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### VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Tuesday, 30 June 1959, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Mr. DORSINVILLE

(Haiti)

1. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi 3a, 47 (continued)
2. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 3e, 4, 67 (continued)

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## AGENDA ITEMS 3a and 4

## EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF RUANDA-URUNDI (T/L.909)

(continued)

- (a) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR 1957 (T/1406, 1442, 1452, 1461)
- (b) PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS RAISING GENERAL QUESTIONS (T/PET.GEN/L.2, 3; T/PET.3/L.9; T/COM.3/L.23 to 25)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Reisdorf, special representative for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

General debate (continued)

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): When we talk about the political development of a Trust Territory, we should, I believe, distinguish two aspects of the problem: on the one hand, the political strivings, demands and movements among the indigenous population and, on the other hand, the policies and practical activities in this field of the Administering Authority.

In Ruanda-Urundi, as in the other remaining dependent countries of the African continent, we note the rapid growth of national awareness, the striving towards freedom and independence. There is much evidence of the fact that the African inhabitants of the Trust Territory are seeking real political progress to a growing extent and the prompt achievement of freedom and independence for their country.

One of the Belgian authors who recently visited the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, Mr. van Bilsen, writes:

"Whether we like it or not, whether we want it or not, Congo and Ruanda-Urundi have entered the political stage of their development. In Leopoldville, in Bukavu, in Usumbura, in all the centres which I visited, I saw how the problem of emancipation is of concern to the population as well as the problems of discrimination, segregation and the future of their country."

Incidentally, the author adds that he hardly met any whites -- that is to say, Europeans -- who would have thought about political problems.

The Visiting Mission of the United Nations which visited the Territory in 1957 noted these political phenomena -- new tendencies in the indigenous population, the circulation of documents, political pamphlets, and so on. The Visiting Mission received petitions from a number of civic organizations of the Trust Territory and also from individuals. There were memorandums, petitions, manifests which demanded or requested reforms in the existing state of affairs. The head of the Hutu Party, Joseph Habyarimana Gitera, in his petition contained in document T/COM.3/L.25, quite rightly demands the prompt and genuine democratization of existing executive, legislative and judicial authorities. He also requests and demands the Africanization of the personnel of the Administration.

Many organizations and groups in the Trust Territory such as the Euro-African Union, the delegation of students of the Trust Territory in the University of Lovanium at Kimuenza, are also ~~advancing demands for political reform,~~ democratization and Africanization of the organs of administration, and particularly for the need for participation of the indigenous population in the determination of the future plans for Ruanda-Urundi.

Inhabitants of the Trust Territory, in their petitions to the United Nations, are justly demanding that indigenous inhabitants and also the Trusteeship Council should participate in preparing the political reforms. This is said, for instance, in the petition of the representatives of the Abarosi Africans of Ruanda dated 6 May 1959 (T/PET.3/L.9) and in other documents. We also know that the General Council of Ruanda set up a special committee which has drafted a plan of reform for the Trust Territory. According to the Press, this draft was approved by the Council and, at the end of January 1959, was directed to the Minister for the Affairs of the Congo in Ruanda-Urundi.

We should note that some of the proposals reflect the very nature of the General Council, which is composed largely of chiefs and the élite of the tribes. That is why provision is made for the establishment of a constitutional monarchy headed by a mwami. However, the proposals also reflect the interests of the

whole of the population of the country such as the introduction of universal suffrage, the conferring of real authority upon the elected organs, the separation of administrative and judicial affairs, the industrialization of the country and educational advancement. The authors of this project are against an administration union with the Belgian Congo and they seek the liquidation of the subordination of the Trust Territory to the adjacent colony.

The Commissioner of the General Council of Ruanda, speaking in favour of the federation of both Territories of Ruanda and Urundi and in favour of the retention of their internal economy, justly accused the Administering Authority of fanning hatred in the Trust Territory. He said, "Allegedly the Council is conducting itself passively, watching the destruction of our country, and is thus apparently encouraging this split."

The status of the Territory, as we were also convinced at this session, is still governed by the colonial law of 1925, which could not of course take into account the specific situation of Ruanda-Urundi as a Trust Territory. This law provides for the administrative unification of the Territory with the Belgian Congo and extension to the Trust Territory of the Congolese laws. In fact the Trust Territory is still considered by the Administering Authority as a part of the Belgian Congo, as a province.

As we can see from the reports of the Administering Authority, the Vice-Governor General is subordinated to the Governor of the Congo. All the laws for the Trust Territory are enacted in Belgium, even the budget, the draft of which is prepared by the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi, sent to Belgium, discussed in the Belgian Parliament and then enacted as Belgian law.

As before, we read again and again in the report of the Administering Authority that the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory, as the non-indigenous inhabitants, do not participate directly in the exercise of legislative authority in the strict meaning of the word.

It follows that Belgium is seeking to retain complete political and economic control over the Trust Territory. This is specifically the purpose of the subordination of the Trust Territory to the neighbouring colony of the Congo.



(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

That is also the purpose of such measures of the Administering Authority as the inclusion of the Trust Territory in the European Common Market, in violation of the Trusteeship Agreement. It is not surprising that the Belgian Government attempted to take this step behind the back of the United Nations without any form of consultation with the population of the Trust Territory. Of course, the actions of the States members of the European Market, undertaken in support of their colonial interests, has nothing in common with the purposes of Trusteeship and is merely designed to tie in the dependent countries with the metropolitan countries through economic or golden chains, thus hampering and slowing down further the progress of their national emancipation.

The statements of prominent Belgian statesmen in recent years eloquently define the genuine purposes of Belgian colonial policy. With the permission of the representative of Belgium, I would like to remind Council members of some statements by prominent Belgian leaders which cast light on this aspect of the case. In 1950, the Prime Minister of Belgium, Mr. Davignon, stated that Belgium would retain intact its sovereignty over the Congo and its rights as a Trustee over Ruanda-Urundi. In 1952, Mr. Van Houtte, stated that "the Government will seek to retain and strengthen the ties that link the Congo with the metropolitan country".

