesian who can handle the job at hand -- and, as fast as we can find them, we are using them.



Mr. IALL (India): I should like to ask one more question about the staff in these islands, but I want to say straightaway that I know that the Administering Authority realizes that, in asking these questions and in pressing certain points of view, I am not doing so with any criticism of the American staff in mind.

My final question about the administrative staff is this: Could not the Administering Authority consider a system of governmental scholarships to train Micronesians at universities in America or elsewhere for specific administrative tasks in the upper grades of the administration?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Approximately one year ago, we made the decision to move into the area now suggested by the representative of India. We put into effect a special scholarship programme. The reason for a special scholarship programme, as differentiated from our normal scholarship programme, was to permit us to pick those individuals who, by their past experience and education, seemed best suited to be chosen and sent on for degree work and for the specific purpose of replacing an American in a particular job. For instance, as I have already mentioned, we have sent two away specifically to return as a public defender and a public prosecutor. We have also sent two to school with the thought that, when they return, they will replace district directors of education. We are engaged in the programme suggested.

Mr. IALL (India): I should now like to ask one question arising out of the present tests. I should like to make it clear that I am not trying to seek any security information from the United States delegation, either directly or indirectly. My delegation would like to know whether the present tests have involved any movement of population from some islands to others and, if so, whether due arrangements have been made to see that the inhabitants moved do not suffer in any way.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I can answer that in a most positive manner: There have been no population moves during this current test.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The numerous questions put by the representative of India have already covered most of those which I had intended to put, and I should like to thank him for having facilitated my task greatly. I now have only one or two small questions.

First, mention was made of the new inter-district conference held in Guam last October. That conference decided to meet annually and it will be called the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be an organ which will be transformed in about 1965 into an elected territorial assembly, or something of the kind. What meaning shall we place upon this term "elected" assembly? We have been told that the representatives who attended the conference in October were also elected by organs throughout all these districts. Will the members of the new territorial conference be elected by some different method? For my part, I find this rather difficult to envisage. It would be a sort of federal organ. Could we have some details?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I will agree that the very use of the term "elected official" in these discussions is a little confusing. At the present time the delegates are elected by elective bodies. Our sole thought in talking of 1965 is that at that time the delegates will be elected directly by the people as a result of a vote throughout the district, rather than coming as they do now from an elective body and being elected from within that body. I hope that that explains the situation.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I presume that the date 1965 was not arbitrarily established and that several factors were taken into consideration. I should be very grateful if the special representative could give us a few details in that connexion. Is the Administering Authority taking into account the need to generalize the system of advisory councils and to make it as uniform as possible so that the powers of those councils, the method by which they are elected, and so on, may be generally similar throughout the Territory? This would seem to be a preliminary condition which ought to be achieved.



Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We did discuss the items mentioned by the Belgian representative. Essentially 1965 was chosen as a date which we thought allowed a sufficient period of time for the Micronesians involved to have accumulated knowledge of other districts and, by travelling between districts, to have acquired an ability more nearly to represent a territory rather than a district.

*original*  
Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): My last question is somewhat similar to one put a little earlier by the Indian representative, but I would like to put it in a slightly different way in order to obtain some supplementary information if possible. The special representative, after recalling that the Administering Authority expected to promulgate an organic act, expressed the feeling that, in the light of experience, we should be lacking in realism if we speeded up that process too much. My delegation has often reminded the Council how difficult it is to draw up plans in the political and social fields, and consequently we approve the prudence being demonstrated by the Administering Authority in this delicate domain. Nevertheless, I believe that it would be interesting to know the nature of the difficulties encountered so far by the Administration in seeking to attain this goal of the promulgation of an organic act. What were the difficulties which faced the Administration in this connexion?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I would say that the major difficulty has been the inability on the part of myself or members of my staff to discuss territorial problems with given Micronesians. The ability to discuss district problems is quite evident in discussions with any particular Micronesian. Again, the Territory has been under United States administration for a matter of only ten to twelve years. I hold the belief that Americans need to be educated in the needs and problems of the Territory almost equally with the belief that Micronesians need to become educated in the workings of a territorial government. I think that we are fast approaching -- and perhaps have reached -- the stage where the United States personnel and Micronesian personnel can sit across a table and discuss problems which will be resolved in an organic act.

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

There is another major area of time involved, and that is that once we have written an organic act we will need to present it to our United States Congress for review and enactment. I, for one, do not want to go before our Congress with an organic act which cannot be supported in each and every detail. This, I think, takes time.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I believe that the interesting statement just made by the special representative furnishes the Council with valuable information which must be taken into account in the future. I have no further questions.

U THANT (Burma): First of all, let me express to the special representative my very sincere appreciation for his most elucidating statement made yesterday. Happily, most of the questions I proposed to put this afternoon have been forestalled by my colleague from India, much to my relief, and so for the present I shall confine myself to two or three questions which will be more in the nature of gathering additional information rather than eliciting statements on political advancement.

First of all, we view with very great interest the statement made by the special representative yesterday with regard to the meeting of a constitutional convention of elected delegates from Ponape District in Kolonia to consider ways and means of turning the present two-house Ponape Island Congress into a district-wide unicameral congress. This we consider to be of paramount importance and interest to this Council, and the special representative also stated yesterday that the draft of a charter establishing a unicameral legislative body was now under study. I was wondering if it would be possible for the special representative to make a copy of that draft charter available to the Trusteeship Council so that the Council might be in a better position to assess the standard attained by the people of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I should be pleased to submit this draft. I have been handed a note that it is to be submitted to my office by 1 July 1958, thus causing it to be impossible to submit a copy at this time. However, I would have no objections whatever to mailing a copy of that draft to this Council at such time as it is received in my office.