Prime Minister Van Acker, in May 1954, said that "the Government proposes to solidly retain the rights of Belgium over its overseas Territories". On 11 May 1957, the Belgian Minister of the Colonies, Mr. Buisseret, speaking in Liege, stated that "according to the Belgian national conception, the Congo is not a conquered land, it is Belgian land -----

Mr. CLAEYS BOJUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Point of order. The representative of the Soviet Union was so good as to ask my agreement for quoting statements of Belgian statesmen. Of course, he is perfectly free to quote anything he desires. But I am obliged to note that

(Mr. Claeys Bouuaert, Belgium)

the statements which are supposed to define the attitudes of Belgium do not come into the discussion so long as they did not affect the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Would the Soviet representative be so kind as to take account of the remarks of the representative of Belgium.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We would gladly take into account any remarks of the representative of Belgium in answer to my statement. I would merely appeal to my colleague from Belgium to be so good as to bide his time and make his comments according to the order that has been accepted in this Council, namely after we have completed our statements, and then we would be glad to enlighten him if he chooses to comment on our speech.

What we are saying now does not stem from us. These are quotations and statements by prominent Belgian statesmen and I am sure that the representative of Belgium would be glad to hear them again. I am sure that he is familiar with them, as it is. Whether they apply to the Trust Territory, that will become quite clear to the representative of Belgium from the subsequent lines of our statement and therefore I would appeal to the representative of Belgium to be so good as to be patient, to hear the arguments to the end, and then I will be very glad to hear any comments which he might have to make in his turn. If we agree that this is to be the procedure, then I will resume my statements. May I do so?

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Soviet representative may pursue his statement. But I would once again remind him of the comments just made and I would therefore appeal to him to abide strictly by our agenda, which is the discussion of the situation in the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

I call on the representative of the United Arab Republic on a point of order.

Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) (interpretation from French):

My delegation completely shares your views on this point, Mr. President.

I would like to emphasize, however, that at present there is an administrative union between the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (Interpretation from Russian); Mr. President, I believe that you and the representative of the United Arab Republic have made the situation in which we find ourselves sufficiently clear. Therefore, I hope that I will be able to continue in and conclude my statement without further interruptions. I will speak about the colonial policies of Belgium, about Belgium's policies in regard to its overseas Territories in so far as this applies to the Trust Territory we are considering. I can assure the representative of Belgium of that. I would therefore appeal once again to the representative of Belgium to be patient and to listen to our arguments until the end.

In their statements, these Belgian leaders stressed those plans and projects which they were carrying out in their overseas Territories. And I am sure that the representative of Belgium will not deny that the Trust Territory is regarded by Belgium as one of its overseas Territories. If he does deny that, then of course I would be very glad to hear his denial. But if it is not so, if they do regard it as an overseas Territory of theirs, then I will continue.

The implementation of these plans has been regarded by the Belgian Government as the establishment of a still larger base, according to these statesmen, for the rights of Belgium in these overseas Territories.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

Thus Belgium is abiding by the policy of so-called integration; that is to say, the retention of its rights and domination in its overseas Territories. It is quite obvious that such a policy, of course, is of considerable danger to the Trust Territory which, as we know, is linked with the Belgian Congo in a single administrative political union. It is typical that already in 1946 there were quite prominent people in Belgium who considered that the colonial regime in Belgian dominions would last one hundred if not two or three hundred years.

At present only the most stubborn conservatives, who have lost all link with reality, think that they will be able to retain their colonial rule for such a long period. But we know that, nevertheless, the Administering Authority is refusing to carry out a recommendation of the General Assembly of the United Nations to give us a deadline in the near future for the granting of independence of the Trust Territory. Apparently under present conditions, it is somehow difficult or embarrassing to speak about one hundred years. On the other hand, the Administering Authority refused to name more reasonable deadlines since it will run counter to its political plans and intentions.

On the other hand, the Administering Authority is certainly feeling a steady growing pressure on the part of public opinion and it cannot ignore the expansion of national liberation statements in every corner of the dependent areas of Africa. That is why the Administering Authority is seeking to slow down the national liberation movement in Ruanda-Urundi by the most varied means, including the carrying out of strictly paper reforms which do not really affect the substance.

As we know, in April 1959 the Administering Authority appointed a working group to study the political problems of Ruanda-Urundi. This group did not include a single representative of the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory, even though many demands were made to this effect by the inhabitants.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

According to data in the press, the preliminary documents which were prepared for this working group are based on the premise that the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi -- and I hope that the representative of Belgium will forgive me for mentioning the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi in this connexion -- will form a single Territory. It is assumed that legislative councils will be established for the Congo and for Ruanda-Urundi, the majority of which will be the same people appointed by the Belgian Government. The legislative authority will be vested not in this legislative council but, as before, in the King of the Belgians and the Belgian Resident-General of Ruanda-Urundi.

These assumptions make it fairly unlikely that we can expect any progressive democratic reforms from this working group, which is made up, as I said, exclusively of high Belgian officials. It is all the more difficult to expect, judging by earlier statements of the Administering Authority, that this working group will set a deadline for the granting of independence to the Trust Territory or will outline a plan of concrete measures to this effect.

We would very much hope that we were mistaken in this rather pessimistic view. At the same time, the most urgent reforms are needed. They are required by life itself. The political situation in the Trust Territory today is quite unsatisfactory. This is not only our own view, it is the view of the inhabitants of the Territory themselves. The indigenous population of Ruanda-Urundi is subject to a sort of dual master. It is dependent upon its own hereditary feudal elite, the Bami and the sub-chiefs, and even to a greater extent it is, of course, dependent upon the officials of the Belgian colonial administration who have a monopoly over the administration of the Territory.

Even after we will have read the report of the Administering Authority, there can hardly be any doubt that the real authority in the Territory is in the hands of Belgian officials sent in from the metropolitan country. The indigenous inhabitants are not admitted into organs of the Administration. The administration of the Territory is completely segregated from the Africans; it is something quite apart; it stands over and above the African population.



(Mr. Oberenko, USSR)

As we can see from the blueprint on page 29 and the data on page 38, there are two types of administrations, the central administration, which is made up nearly exclusively of Belgians, and the so-called customary administration, which includes two Mwami and hundreds of chiefs and junior chiefs, all of whom are subordinate to local Belgian officials, Residents and administrators of the Territory. This fact has already been noted by several other members of the Council. These officials have both administrative and judicial functions. The Administering Authority, moreover, points out that the Residents are entitled to enact decrees and ordinances which are mandatory on all. Any person violating these ordinances or decrees can be punished by a prison term or by fines going up to 200 francs.

The Belgian authorities are making use of the Bami and other traditional chiefs as instruments of government; these persons are paid by the Government and their powers can be revoked. Thus we see the complete dependence of the various chiefs on the Governor, the Residents or any other Belgian official who administers a given area.

The General Council of Ruanda-Urundi, and the State Councils of Ruanda and Urundi are powerless bodies with a bureaucratic structure. This is a caricature and a façade of a parliament which is designed to camouflage the full powers of the colonial administration and the total impotence of the indigenous population.

This is how persons well acquainted with the power of these advisory bodies, persons who are well acquainted with the situation in the Territory describe the activities of these advisory councils. I shall quote one of these persons:

"The High Councils of Ruanda and Urundi, which are not empowered to take any major decisions and which are not responsible for any real budget, inevitably become organs for mutual recrimination. They have borrowed from the parliamentary regime only the technique of opposition and never really govern. When the situation reaches a certain point, as happened in Urundi, when the Belgian Minister of Colonies ignored unanimously taken decisions, it becomes obvious how dangerous and precarious such purely external reforms can be."

(Mr. Oberenko, USSR)

What conclusion follows from what I have just said? In order to carry out the Trusteeship Agreement and the appropriate provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Administering Authority, in our opinion, must submit to the Trusteeship Council and to the United Nations General Assembly a plan of reforms that would grant the Trust Territory independence at a certain time. The Administering Authority should, finally, implement the resolution of the General Assembly which provides for the setting of time-limits for the granting of independence to Trust Territories. The Administering Authority should provide for the establishment in the near future of representative legislative, executive and judicial organs which would not be dependent on bodies in the colony of the Belgian Congo. It is also necessary to introduce universal suffrage.

In the light of the events that took place in the Belgian Congo in January of this year, it is obvious that it is necessary to establish organs in the Trust Territory which would be independent of the organs of Administration in the Congo.

The Trusteeship Council, in our opinion, should not disregard the facts which show that the national liberation movement is being suppressed. Forty-nine people were killed and 241 were wounded; that is the balance-sheet of the cruel repression which the authorities of the Belgian Congo put into force in January 1959. Today this is happening in the Belgian Congo...

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I call on the representative of Belgium on a point of order.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUVAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): A certain number of the observations which have just been made by the representative of the Soviet Union seem to be departing completely from the subject under discussion. I would, therefore, request that his remarks be ruled out of order and stricken from our record.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): If the representative of the Soviet Union, in the course of his statement, referred to certain matters which relate to a Territory which is not the subject of our consideration, I consider these words as not relating directly to the examination of the situation in Ruanda-Urundi. They will, therefore, be stricken.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): May I differ with the President. What I said at this meeting is the opinion of the Soviet delegation and thus it will automatically be shown in our records. That is the position of the Soviet delegation and nobody has the right to change this position.

Mr. CIAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): As regards the legal situation to which the representative of the Soviet Union has referred, I simply wish to say that I ask for the implementation of rule 53 of our rules of procedure, the last part.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The representative of Belgium has invoked the last sentence of rule 53 of our rules of procedure which reads:

"The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion."

I have already advised the representative of the Soviet Union that some of the statements which he made were not, in my opinion, relevant to the examination of the situation in Ruanda-Urundi. I stand by that opinion, in accordance with rule 53 of our rules of procedure which has been invoked by the representative of Belgium.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): This time I agree fully with the President and, like him, I would say that the question which we are discussing now and the events which took place in January do not relate to the question under discussion. However, I wish to stress the fact that the Trust Territory is at the present time linked administratively to the Belgian Congo. When we put questions to the special representative and to

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(Mr. Oberenko, USSR)

the representative of Belgium, it became clear that the force publique was made up of inhabitants, not of Ruanda-Urundi, but of the Belgian Congo. This armed force is under the command of Belgian officers. Why then did the representative of Belgium not interrupt anyone, when this was referred to, and say that these issues were not relevant? When you keep troops in a Trust Territory which have nothing to do with the Trust Territory, then this apparently is quite in order and quite relevant under our rules of procedure and within the framework of the discussion. However, when the time comes for members of the Council to state their views on this peculiar situation, then suddenly the patience of the representative of Belgium comes to an abrupt end and he appeals to the President for action which could not very well be invoked here.

I should simply like to point out that as a result of the administrative union between the Trust Territory and the neighbouring Belgian Congo, because of legislative measures, ordinances and provisions in force at the present time, the same Belgian official in the Belgian Congo can give orders to the same Belgian troops, this force publique or this police to carry out repressive acts on the inhabitants of the Trust Territory. The special representative of the Administering Authority has recognized that the Governor-General of the Belgian Congo had this right and that he could give such an order to the force publique;

It is therefore quite obvious that there exists, taking into account the existence of the political and administrative union with the Belgian Congo, a very obvious danger for the Trust Territory. That is why the Trusteeship Council must, in the opinion of the Soviet delegation, formulate a recommendation providing for the liquidation of this union, a recommendation which would put an end to a situation which makes the Trust Territory dependent on the authorities of a neighbouring colony.

The economic situation in the Trust Territory is also obvious evidence and the faithful reflection of a policy pursued by the Administering Authority. This policy is characterized, above all, by a tendency to utilize, in the interests of the metropolitan country, the natural resources of the Territory instead of developing the economy of the Territory in all its aspects and in an intensive way, which could be used as the basis of the future political independence of the Territory.

Indeed the indigenous economy is as primitive as it was in the past. As the report of the Administering Authority itself points out, the production of food crops is designed merely to satisfy only the needs of the population and it is not designed as a source of revenue for the indigenous producers. As it has been for centuries, the economy of the Africans is of a strictly natural character, and it is still a subsistence economy. There is virtually no mechanization of agriculture. As in the past, the farmers still use primitive implements and equally primitive methods of cultivation. The Administering Authority has done nothing to improve the situation in this respect. In its report the Administering Authority confines itself to stating that there is much ground to cover before this problem can be solved and that the country is still in the experimental stage at the present time.