*Inter Council*  
U THANT (Burma): I am most grateful to the special representative for this assurance. My next question also is of a similar nature. This question has actually been dealt with by my colleague from India, but I should like to elicit further information. On page 56 of the statement made by the special representative yesterday he said:

"A highlight of the year was the holding last October, in Guam, for the second time, an Inter-District Conference of Micronesians Leaders. The success of this conference, to which all delegates in each district were elected by representative legislative or advisory bodies, led to the decision to schedule this conference on an annual basis." (T/PV.894, p. 56)  
Would the special representative care to say if any resolution or resolutions were passed at the conference, and if they were, whether he would be kind enough to make this available to the Council?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): First, the conference does not deal in resolutions as such. The delegates, two from each district, sit around the table and we discuss problems common to the Territory and to the special districts involved. Out of these discussions comes decisions and courses of action and recommendations. I do not have available resolutions, as such, to submit to this Council, but I should be pleased to check to see whether there is available locally a copy of the minutes of those meetings, and from those minutes present to the Council actions taken as a result of the meeting.

U THANT (Burma): My third and last question deals with political organizations. In Chapter 6, page 33 of the annual report it is stated:

"Nongovernmental organizations of a strictly political nature do not exist in the Trust Territory although a number of organized social groups have shown an interest in local political affairs."

*political parties*

From this it is obvious that there are no political parties at present prevailing in the Trust Territory. Is it the intention of the Administering Authority to foster any pronounced political consciousness among the islanders, or in other words, is the Administering Authority prepared to encourage the formation of political parties if a substantial section of the population so desires?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I can only answer that question in this way: The Administering Authority would give all help to any group which desired to develop itself as a political body. At the present time I know of no such movement within any of the districts. I would consider it in error for the Administering Authority to move into any given district for promotional purposes to develop political parties. But we certainly would not stand in their way if they developed from within the districts; in fact, I believe we would help them.

The meeting was suspended at 4.20 p.m. and resumed at 4.35 p.m.

Mr. KIANG (China): Last year the experiment I initiated of asking questions in the four fields at the same time did not turn out to be very successful. Therefore, at this session of the Council I shall confine my questions to the political field.

The detailed questioning before me has unfortunately not removed the questions on my list. Therefore, I still have to put those questions which I have prepared. The first question relates to this inter-district conference and it has been discussed in part. Now I am going to put the second part of the question to the special representative. Do I understand that at this conference all the delegates spoke English, or were facilities provided for those not able to speak English?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Few of the delegates spoke in English. They spoke through interpreters, but I think that adequate facilities were provided to ensure understanding and communication between all delegates, even though there were, as is the case here, five to six different languages requiring interpretation.

Mr. KIANG (China): I thank the special representative for that information. I would now like to know whether that inter-district conference discussion did take place in respect of two questions. One, of course, was mentioned by the special representative in answer to one of the questions put before the recess relating to taxation. I would like to know whether the specific question of direct taxation was ever discussed in the inter-district conference.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Direct taxation was discussed at some length at this conference.

Mr. KIANG (China): I wonder if the special representative would care to add a little more to what he has said.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): For the past two years we have had under discussion a programme of direct taxation, income tax in particular. We have had under discussion the broader problem of revising the various taxes now in effect throughout the districts in order to attain a certain degree of uniformity and more particularly to define the various tax authorities within a district, beginning at the municipal level, and then the district level, and then the territorial tax, and finally this proposed income tax. There was much interest evidenced in the programme. There was a common desire to have an understandable tax programme, and the Micronesians, I might say, like people around the world, are interested in a tax programme but are not too desirous of paying too much tax as individuals. This poses a problem in an area such as Micronesia. I hope within the next year to have put into effect a beginning at least of an income tax programme.

Mr. KIANG (China): There was another subject discussed at the inter-district conference in 1956 and I am wondering whether this subject was also discussed at this conference in 1957. I am referring to the organic act. I remember that Mr. Nucker told the Council last year that this subject was discussed at the 1956 conference and I am interested to know whether the delegates exchanged views on this subject.

*Organic law*



Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We did discuss again an organic act -- our desire for one, the benefits which we hoped to obtain from the existence of such an act, and the need for participation and understanding on the part of Micronesians in its development. There is no opposition to the development of an organic act as far as the delegates are concerned; neither is there a true understanding of any great need for it at this time. There seems to be a passive attitude towards such an act on the part of the delegates. There is a natural interest and a natural curiosity, but without any driving need on their part.

Mr. KIANG (China): At our previous session of the Council the High Commissioner told us that in 1956 the growing interest of Districts in common problems was demonstrated by the increasing number of observers who attended congress sessions in Districts other than their own. We are interested in knowing whether this was also the case in 1957, or whether, possibly, such interest was demonstrated to an even greater extent.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): There is an ever increasing interest on the part of Micronesians in visiting other Districts, and, particularly, in attending the congressional meetings in the other Districts. In this past year we have had transportation problems based on the need to transport individuals from one District to another to attend these meetings of the District Congresses.

Mr. KIANG (China): My next question arises from the opening statement made by the special representative. He said:

"An interesting political development along district-wide lines has been the trend to abolish the bicameral bodies, one house of which was hereditary, and establish unicameral bodies with the entire membership elected..." (T/PV.894. pp.53-55)

This is a very interesting development. Could the High Commissioner tell the Council some of the factors of this trend? Before he replies, I should like to have some clarification on this point and to ask whether this development has a great deal to do with the fact, as stated in the Annual Report, that a number



(Mr. Kiang, China)

of hereditary leaders themselves have been among the first to accept the elective principal. This fact was stated in the annual report on page 30.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Yes, it has. The hereditary leaders are changing their attitude towards the Administration within the Districts and seem to be more and more willing to detach themselves from the responsibilities which they felt they had in the past. Such detachment is in the interests of this democratic form of government which has been the subject of much discussion throughout Micronesia; it has been the subject of many meetings and educational efforts. Hence, the hereditary leaders who, in the past, have held positions in the local congress, have wanted to eliminate themselves as voting members of the congress unless they themselves were elected by the people. It is a movement which seems to be going through the Districts and which I am pleased to report to this Council.