On the other hand, the Europeans in the Trust Territory cultivate the land intensively and employ the most modern methods. As was noted in the Council during the general debate, there is virtually no industry in the Territory with the exception of a few brick ovens, some soap factories, and a factory which manufactures aluminium pots and pans. Ruanda-Urundi is a single crop Territory. Coffee is the main export crop. The exportation of mineral resources, the processing of coffee and cotton and local industry are in the hands of Europeans, especially Belgian companies. All commercial firms and mining companies belong to Europeans. This situation is naturally very favourable for foreign companies which are reaping profits from the Territory which are quite large. I should like to add that the Administering Authority does not even wish to reveal the exact figure of these profits. This situation is also favourable to the metropolitan country which not only receives raw materials and agricultural products, but finds a market in the Territory for its own products. However, the situation of the indigenous inhabitants is not improving.



(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

The standard of living of the indigenous population, if we are to judge from the data contained in the report of the Administering Authority, is still very low. Petitioners inform us, as in the petition in document T/COM.3/L.25, that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory are living in conditions of acute poverty. These are words which are used by the petitioners themselves. Even the Vice-Governor-General, Jean-Paul Harroy was obliged to recognize the existence of general poverty among the broad masses of the population, in his statement on 1 December 1958 in the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi.

I would also draw the attention of the Council to the fact that large areas of the best land are being alienated from the indigenous inhabitants, even though we know that the land is the sole source of income for the indigenous population. As a result, even in the overpopulated areas of the Territory large European plantations have been established at the expense of native lands. In the report of the Administering Authority we find most interesting data on this subject. The Administering Authority tells us that on an average an African family has 1.5 to 2 hectares of land whereas the non-indigenous inhabitants have far larger areas, from 75 to 200 hectares each. We find this on page 123 of the Administering Authority's report.

The alienation of native lands has very obnoxious effects, and the Council must recommend that the Administering Authority put an end to such policies of alienation and return to the inhabitants their alienated lands.

A large part of the population of the Trust Territory cannot find employment in Ruanda-Urundi and must therefore seek work outside the boundaries of their countries. We find that in the British Colony of Uganda 250,000 people have come from Ruanda-Urundi. Besides that, approximately 30,00 to 50,000 seasonal workers from the Trust Territory go to Uganda, where they earn some 350 to 400 francs per month. Even though the official statistics indicate that the number of unemployed amounts to 2 per cent of the working population, there is in fact considerably larger unemployment in a more or less overt form. It should be borne in mind that the unemployed African workers receive no compensation of any kind. The so-called surplus manpower cannot be employed, because the economy of the country is developing very slowly. For that reason Africans must either continue to live their primitive existence or seek work outside their country. That is the reason for the vast emigration, which in 1957 amounted to 37,000 people.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

The principal part of the fairly modest sums that are allocated under the Ten-year Plan are not designed to develop the industrial or agricultural economy of the indigenous inhabitants; it is being spent mostly to build roads and administration buildings, which, of course, cannot secure the economic improvement of the Territory. It can merely serve the purposes of exploitation and export of the natural resources, unless it is accompanied by the establishment of industry in the Trust Territory, especially such industry as the processing of the mineral ores or agricultural products which have been produced in Ruanda-Urundi.

We must add that the regular budgets of the Trust Territory do not provide any allocations for the industrialization of the country. The breakdown of the budget is most interesting. Administrative personnel consume 49 per cent of the regular budget. The payment of European officials amounts to 200 million francs, more than one quarter of the total budget.

On the other hand, the financial situation of Ruanda-Urundi is exceptionally unfavourable. Indeed, it could be called threatening. This cannot fail to cause serious concern in this Council. First of all, it should be pointed out that the budget of the Territory is a deficit budget. There is a chronic deficit. In 1956 the deficit amounted to 78 million francs, and a year later in 1957 the deficit had increased to 162 million francs.

The finances of the Territory have been brought to such a state that Ruanda-Urundi is overburdened by debts and obligations towards the metropolitan country. By 31 December 1956, the public debt of the Trust Territory amounted to almost 3 billion Belgian francs, that is to say, almost equal to four regular annual budgets of the Territory. This debt is constantly increasing. In 1957, as compared with 1950, it had increased 146 times in seven years. As the special representative pointed out at this session of the Council, this debt is continuing to grow and is growing very quickly indeed. What is the problem? The problem is that the Belgian Government is foisting upon the Trust Territory expenditures which it should have handled itself as the Administering Authority.

To make a comparison of the budgets of the Belgian overseas territories and Belgium, suffice it to show that Belgium never assumes so-called sovereignty expenses, that is to say, such expenditures as are connected with the administration of territories dependent on Belgium, including the Trust Territory.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

Let us quote a small example, with which we have already dealt during the questioning period. The well-known reports on the situation in the Trust Territory which are submitted yearly by the Belgian Government are printed, as you know, on very luxurious paper. The cost of each is 500,000 francs, and all the expenses are carried not by the Administering Authority, which is supposed to be accounting to the United Nations, but the Trust Territory with its disrupted finances. Even the memorial plates for deceased officials and members of their families must for some reason be paid for by the Trust Territory out of its regular budget, which includes in chapter 5 a special account, account No. 21, to pay for the tombs of deceased officials.

The various funds that have been set up by the Belgian Government, allegedly in order to assist the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, represent only a small part of the sums which Belgium is pumping out of the Congo and the Trust Territory. I would invite the representative of Belgium, if he is interested in the background of these funds, to show a little patience and to listen to what I have to say without interrupting me, because the origin of these funds is most characteristic in showing how the financing of this or that project in the Trust Territory is secured. Under the pretext of regularizing the budgets of its overseas territories, the Belgian Government is systematically carrying over into Belgium all budget surpluses. Thus a fund of more than 7 billion francs has been built up. We might note in passing that in order to carry out the ten-year Plan, which relates to the Congo and to the Trust Territory, certain overseas territories of Belgium were obliged to borrow money in Belgium and Switzerland on very unfavourable conditions, even though they had their own means which had been transferred to Belgium.

As regards the Trust Territory, in that case, the role of the Administration also appears in a rather peculiar light. As we know, the Ten-Year Plan, notwithstanding the modesty of its purposes, provides only indirectly for the development of Ruanda-Urundi. From the total sum of 25 billion francs, only 3.7 billion went to the Trust Territory. How is this Plan, in regard to Ruanda-Urundi, being financed? I am talking of the Ten-Year Plan. Formally, externally, the Government of Belgium has assumed the financing of this Plan, granting the Territory loans without interest. However, it appears that these

sums are made up of the monies which Belgium is pumping out of its colony of the Congo. I will quote a statement which is directly related to the Trust Territory, in so far as, in the case where Belgium grants a loan to the Trust Territory, it is the Congo which will be able to buy up the bonds of that loan from the Vice-Governor General of Ruanda-Urundi. This is provided for in the first article of the sixth sub-paragraph of the extraordinary budget of the Congo. Thus the Administering Authority is not investing a single franc of its own in the development of the Trust Territory. It is merely shifting the expenses from one dependent territory to the other. As an example I could quote the Fonds du Roi. This fund is mentioned in the report, and therefore it is, I think, directly related to the Trust Territory. In the report we see that by 31 December 1956 the Trust Territory owed this fund 200 million francs, and I am quoting from page 56 of the report, but we know that this fund is built up at the cost of the Congo and the Trust Territory.

As the Belgian professor, Van Bilsen, points out in his recent book, in the long run it is the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi which are feeding this fund and which are contributing most of its resources, whereas Belgium is not investing a single sou. This statement may be found on page 108 of Professor Van Bilsen's book, which appeared only recently in Belgium. This author puts the question. The Belgian Government should carry the cost of its force publique, for instance, in the overseas territories and should itself pay the high salaries of its many officials. It should itself pay for the white schools and not impose this burden on the meagre budgets of the dependent territories.

According to Professor van Bilsen, the Government of Belgium, as Administering Authority, should assume responsibility for approximately 250 million francs in regard to Ruanda-Urundi instead of overburdening the budget of the Trust Territory with expenditures for which the metropolitan country itself should be responsible. The Administering Authority should review its activities in the Trust Territory radically with a view to putting an end to this colonial policy of exploitation and embarking upon a course that would ensure a real implementation of its obligations under the Charter.

Turning to the living conditions of the indigenous inhabitants, we cannot fail to note that underlying the political, administrative and judicial organization of the Territory we find the principle of racial discrimination. As we have pointed out before, there are two types of administration, there are two types of courts, one for the Africans and the other for the Europeans. The same principle prevails in other fields; racial discrimination is particularly obvious in the field of wages, labour legislation and social insurance. The data on page 469 of the report show this. The wages of Africans are from five to ten times smaller than the wages of Europeans. An African chauffeur earns 68 francs per day, while a European chauffeur is paid 300 francs a day for the same job. African mechanics earn from 52 to 67 francs a day, while Europeans doing the same job earn 480 to 660 francs a day. If we take the wages of officials, we see that Europeans receive, not counting allowances, from 125,000 to 812,000 francs a year. The wages of African officials are five to ten times smaller -- from 22,500 to 80,000 francs per year. The wage of an African worker with minimum qualifications amounts to approximately 400 francs a month with the ration -- a pitiful sum indeed, about eight American dollars a month.

According to Professor van Bilsen, whom I have already quoted, labour legislation and social security legislation are based exclusively on racial discrimination. Racial discrimination and segregation appear also in the schools. Special schools, better ones, have been established for the Europeans, and the level of tuition is of course far higher than it is in the African schools. It is interesting to note in the report of the Administering



(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

Authority that there is a separate chapter with a separate sub-heading relating to discrimination in schools. We know many facts which show that the indigenous inhabitants do not fully enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms, even though those rights and freedoms have been proclaimed in writing. In fact many impediments stand in the way of the enjoyment of those rights by the population. We know, for instance, that in the Belgian Constitution the right of association is provided for citizens of Belgium and it is specified that that right cannot be subjected to any preventive measures. This is a fine provision; why not apply it in the Trust Territory too? Yet this provision is not in force in the Territory. A decree of the Minister of Colonies of 25 January 1957 regulates the enjoyment of the right of association by inhabitants of the Belgian Congo and of Ruanda-Urundi. Thus the right of association is fictitious. It is subject to the constant scrutiny of the colonial administration and in fact this means that there is no freedom of association. It is only necessary to point out that the Resident can ban any organization or association merely because it allegedly disrupts public order or is contrary to civilized principles. Other speakers have already drawn attention to this and have called upon the Council and upon the Administering Authority to correct the situation.

One cannot fail to note that the ordinance of the Administration regarding the establishment of trade unions provides, as the purpose for their organization, the so-called study, development and protection of economic, professional and social interests only, of course within the framework allowed by the Administration. No mention is made of the political interests of the population, and this omission is not of course accidental. Judged as a whole, the Administration's policy is to prevent, to slow down, to crush any political movement, any party or any trade union whose object would be to uphold the political rights of the indigenous inhabitants and support the emancipation of the country from foreign rule. Not only the daily actions but the legislative acts of the Administering Authority are directed towards this goal.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

The indigenous inhabitants are in fact deprived of political rights. The Administration enjoys all rights to carry out arrests, allegedly in order to preserve public order. The decree of 3 June 1906 allows any official administering a given area to arrest without warrant and to imprison persons for terms of up to one month. Besides that, ordinance No. 44 of 27 April 1924 allows the authorities to expel any African who, through his behaviour, in their belief has been disrupting public order. Under existing legislation the indigenous inhabitants are deprived of the right of free movement. In order to leave his village an African has to have a visa from his chief, as if he was about to visit a neighbouring country.