Mr. KIANG (China): Pursuing this question a little further, I should like to know in what District this trend is more obvious.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I believe that the movement was started in the Palaus because, several years ago, in the chartering of the Palauan Congress, the hereditary leaders requested that, although they have the right by heredity to sit in the congress meetings, they should not have the right to vote on any issue. When the other Districts throughout the Territory heard of this they began to wish for something on the same lines, namely, that only those who were elected to office would have the right to vote on a problem. Strange as it may seem, Palau being 3,000 miles away from the Marshalls, and the Marshallese Congress having a bicameral system in which the hereditary leaders have the right to vote on any resolution, just within the last six months the Marshallese suggested that their charter be revised so that they would have a unicameral congress rather than a bicameral congress. The Micronesians travelling to and fro within the Trust Territory have discussed this matter at some length.

*chief*  
Mr. KIANG (China): It is stated in the report that "In a few cases less capable traditional chiefs, through the elective process, have been replaced by men of lesser rank who have won the confidence of their people."

(T/1383. p. 30) Could the special representative tell us whether those few cases were confined to one or two Districts and, if not, in what Districts did those replacements actually take place?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): To the best of my knowledge, those cases are confined to only one, or possibly two, Districts. We must bear in mind the fact that there are not many Districts in which such situations could arise. I think that it was in the Palau District that this happened.

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

I should like the privilege of checking on that point of information to make certain that I have the district correct. I do not want to be incorrect in my answer.

Mr. KIANG (China): The High Commissioner said in his opening statement that:

"Yap District as yet does not envision a district-wide elective legislative body since its out-island areas pose problems somewhat unique to that district." (T/PV.894, page 56)

He went on to state:

"A formal charter designed to establish a Yap Island Legislative Council currently is under preparation and should be ready for submission to my office within the next few months." (Ibid.)

Perhaps I am somewhat confused in reading these two statements. I should like to know the nature of the Yap Island Legislative Council for which a formal charter is being prepared.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): In the Yap District we have the one island of Yap which contains approximately 70 per cent of the population of the Yap District. The out-islands have expressed no particular desire to enter into a district which had legislative activity. The municipalities on the main island of Yap containing the majority of the population have expressed a desire to have a body which would have the right to submit resolutions and act as a legislative council. We look with favour upon this as the first step towards a district-wide congress. It is patterned after a similar programme which has taken place over the years in Ponape. Today Ponape is discussing and proposing a Ponape District Congress which will encompass all the out-islands. In Yap, we are taking the first step by developing a legislative council on the one island.

Mr. KIANG (China): On the matter of chartering municipalities and establishing district political bodies, my delegation has been very much interested by what the High Commissioner stated to the Council about the wisdom of moving slowly in the programme of political development. We certainly

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(Mr. Kiang, China)

appreciate the reasons for the need to have a longer orientation period. My question is whether by moving slowly and cautiously the Administration would find it easier to introduce a larger measure of uniformity in the structure, its composition and function.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The problem seems to me to be one essentially of timing within the area. It naturally can be argued that to move slowly would eventually evolve uniformity to a greater degree. However, if we move too slowly we may pass over the desire of the people to accept a change at a given time. I think possibly I can sum up the thought by stating that our degree of progress is more attuned to the ability of the people to move rather than to our desire to move at any given rate of speed.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation has some questions to ask of the Administering Authority concerning conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

*2000* We noted in the statement of the special representative some target dates for the development of the Territory. In examining these dates, one is bound to realize that only some individual parts of the Territory are covered. One cannot fail to notice that long time-limits are envisaged for the fulfilment of these targets. In particular, for the achievement of so minor a project as the working out of municipal statutes, a period of five years is set; for elective advisory councils, the target date is set for 1965. Incidentally, there is nothing in the plans to suggest a consolidation of the various sections of the Territory. What accounts for this approach to the development of the Territory and why are not more substantial stages contemplated in the development of the Territory?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I believe it is fair to say that the reason is predicated on the belief of the Administering Authority that the attainment of municipal charters or statutes is not a minor objective. In

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

considering the nature of the area and its present stage of development, the acquisition and development of municipal statutes and/or charters is a major programme. The Administering Authority has held the position for the past number of years that true territorial growth and the district-wide development of political institutions could not be successful until and unless we had a foundation at the municipal level of democratic government effectively at work. I therefore believe that the 1965 date is a reasonable and realistic one, on the assumption that we shall by that time have a successful municipal chartering programme behind us.

Mr. IOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am grateful to the special representative for his explanations, but I could only agree with his views if one recognized as normal an approach to the development of the Territory which prevailed in centuries past. As is well known, the Pacific Islands were discovered by Europeans almost simultaneously with the discovery of America. Until very recently, however, no municipalities were set up there. If we have in mind the present rate of development of the Territory in comparison with the rates of development of past centuries, then of course the target dates communicated by the special representative may well be regarded as satisfactory or normal.

It seems to us, however, that the United Nations has undertaken certain obligations under the Trusteeship System not in order to consecrate and consolidate the colonial rate of "development", but in order to assist the peoples involved in attaining the sort of democracy from which they were studiously excluded for centuries. This is my comment in connexion with the reply of the special representative which can in no way be regarded as satisfactory.

*Language*  
I should like to ask a second question in this connexion. In response to a question of the representative of India, the special representative stated that there were many dialects and languages in the Territory and that this was one of the hurdles in the creation of central organs for the whole Territory. Are we to understand that as long as no common language for all peoples of the Territory is devised, until that time no central or territorial organs to be created? If this is so, then I should like to say that there are countries in this world in which hundreds of different nationalities live, nationalities which speak equal numbers of languages. This did not prevent them from joining in unified states. I would be grateful to the special representative if he could clarify this point.


Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I did not state that nine languages and twenty-eight dialects would be the cause for our not having territorial bodies by any given time. My statement was that the nine languages and the twenty-eight dialects contributed to the problem of getting common understanding which in time would permit district-wide and territorial-wide political progress. I suggested this as a part of the problem, not the problem.



(Mr. Nucker,  
Special Representative)

For the record I should also like to suggest that Micronesia has been under the influence of foreign countries since approximately 1850 or 1860, not the hundreds of years indicated by the remarks of the representative of the Soviet Union. Furthermore, the United States has had responsibility for this area only since 1947, not the past hundreds of years.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We of course have our opinion on all the questions touched upon by the special representative and will in due course express these opinions. In order not to take the time of the Council in polemics on this question, I should like to clarify the following point. In answer to a question from one delegation, the special representative indicated that there were only two or three Micronesians in the Territory who had sufficient background and training for occupying high-level posts. I should like to ascertain what accounts for this state of affairs. As early as 1949, the Administering Authority reported that nine Micronesians were then receiving schooling in American universities and also in some other institutions of learning, especially Philippine universities. In subsequent reports the Administering Authority steadily reported on an increasing number of students, indigenous students who were receiving schooling at sundry universities. We were therefore surprised to learn that over all these years only one or two adequately trained persons with the adequate background for suitable posts were actually trained. Why is it that so low a percentage of Micronesians who enter higher educational institutions succeed in completing their course of studies?



Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): It is true that back in 1949 students were sent by the Administering Authority to schools of higher learning and that in every year since that time students have been sent to those schools. Those students have been absorbed within the Trust Territory in various fields of their choosing. Our health programmes, our educational programmes, our construction programmes, agriculture -- across the board -- our activities are in the main activities which use Micronesians. The schooling given in the past to Micronesians has not led to degrees. It has led to a level of education which would permit a

(Mr. Nucker,  
Special Representative)

ready absorption of a large segment of the Micronesians. There are only two or three Micronesians who have gotten their degrees.. There now are three or four whom we expect to receive their degrees within the next several years. It was deemed necessary at first to give a broad level of education to a number of Micronesians, and then from that base, move into the area of professional degree-type education. We are now moving into that area.

*Chairman*  
Mr. LORANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question has already been touched upon in part by some other representatives here, but I should like to ask it in more concrete form. I should like to know what is the attitude of the Administering Authority to the resolutions of the General Assembly regarding the setting of final time-limits for the attaining of independence.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): Several years ago, after I returned from a Visiting Mission to East Africa, I had occasion to address the Council as to the opinion of the United States on final target dates. At that time, as I recall it, I said that there had been cases in our own history, particularly with respect to the Philippine Islands, when we did set a final time-limit which I think altogether was close to a span of fourteen years and that, in spite of the intervention of the Second World War, we completed it successfully. The Philippine Islands stand today as a remarkable example of how a brave people, in spite of all kinds of adversities, can stand on its own feet and conduct its affairs a great deal more successfully than many other nations.

(Mr. Sears, United States)

However, at that time I did say that it was the policy of the United States not to be in favour of final target dates. On the other hand, as the representative of the Soviet Union knows full well, we are in favour of intermediate dates, and we are pressing for them. You will see examples of it here. That is about all I can do to answer the question of the representative of the Soviet Union.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Of course, it is scarcely necessary for me to say that the Soviet delegation cannot agree to this approach to the purposes and goals of the Trusteeship System. However, I am grateful to the representative of the United States for his candid answer.

I should like to clarify one point regarding District Congresses. I like to know how they are set up, especially in Truk, and what the composition of the Congress is in that particular district at the present time.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): That Congress in Truk consists of representatives elected by the people on the basis of one representative, I believe, for each 400 population. I will check that figure, to make certain whether it is 400 or 500. A municipality, for instance, which might have a population of 1,000, would be entitled to two or three representatives to be elected from that area. There are in the Truk Council, therefore, representatives from every populated area within the Truk District, each representative being an elected representative.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): At past sessions, some members of the Council expressed surprise at the rather obsolete division of responsibilities for the Territory between the Departments of the Navy and the Interior. The answers to questions put by some of the representatives at the present session seemed to indicate that this division does hamper the development of the Territory. I wonder whether the Administration intends to relieve the Navy Department of functions which, after all, are not customary for the Navy to hold. What is it, if anything, that prevents this from being consummated?

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I think the representative of the Soviet Union deserves a perfectly frank answer to that question. He knows full well that his own country has possession of Sakhalin Island now. He knows the fighting that went on in the Pacific Ocean during the war. He also knows that for security purposes we have to have an ocean defensive system. Certain parts of the Trust Territory are considered -- and very properly -- in that system. Where the Navy is in control, that is the case. The Navy and the Department of the Interior, which is charged with the administration of the Trust Territory as a whole, work hand in hand on the non-military, the non-security, aspects of the administration of places like Saipan. But the rest of them are strategically important to the defense of the United States. Again, I remind the representative of the Soviet Union that he has his own Sakhalin.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am grateful for the frank answer which we have heard, but in this connexion I should like to point out that we are here discussing a Trust Territory and a people whose destinies cannot altogether be subjected to military and strategic considerations. That is what gave rise to my question addressed to the representative of the United States.

*Beijing paper*  
I should like to ask a question relating to Appendix A of the report. First, however, I should like to state clearly that reference to this Appendix does not mean that we recognize the legality or propriety of the agreements contained therein, which are not based on conditions of equal rights. Reserving our right to express ourselves in greater detail both as to these documents and as to the events which gave rise to them, I wish at this stage to clarify the following detail: In the report of the Administering Authority and in the statement of the special representative, it was indicated that these agreements were signed with the free consent of the people of the islands. Why is it that these agreements were signed ten years after the forced transportation of these people from those islands?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): It was at the time we had money to settle the claims that we met with the people to effect the settlement.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I highly value the clear and forthright and categorical clarification which I have obtained to my question.