The indigenous inhabitants cannot move freely at night in Usumbura, the principal town of the Territory, where a curfew is still imposed. Corporal punishment is still inflicted upon the indigenous inhabitants, notwithstanding the many remarks in the Trusteeship Council on this subject, notwithstanding the observations of the General Assembly, notwithstanding the repeated recommendations of the Trusteeship Council. The Administering Authority, with incredible persistence, has nevertheless maintained this barbarous means of punishment. It is the duty of the Council to take decisions to demand of the Administering Authority that it take immediate steps to do away with all legislative, administrative and other provisions allowing them to practise racial segregation and discrimination against the indigenous inhabitants.

A few words now about public health and education in the Territory. Representatives of the Administering Authority will hardly be able to deny that the situation in this field is far from satisfactory, and of course the point is not, as the representative of Australia said, that the Trusteeship Council should call upon the population of Ruanda-Urundi to make better use of existing services. I will quote a few facts to show to what extent it is possible to take advantage of the services that exist in the Territory and which will also show whether those services are adequate.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

Morbidity in the Trust Territory remains high. In 1957 there were 600,000 cases of disease, and it should not be forgotten that the population is only 4 1/2 millions. On the other hand, there are only seventy physicians in the Territory -- one doctor per 60,000 population. Whatever appeals the representative of Australia makes, the fact remains that there is only one doctor for 60,000 people, and if those 60,000 people were to follow his advice and turn to this one lone doctor for all their needs, well -- I think the representative of Australia would take pity on the doctor.

The situation becomes even more clear if we recall that there are only four dentists in the Territory. The representative of the Administering Authority and some other members of the Council who usually speak in unison with the representatives of Administering Authorities have stated that the teeth of the indigenous inhabitants are good. They know better; they visit the Territories, and they are perhaps able to study the teeth of their vassals, but it is still rather difficult to conceive how four dentists can serve 4 1/2 million persons, even if their teeth are perfect.

There is not a single African doctor in Ruanda-Urundi, as we see from page 483 of the report. The building and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries in the rural areas has been carried out at the expense, not of the central budget of the Administration, but of local native budgets. It is not surprising therefore that the number of hospitals and maternity homes is not increasing, because the local budgets cannot carry these expenses. Existing hospitals and dispensaries are not therefore being adequately maintained. The existing number of hospitals together with the available medical personnel does not answer the needs of the Territory.

Many delegations in the Council and in the General Assembly have stressed the great importance of the maximum development of national education in the Trust Territories, since this is one of the most basic and effective factors in the development of a Territory towards independence. How has the Administering Authority performed its duties vis-à-vis the United Nations and the population of Ruanda-Urundi in this particular field? We heard from

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

certain representatives of administering countries that there was continuous progress in this field in the Trust Territory. Even if we were to go out of our way to find extenuating circumstances, it would be difficult to escape the conclusion that the Administering Authority has not done and is not doing its duty in this regard. No one will deny the fact that the Administering Authority has relinquished the performance of its own obligations in regard to the promotion of education. It has passed on this important task to the religious missions, which of course are not able to create a good system of national education. That is not their purpose. Yet the indigenous inhabitants are demanding lay education and the liquidation of the monopoly held by the religious missions in this field. The Ministry of the Colonies in Brussels is receiving many letters containing such requests, yet the Administering Authority is not making any reforms, notwithstanding the clearly-expressed wishes of the indigenous inhabitants.

The Administering Authority is restricting its function to the maintenance of a few schools and to the granting of miserly subsidies to private organizations. Thus, instead of an earnest cultural and educational work which is demanded under the Charter of the United Nations, the Administering Authority is engaged in philanthropy, in charity, and on a very small scale.

Sometimes the Administering Authority refers to the high cost of education. Indeed, this is a fairly high percentage, but the trouble is that the absolute sums are completely inadequate.

Let us take some facts from the report of the Administering Authority and also from the comments of UNESCO in document T/1442, a document which, incidentally, throws definite light on the educational situation in Ruanda-Urundi. At present, according to official data, 60 per cent of the population are illiterate. It can be assumed that in fact the real percentage is considerably higher since the official statistics do not take into account children who, after having studied in school for one or two years, have gone home, have not continued their education and are thus reverting to illiteracy. Yet we know that only one fifth of the children of school age have the possibility to study. This was stated in the UNESCO report.

In the specially established primary schools with the same programme as in the metropolitan countries, nearly exclusively European children are studying. Such requirements have been set for the admission of Africans that access is virtually barred to indigenous inhabitants. In 1957, for instance, there were only forty-seven African pupils in these schools.

It is characteristic that the Administration has built and is maintaining nine schools for the European population which numbers 7,500 persons. That same Administration has built and is maintaining only sixteen schools for Africans even though there are more than 4.5 million Africans in the Territory. Of course, the quality of instruction is affected by the fact that more than half the teachers in the Trust Territory have no diplomas. They are not adequately trained.

Another alarming fact is that the number of pupils remains stable at a low per cent of the total of children of school age, namely, approximately 21 per cent. This is a constant percentage year in and year out.

Some representatives waxed eloquent over the fact that there was progress in the Territory. In fact, they congratulated the Administering Authority. Let us



try to analyse in all earnestness the data that have been submitted by the Administering Authority. Let us see what the real situation is. Should we approach the problem with closed eyes and blindly congratulate the Administration? Or should we take concrete steps and adopt concrete recommendations which would secure an improvement of educational conditions in the Trust Territory?

If you analyse the absolute figures of the population growth and the number of children of school age, you arrive at the following conclusion: there has been absolutely no progress in the development of national education. The data which we find on page six of the UNESCO report confirm this conclusion. Indeed, between 1955 and 1957 the population of the Territory increased by 259,000. The increase in children of school age was 60,000 and the number of pupils increased by only 16,000. Thus the increase in the number of scholars does not even keep pace with the national population growth. Yet you must not forget that every week, every month, 79 per cent of all children of school age remain outside the schools and the Administering Authority should educate them. As the Administering Authority itself says, over-all illiteracy in the country amounts to about 60 per cent. Therefore, the number of illiterate persons in the Territory is increasing and not decreasing. Even the few who can enter the schools do not receive a decent education. The waste is enormous. According to UNESCO, only half the pupils attend school for one year and then, for some reason they drop out. Out of 104,130 pupils who entered the first class in 1953, less than half were studying in the second year and only one seventh reached the fifth class in 1957.