My next question is this: The Eniwetok people have been visited by destructive typhoons in their places of resettlement. We heard about this, at yesterday's meeting of the Council, in colourful and concrete terms. Has the Administering Authority studied the question of how frequently this island is likely to be subjected to typhoons? Did it study this problem, for example, before the Eniwetok people were moved there?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The Eniwetok people are on the island of Ujelang. That was not hit by the typhoons which went through the Trust Territory. Ujelang may have been subjected to some high winds, but it suffered no material damage. The same statement holds true for Kili, where the people from Bikini are living. I can only say that the history of typhoons in the Trust Territory did not support the happenings of this past year with respect to the appearance of typhoons. In the majority of instances, the typhoons are developed in the western portion of the Trust Territory. The last typhoon of any consequence which visited the eastern part of the Trust Territory, the Marshalls, occurred in 1905, to the best of my ability to locate information on past typhoon performances. Normally, the Marshalls are free of typhoons.



Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I apologize for my slip in saying Eniwetok instead of Bikini, but we have the same attitude towards the populations of both islands so that it was not really much of a slip. I merely wish to remind the Council of what the special representative said yesterday about the destruction and devastation in one of the islands where these resettled people live. He did speak of it I believe. That is why I wonder whether the Administering Authority ever enquired into the question why Kili remained uninhabited for centuries, and whether this did not suggest perhaps that the island was in fact unsuitable for permanent settlement by human beings. Perhaps the Administering Authority made some slip in studying the question. It may be that typhoons prevented people from living there permanently. These people actually were already the victims of artificial typhoons --that is to say, the blast from atomic and hydrogen bombs -- and now they had natural ones. Their last link with the civilized world, the schooner which I believe was mentioned in the previous report as being so useful to them, also has sunk. This, therefore, suggests a number of thoughts on the physical security of the place to which these people were moved.

I am not asking this question or seeking clarification because I regard the policies which lead to the resettlement of these people as acceptable. Indeed, I regard them as inhumane, inadmissible and improper. But from the Administering Authority's own point of view this question should have been approached in the manner I suggested when addressing myself to the special representative.

I should like to ask one other question related to the same events. Does the Administering Authority intend to return Bikini and Eniwetok islands to the indigenous inhabitants thereof, and are there any plans or target dates in that connexion?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I should like to address a few remarks to the matter of the selection of Kili just for purposes of clarification. The island of Kili had been used by the Germans and the Japanese for years as a coconut plantation. The past history, the past use and the potentials of the island were known to the Administering Authority prior to the moving of the people from Bikini to Kili. Its past record so far as typhoons



(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

were concerned must also have been known. I should also like to call attention to my opening statement in which I said:

"Fortunately, also, Kili suffered only slight damage to tree crops in this storm. When in early January the second disastrous typhoon smashed into the Jaluit Atoll, the island of Kili again was spared."

(T/PV.894, page 59-60).

Now it is true that on Imerej island, in the Jaluit Atoll, we had provided houses for some of the Kilian people to live in when they visited Jaluit, but this was not part and parcel of Kili island itself.

I should like to refer to the representative of the United States the question relating to target dates for the return of Bikini and Eniwetok.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): As soon as there is no longer any need for Bikini and Eniwetok they will be returned to the people. They still have their sovereignty in those two islands.

Mr. LORANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to ask a question which, I wish to make it clear, is not based on documents. In the lobbies of the United Nations reports circulated recently about some negotiations between an attorney representing the people of Bikini and Eniwetok and the Administering Authority. Could we be told, perhaps, whether the Administering Authority will confirm the fact that such negotiations have taken place, and could we know the character and subject of the talks?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): To the best of my knowledge no attorney at the present time is representing the people of Eniwetok. I believe there is some confusion on the matter of representation. There is an American attorney from Honolulu who has visited Washington and, I understand, called on certain representatives in this Council with regard to his representing the people in Ebon and Kwajalein Atoll in their claims for land settlements which are, as yet, not settled. Discussions have been held in Washington with that attorney but the matter has not as yet been resolved. However, in direct response to the statement of the Soviet Union representative, I do not know of any attorney representing the people of Eniwetok.

✓ Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am grateful to the special representative for his reply. I come now to my final question, but first I should like to reserve my right to give a full evaluation of developments in the Territory when we reach the general discussion stage. At this point I should like to ask the special representative what is the shortest distance from the place of explosion where indigenous people are still in residence.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I believe that it is within one hundred miles of the point of explosion that we have people now in residence in the Trust Territory.

✓ Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): May I take it that Rongelap Atoll is about one hundred miles from the place of detonation? And may I avail myself of this opportunity to ascertain perhaps what is the state of affairs in that atoll where the people have already been subjected to irradiation and have suffered casualties? What are conditions in that atoll which is located within one hundred miles of the place of atomic detonation, and what is their impact?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The understanding that Rongelap is within the one hundred mile radius is correct. The condition of the people on Rongelap is as good today as it was last year when I reported. I know of no incident that has occurred which would have in any way seriously deteriorated or affected those individuals' health. The representative from the Soviet Union will recall that we discussed the problem quite at length last year. Since the meeting last year the people have again been examined by medical authorities and again have been found to be generally speaking in good health.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In conclusion I should like to express my gratitude to the special representative and to the representative of the United States for their answers.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): My first question to the special representative relates to the chartering of municipalities to which he referred at some length in his statement of yesterday afternoon. There already have been some questions on this subject. The special representative gave us a very interesting account of the progress made during the year in this programme of chartering municipalities, and perhaps the most interesting thing that he referred to was that fewer charters had been granted in the year under review than had been expected. I should like to ask about the reception of this decision by the local public opinion in the islands concerned. I should like to ask whether they readily accepted the reasons for the delay or were there any who felt that they were being deprived of opportunities for political activity to which they were led to expect. I, myself, of course, entirely understand, from what we were told yesterday, the reason for this delay; but I should like to know a little more about the local reception of this.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We did not, within the Trust Territory, establish certain municipalities for chartering within the first year. Therefore, there could be no immediate reaction on the part of any one municipality if it was not chartered during the year because no one municipality knew whether it was scheduled for that year; so that, there has been no widespread discussion on the part of the municipalities, not having been chartered during the past year.