In the high schools, you have a similar situation. According to UNESCO, only a small number of pupils reach the sixth class. In 1957 in this class throughout the Territory there were thirty African boys and not a single girl. Properly speaking, there are no institutions of higher education in the Territory.

This is the situation with regard to national education in Ruanda-Urundi after forty years of the so-called civilizing mission on the part of the Administering Authority. It is easy to assess the merits of this so-called civilizing mission. According to Professor van Belsen, who is professor at Louvain University, in order to secure for all children of school age in Ruanda-Urundi at least primary education, it will be necessary to double the budget expenditure for education. In order to establish the necessary network of high schools, technical schools, professional schools, agricultural schools etc., it is necessary to allocate even larger funds exceeding many times those funds which are now being made available

by the Administering Authority. That is the Administration's task. The Trusteeship Council must recommend to the Administering Authority that it assume immediate and direct responsibility for national education in the Territory and that it allocate, at the cost of the budget of Belgium, considerable sums for the development of education in Ruanda-Urundi. It is also necessary that the Administering Authority increase its allocations for public health. Only then will it be possible to say that the Administering Authority is making efforts in order to carry out its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement.

At this point, the Soviet delegation, as a result of the careful and detailed analysis of information supplied to us, must note with sorrow that the situation in Ruanda-Urundi in the political, economic, social and cultural fields, is very unsatisfactory indeed and that action is required both by the United Nations and especially by the Administering Authority in order to amend in the near future this situation for the better and secure the development of the Trust Territory towards an early achievement of the goals of the International Trusteeship System.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We have thus come to the last of the statements to be made by representatives on the Council in the course of the general debate on Ruanda-Urundi. At a later date which will be made known to the Council, we will have the final statements by the representative of Belgium and the special representative.

May I thank the special representative for his participation in our work.

Mr. Reisdorf withdrew.

## AGENDA ITEMS 3e, 4 AND 6

## EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (T/L.912)

- (a) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1958 (T/1453, 1470)
- (b) PETITIONS RAISING GENERAL QUESTIONS (T/PET.GEN/L.3; T/PET.10/L.3)
- (c) REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORIES OF NAURU, NEW GUINEA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS 1959 (T/1447)

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): Before proceeding further with the examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, I wish to state that the United States has the advantage of having a young man from Mokil Atoll in Ponape District as a member of our delegation. His name is Mr. Bethwel Henry. Mr. Henry is an outstanding young man from the Trust Territory. He has served in the territorial administration in both the political and educational fields. A few weeks ago, he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Hawaii and has been selected by his fellow Micronesians to represent Ponape District at the Fourth Inter-District Conference which will meet in October of this year. This is the Conference which, it is hoped, will eventually become the basis of a territorial legislative assembly. It is on the shoulders of such young men as Mr. Henry that much of the responsibility for the development of the Trust Territory will lie.

Mr. President, I would appreciate it if you would permit Mr. Henry to take a place at the Council table in order to address a few remarks to the Council.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Henry, Adviser on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands under United States administration took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): On behalf of the Council, I should like to welcome Mr. Henry. I am sure the Council will listen very closely and with great interest to the statement he is about to make. I now call upon him.

Mr. HENRY (Adviser): I feel honoured to have this opportunity to appear before the Trusteeship Council to convey the warm greetings of the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to this body. I am also pleased to have this opportunity to express my own gratitude and appreciation to the Administering Authority and to the Trusteeship Council for the progress that has occurred in our Territory.

It is a great privilege for me to participate in this meeting and to observe the Trusteeship Council in its deliberations. I know this first-hand experience will benefit me greatly in my work in Micronesia.

I am from Mokil Atoll in Ponape District, Eastern Carolines. I had the pleasure of meeting the members of the 1959 Visiting Mission last February when they stopped in Honolulu, Hawaii, to visit the Micronesian students. Later the Visiting Mission visited my home atoll of Mokil and I am pleased that the people of this small atoll with a land area of only one-fourth of a square mile, had the opportunity to meet with the distinguished representatives of this important body of the United Nations. In Honolulu, I received a few letters from Mokilese expressing how grateful they were to have the Mission members visit their tiny atoll.

My main interest has been in political development and education. I had spent some time in Ponape District working in both fields. I have just completed four years' study at the University of Hawaii majoring in government, and I expect to use the knowledge acquired at the university to gain a better understanding of the needs at home when working with my fellow Micronesians.

(Mr. Henry, Adviser)

The Trusteeship Council in the past as well as the most recent Visiting Mission has commented on political development in our Territory. I would like to cite a few of my own experiences in this field to give the Council an idea of what I call modernizing our political system. In the summer of 1957, I was a member of a political development team in Ponape District working in the communities on election procedures and regulations. It was gratifying to see the enthusiasm shown by the people in their own desire to choose their own public officials while retaining the traditional patterns they valued. I mention this because in my district hereditary patterns of leadership and a system of titles have been very strong and important in the life of the people. Later, I had the opportunity of participating in the discussion of Sokehs Council on the chartering of Sokehs Municipality. This was one of the first municipalities in Ponape District to receive a charter. The team of which I was a member held many meetings with community leaders and the people of the communities. We had to explain simply and carefully the meaning of election procedures. To issue a charter is easy, but such a charter would not mean anything unless the people want and understand it. They must understand and accept the duties and responsibilities as well as the privileges involved in representative government.

In my district also we have seen the gradual development over the past ten years of a representative legislative body for the entire district. At first, we had only a Ponape Island Congress in which nine municipalities on the outer islands, of which my home Mokil is one, did not have any voting representation. The Ponape Island Congress in its initial stages had to adapt itself closely to the Ponape Island patterns; therefore, a hereditary House of Nobles as well as an elected House of the People was established. One of the reasons for the absence of the outer islands' representation in this bi-cameral legislative body was due to the fact that most of the outer islands lack a noble class. As this two-house Island Congress met throughout the years and the people learned more and more about modern government, there was an increasing desire for wider and truer representation. I am happy to report that the leaders of the Nobles' House were



(Mr. Henry, Adviser)

as active as members of the Peoples' House in expressing desire for complete representation. Along with this growing desire for elected representation came increased demands from the people of the outer islands, from Kusaie, Pingelap, Mokil, Kapingamarangi, and others, for representation in a district-wide congress. Last year, a Congressional Convention was held and a charter for an all-district, unicameral congress, with all members elected by popular vote, was drafted and finally adopted. This new Ponape District Congress is now in operation and has had several productive sessions. The first president of the District Congress was a congressman from my home island of Mokil. I say this not only because I am very proud of my home atoll having this honour, but also because it seems to be very indicative of the progress in the growth of representative government in my home district.