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

I should like to say that in two instances which come to mind we had municipalities coming to us, wanting to be chartered immediately. We asked that they have a series of meetings with our educational and our political affairs people so that they might more fully understand the chartering of a municipality before the charter was granted. This held up action in these two instances for approximately six weeks each. Both municipalities are chartered but the chartering resulted from a fuller knowledge rather than merely chartering based on a desire to have a charter.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): Am I right in concluding that there would be general acceptance by public opinion of the steps that are now being taken under the programme which the Administration is now operating?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): The representative from the United Kingdom is correct in assuming that there is acceptance. There is great acceptance on the part of most Micronesians for this municipal chartering idea or programme.

*Shaf*  
Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): My second question relates to the recruitment and training of the District Administrators and their assistants, and by this I am referring to the existing American administrators. I should like to ask the special representative whether he could give us a little information about how these officers are selected, how they are trained, for how long are they engaged, and what sort of previous experience is looked for, if any?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): In the four years I have been connected with the Trust Territory we have taken on or recruited one District Administrator. The other District Administrators have been with the Administration since before I became a member of that organization. With this thought in mind it can be readily seen that we have not had a training school nor

(Mr. Nucker, Special Representative)

have we had a recruitment programme refined looking toward the employment of District Administrators. In the four years that I have been there we have made District Administrators in two districts from persons who had been working in the Trust Territory for several years prior to their upgrading and promotion. With respect to the one man we recruited, we looked for a man who had an administrative background, who had an awareness of and a background of knowledge in political development -- and we in each of our employees stress strongly the quality of getting along with people and understanding other people's problems. The man we recruited for the one new District Administratorship fit our bill quite well. He now is in his third year with us. During the course of employment and tenure our District Administrators, our Assistant District Administrators and our administrative officers and other individuals who appear to have executive skills and abilities are constantly being brought in to Guam for special work and special assignments. We look towards the ability of promoting from within more than we look to the ability to acquire from without as a source of District Administrators.

*Legislature*

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I am very grateful for that very interesting reply. My next question relates to the problem of promoting what I think is described in the annual report as territorial thinking. On page 16 there is a reference to "attitudes of insularity and parochialism", which are known even in areas not separated by hundreds or thousands of miles of sea water. On page 18, there is a reference to the various conferences which are promoting the development of territorial thinking. The evolution of a territorial legislature is mentioned. I know from personal experience how difficult this sometimes is at certain stages, whereas at other stages of the evolution of peoples the development of territorial thinking moves very rapidly. Can the special representative give us any more information than he has already given on this subject, which I think is one of very great importance with regard to the political and general advancement of the islanders in the Trust Territory?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We have taken certain actions aimed at attempting to break down more rapidly these attitudes of insularity and parochialism. Other actions have, I think, just sort of flowed from the general philosophy we have in the Trust Territory without any pointed effort. For instance, several years ago, it was not thought possible to assign a Micronesian from one district to work in another district. We now have communicators from Palau, for instance, working in other districts. We have a medical practitioner from Yap practising his profession in other districts. We have sent young Micronesians to various training schools and universities and on their return have assigned them to districts other than their own. There is a Ponapean lad who has received the benefit of training in fishing who is now working at Palau on fishing problems. We have a Dr. Ianwi in the Marshalls who is skilled in eye treatment who travels through the districts. These actions we have taken purposefully to get Micronesians used to working with people other than the people from their own districts. Our conferences at Guam or at Truk serve as a meeting ground for Micronesians from many walks of life.



(Mr. Nucker,  
Special Representative)

We have discussed here in detail the Delegate's Conference. Frankly, this conference is only one of those we have had during the year. There is the Judicial Conference at which our community court and district court judges come to a central place to exchange ideas and for planning and programming purposes. We have our Educators Conference. We have our Public Prosecutors School, our Public Defenders School and our Nursing School at Palau where nurses from all over meet. There is the Pacific Islands Central School. We send students to the University of Hawaii and other universities for education, which causes a mingling of ideas and a meeting of people from various areas. There are our shipping, our airlines and our people travelling back and forth to meet each other when congresses are convened at different times throughout the district. All these actions tend to break down this insularity and parochialism.

At a recent meeting at Guam I was most interested in the comments of one of the leaders from the Marshalls who is a man in his fifties. He stated that all his life he had wanted to come to Guam because he had heard so much about it. Therefore, travel and exchange of ideas is doing much, I believe, to break down this insularity and parochialism. However, it does take time because each district centre feeds out to the outer islands. You get the outer island people into the district centre and then you get them into another district or into Guam. The exchange is slow, but I believe it is working.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I am very grateful for that lengthy and extremely interesting reply.

I wonder whether the special representative will allow me to say how much I admired his presentation of the report yesterday. There was nothing I admired more in that report than the passage dealing with target dates. I admired both the substance and the method of presentation. It seems to me that it might perhaps be a model to many others.

One thing which particularly interested me was the emphasis on flexibility. I think that my friend, the representative of the United States will not be surprised to hear me say that I was delighted to see this great recognition of the need for flexibility. I want to ask the special representative whether he

(Sir Andrew Cohen,  
United Kingdom)

would agree, on the basis of such experiences that there have been on the subject of target dates, that it is very important for us constantly to keep in front of us the need for adjusting our programmes in the light of experience and not simply relying on certain theoretical criteria. I hope this will be regarded as a fair question.

Mr. SEARS (United States): The special representative, I hope, will reply to a part of this question when I am finished.

In the first place, I should like to thank the representative of the United Kingdom for his fulsome praise of intermediate target dates. I should also like to tell him that in 1956 -- I think it was -- when the subject was first raised, I was President of the Council so I was not sitting in this seat. I can assure him, however, that a cardinal and one of the principal arguments in favour of the intermediate target dates was that they should be flexible; otherwise they would make very little sense.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): Speaking now individually and as the person with the responsibility in the area involved and not necessarily as the special representative, I have always believed in flexibility. At the same time, I have always believed that one should not be so flexible as to do nothing. I did not intend to be facetious. That was my way of saying that in my administrative life I have always wanted target dates to go against because it gave direction to my planning, purpose to my thinking and a sense of accomplishment upon attainment. At the same time, however, I never wanted to be so possessed of a mind which could not change as to cause me never to enjoy reaching a goal. Because enjoyment in reaching a goal in large measure consists of how you reach that goal, not merely that you reach it.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I think I might observe to the special representative that there would be few of us in this room who regard the tomb as a very flexible place, and I would observe to the representative of the United States that what I praised was the substance and manner of presentation of this statement on target dates.

My next question is also rather a general one. I have listened to some recent questions and I think I can claim to approach these matters as much in the interests of the well-being of the inhabitants of Trust Territories, including this one, and their rapid advancement as anybody in this room, and certainly as much as my friend from the Soviet Union. I have felt bound, in the light of some of the question I have heard, to ask myself, What are the salient characteristics of the administration of this Trust Territory during the years it has been a Trust Territory.

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(Sir Andrew Cohen,  
United Kingdom)

I hope that I shall not be accused of putting leading questions when I ask the special representative whether he would not agree with me that there are two things in the report which stand out most strikingly. One is the passage appearing on page 3 of the annual report which states:

"A major feature of postwar American policy has been to return the islanders to the places they consider to be home, or to where they want to live. For all practical purposes, the resettlement in their home communities and islands ... has been fully accomplished."

When we talk about displacements which occur, it seems to me that this should be put in proper perspective. The first part of my question is to ask whether this is not the correct perspective. The other part of my question relates to finance. We have heard a lot about hundreds and hundreds of years of being kept back. But of course it was kept back by nature. The question I ask is whether one would find in many parts of the world territories not yet fully developed where for a population of 67,000 people a subsidy is made by the Administering Authority of well over \$5 million, which is in fact a subsidy of nearly \$100 per head of the population. I am afraid it is becoming rather a leading question, but I am asking the special representative whether he can find other parts of this report which are still more significant than that.

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I should like to comment on the question and perchance answer it. I am grateful for the comments of the representative of the United Kingdom. The quotation he gave from page 3 of the annual report is a statement of a long-range desire and is a statement which was made after considerable thought. I am very proud to represent an Administering Authority which considers that the Trust Territory should be made available to the residents thereof, should not be considered a place for exploitation, and is not a place which the Administering Authority expects to derive profit from, but rather to discharge its responsibilities in as humane a way as we can.

(Mr. Nucker,  
Special Representative)

With respect to the amount of the budget and the amount of expenditures, it is significant. We would like, of course, as any Administering Authority would like, to be able to administer the area with less and less subsidy. But again, I am thankful to represent a country which is not going to judge the value of the area in terms of reducing dollars but rather in terms of proper and considered right, growth of people and treatment of people in the area.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The next meeting of the Council will be held at 2.30 tomorrow afternoon.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.





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Trusteeship Council  
22nd Session  
7th Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1396  
17 June 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

Continuing its examination of conditions in the United States-administered strategic trust territory of the Pacific Islands, the Trusteeship Council this afternoon began the questioning of Delmas H. Nucker, the administering authority's special representative, regarding conditions in the territory.

The territory comprises a total land area of 687 square miles spread over an ocean area of some 3,000,000 square miles. The population, inhabiting only 97 of the more than 2,000 islands of the territory, totaled 67,199 persons in 1957.

Mr. NUCKER, in answer to a question asked by Carlos Urrutia Aparicio (Guatemala), said as yet no tentative date had been set for the transfer of the territory's administrative headquarters from Guam -- which is a United States possession and not a part of the trust territory -- to a site within the territory itself. Questions of transportation and communications, which he said were not easy to solve, continued to be a major deterrent to such a transfer.

ARTHUR S. LALL (India) noted from yesterday's opening statement of the special representative that the territory's political progress on a district level had been very satisfactory. The special representative had stated that, with the granting of a charter last August, a district-wide unicameral congress came into being in Truk district, three years before the target date set for the event. He had said that the Truk congress held its first meeting last October and had a most "successful session." Mr. LALL asked for further details concerning the subjects discussed by the congress.

The special representative said the first days of the congress were devoted to organizational matters, such as the establishment of committees to discuss various questions regarding finance, taxation and local ordinances. The congress then discussed at length the question of payment of salaries to school teachers and passed resolutions on other subjects of local interest to the district.

As for the powers of the congress, Mr. NUCKER said it could pass resolutions which, upon approval by the High Commissioners, become the laws of the district.

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Replying to other questions, the special representative gave further details regarding the development of district government in the territory. As regards the second inter-district conference of Micronesian leaders, held last October, Mr. NUCKER said the subjects discussed covered "almost every problem" of the Micronesians, including shipping, copra, agriculture, taxation, political development, etc. The conference had no specific statutory authority, he said; its consultations were not on a formal basis.

As regards the enactment of an organic act for the territory, the special representative said he was hopeful that a draft would be ready to be presented to the United States Congress for action by 1960. However, since it was desirable to have the views of Micronesians, he said it might take a longer time to have an organic act "that we want."

Continuing, Mr. LALL noted that in the agreements arrived at between the administering authority and the people of Eniwetok and Bikini atolls, the term "the majority of the people" had been used. He wondered whether that implied that a minority had not been consulted or had opposed the agreement.

The special representative replied that it had been impossible to consult all the people who had ever lived on these islands, but that "practically one hundred per cent" had been in agreement. There had been no opposition.

With regard to the \$150,000 trust fund set up for the benefit of the people settled in Ujelang, Mr. LALL asked what the purpose of that fund was, how it was invested and whether it was open to inspection by the islanders.

The special representative pointed out that the purpose of the fund was to permit the payment of interest biennially to the islanders who could use the money as they pleased. The fund was administered by the High Commissioner; it was invested in Government Bonds, and produced interest at a rate of approximately 4 per cent per year.

Mr. LALL further inquired whether the administering authority would consider setting up special councils in Eniwetok and Bikini to report through the High Commissioner to the Trusteeship Council on the present condition of the displaced islanders.

Mr. NUCKER stated that he would be prepared to consider the suggestion, but envisaged practical difficulties and asked for greater clarification regarding the questions which the proposed councils were expected to answer.

Mr. LALL stated that he would revert to the matter at a later stage.

Turning to the current series of nuclear tests in the Pacific Islands, Mr. LALL asked whether these tests had involved any movement of populations and whether appropriate arrangements were made to see that the inhabitants moved did not suffer in any way.

Mr. NUCKER said he could answer this question "positively." No population, he said, had been moved during the current tests.

(END OF TAKE 1)

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Trusteeship Council  
22nd Session  
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Press Release TR/1396  
17 June 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

U. THANT (Burma), referring to the second inter-district conference of Micronesian leaders held last October, asked whether any resolutions were passed by the conference.

The special representative said the conference did not pass resolutions as such. The delegates -- two from each district -- discussed problems common to the territory or to the specific districts involved. Out of the discussions emerged recommendations, but not resolutions as such, he declared.

CHITPING H.C. KIANG (China) asked whether at the inter-district conference English was spoken or whether facilities for translation were provided. He also asked whether direct taxation was discussed.

The special representative replied that interpretation was provided for six languages, and that direct taxation -- particularly income tax -- had been discussed.

I.I. LOBANOV (USSR) stated, with reference to the target dates envisaged by the administering authority, that these concerned only "minor" developments such as municipal charters, that they were too long and that they involved only local and not district-wide developments.

MR. NUCKER, the special representative, declared that the attitude of the administering authority was predicated on the belief that municipal development was not a minor question, but was in fact an essential prerequisite for an effective and successful district-wide evolution. The target date of 1965 was a "realistic" one, he stated, in view of the present development of the territory.

Mr. LOBANOV declared that this was an old-fashioned approach. He noted that though the Pacific islands and America had been discovered almost simultaneously, not a single charter had been granted to a Pacific island under the colonial system. But this was not "the way of the United Nations." He therefore considered the reply of the special representative "unsatisfactory."

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Expressing surprise at the fact that only two or three Micronesians were said to have the qualifications for holding higher posts, Mr. LOBANOV asked why so few had acquired the necessary qualifications after so many years of training.

The special representative said each year since 1949 Micronesian students had been sent by the administering authority to schools of higher learning. These students had been absorbed in the administration in various fields of their own choosing.

Mr. LOBANOV asked whether the administering authority had set final target dates for achieving the independence of the territory.

MASON SEARS (United States) said that, as he had pointed out at an earlier session, there had been cases in the history of the United States, as in the case of the Philippines, where final target dates were set and successfully achieved. However, it was the policy of the United States not to favor the setting of final target dates; it was in favor of intermediate targets and dates.

Mr. LOBANOV inquired of the United States representative, with reference to the division of authority between the Interior and the Navy Departments over the Trust Territory, whether the administering authority intended to relieve the Navy of these "unusual" responsibilities.

Mr. SEARS (United States) stated that the Soviet representative was aware of the military history of the area as a result of which his own country was in possession of a part of Sakhalin Island. He stated that in view of present conditions it was essential for the United States to have an ocean defense system. Such a system had to be under the control of the Navy, but it worked "hand-in-glove" with the Interior Department in non-military matters.

Mr. LOBANOV stated that the Council was dealing with a trust territory. The destiny of the people of the territory could not be entirely dependent on military considerations. He said that, from the opening statement of the special representative, he understood that the people of Eniwetok -- who had been displaced from their home atoll -- had suffered from the typhoons which struck their new area of resettlement. He asked whether the administering authority had made a study of the question of how frequently this area suffered from such typhoons and whether this aspect had been studied before the Eniwetok people were moved to their present place of resettlement.

Mr. NUCKER said Ujelang, to which the people of Eniwetok were moved, had not been hit by last year's typhoons. The same was true of Kili, where the people formerly of Bikini were now living. Accordingly to his knowledge, he said, the

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last typhoon of any consequence which hit the eastern part of <sup>the</sup> Marshall Islands occurred in 1905.

The Soviet representative then asked whether the administering authority had any plans to return the islands of Eniwetok and Bikini to their peoples.

Mr. SEARS (United States) said as soon as there was no further need for Bikini and Eniwetok those islands would be returned to the people.

Mr. LOBANOV (USSR) asked about the shortest distance between the point of nuclear explosions and any inhabited area.

The special representative stated that it was "within 100 miles."

Mr. LOBANOV (USSR) asked whether Rongelap Atoll was not less than 100 miles away. He also inquired about the present condition of the people of Rongelap. These people, he recalled, had been subjected to radiation and had sustained casualties.

The special representative confirmed that Rongelap was "within the 100-mile radius." Regarding conditions on the island, he declared that they were as good as they had been last year when he reported to the Council. Since then the people had been examined by doctors and found to be "generally in good health." He did not know of any case of deterioration of health, he said.

Replying to a question by Sir Andrew Cohen (United Kingdom) concerning the development of municipal government, the special representative said there was "general acceptance" on the part of most Micronesians for the administration's municipal chartering program.

As regards the development of a territorial consciousness among the population, Mr. NUCKER said the administration had taken certain actions to break down attitudes of insularity and parochialism. In the past, for example, it was not possible to appoint Micronesians of one district to serve in another district, a thing which was possible today. There was also an exchange of ideas among Micronesians of different districts, which flowed from the sending of students to other areas to study, the holding of congresses, <sup>and the influences of</sup> shipping, airlines, and the like. All these actions, he said, tended to break down insularity. The exchange of ideas was slow but it was working, he said.

Questioning of Mr. Nucker on conditions in the Pacific Islands will be continued at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow, 18 June, after the Council first hears the closing statements on Nauru by the representative of Australia, the administering authority.