I am giving only examples from my home district of Ponape, but the same pattern of gradual development toward the objective of self-government and self-improvement can be shown for all the other districts as well.

Despite these positive improvements, we still have many obstacles yet to overcome. Micronesia today is no longer an isolated world but is part of the world community. Most Micronesians, however, still think only in terms of local or district interests. We must therefore educate ourselves to begin to think along broader terms, in territory-wide terms as well as in district terms. Through the programmes initiated by the Administering Authority, people are beginning to see their problems in a wider and more realistic perspective. People are realizing more and more that they have common interests and common goals. This fall again, elected delegates from each district will again meet with the High Commissioner and his staff to discuss common problems. I am to be a delegate to this Inter-District Advisory Committee Meeting and I am looking forward to acquiring more first-hand information on the activities of the other districts.

I am returning home to Ponape after this meeting and am definitely planning to work in education. In my opinion, further education is the most pressing need in Micronesia today. I feel that educating the Micronesians so they will become more productive citizens and be able to assume fully the duties and responsibilities of our economic, political, social and educational advancement is an important goal of our educational system. This is exactly what we are trying to accomplish.

(Mr. Henry, Adviser)

I have great admiration for and agreement with a policy which does not disrupt the Micronesian culture. You all know, however, that there are numerous aspects of our culture which were introduced from the other cultures. Today we are exposed to the rest of the world. We must, therefore, educate ourselves to meet the obligations imposed by this new status so that eventually we will be able to take care of ourselves as we are related to the rest of the peoples of the world.

There are other aspects in our Territory that need attention. I will briefly mention a few that appear to be important. Though we are turning out more and more competent persons for specialized fields, we still need more qualified persons to take over the various needed specialized professions. I realize it will take time to achieve such training.

There are the problems of transportation and communication. The reports of the past Visiting Missions covered this to a great extent. Many Micronesians are still in need of being informed on the new mechanics of democratic government and democratic living. This is where our school system and the community development programme play an especially important role. There is the problem of overcoming the reluctance of the older Micronesians to accept modern agricultural methods.

We need to continue our support for the projects which have been started and have been increasingly successful in enabling us to better utilize our own economic resources. As you know, our resources are so limited that our economy will continue to need outside financial assistance and technical aid in order to build a well-balanced economy which will meet our economic demands.

During the past two years many areas were damaged by typhoons. If it were not for the needed emergency aid and the long-range rehabilitation programme granted us by our Administering Authority, many people would not have survived the destruction. On the other hand, even though we lack the knowledge and experience found in your countries, we are far ahead of our forefathers. We realize that with our limited material and human resources we cannot alone solve our demanding problems. We will continue to need the aid and protection granted

(Mr. Henry, Adviser)

us by our Administering Authority and the Trusteeship Council. What I have just mentioned are but a few of the problems confronting us today.

In closing, I wish again to express my gratitude to the Administering Authority for their guidance to our progress toward self-government in this new age. My heart goes with the Trusteeship Council and the United Nations as a whole for the needed protection and guidance given to the under-developed areas of the world.

I am especially impressed and grateful for the kindness extended to me by the members of this Council during the past few days.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I want to thank Mr. Henry for his very interesting statement which I feel sure members of the Council followed very closely indeed.

Mr. Henry withdrew.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Nucker, special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands under United States administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Mr. Nucker was officially welcomed yesterday to the Council table. Perhaps I personally can add to this earlier welcome now that I see him here this afternoon for the first time. I am very happy to see that Mr. Nucker has recovered his health sufficiently to take an active part in our debate.

Political advancement

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I wish also to add a word about the great pleasure we have in seeing Mr. Nucker in good health and with us today. I have not seen him for two years, but I certainly am very happy to see that he is my neighbour.

(Mr. Asha, United Arab Republic)

The Visiting Mission of 1956 recommended, and the Trusteeship Council accepted, a recommendation that a book should be prepared outlining in simple terms the geography, history and characteristics of the Territory. I would like to ask the special representative whether the Administering Authority has made up its mind to implement this recommendation and if so, when?

*book  
on geogr.  
hist. etc.*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have made up our mind to implement this recommendation. During the past year some work was done looking towards the completion of the book. Within the past several weeks an individual was employed who has the specific responsibility of bringing together the various information documents we have on the Trust Territory and immediately start putting together such a book.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): May I take the statement of the High Commissioner as assuring the Council that the question of lack of funds does not exist any longer?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): With respect to the amount of funds necessary to write and print a book, the answer is that funds are no longer a problem.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): My delegation is pleased to learn that the Advisory Committee to the High Commissioner is carrying out very useful work. Would the special representative tell the Council whether the question of the movement of the Territory headquarters to one of the districts will be a subject that may be discussed between the High Commissioner and his Committee?

*Headquarters*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): This will be the subject of discussion at the meeting now set, I believe, for October of this year.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): As far as we know, this Advisory Committee is the only representative organ in this Territory. Would it be the intention to make this Advisory Committee a nucleus for a future legislature or representative assembly on a territory-wide level?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It is believed not only by members of the Administering Authority's staff, but also by Micronesians, that the present Advisory Committee is the forerunner to an eventual elective body which will sit for all of the districts in the Trust Territory. This is a beginning step.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): Will the special representative tell us approximately how long this process will take?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It is a little difficult to pinpoint in precise terms of years how long this process may take. I would hazard a guess that between five and ten years hence we should have an elective body meeting for the purposes of the discussion of problems and the potential passing of resolutions and laws for the Trust Territory as a whole. That is a personal, considered opinion.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): My object in asking the question was to determine whether that expected legislature or representative assembly might be one way of attaining the objective of the Trusteeship System, of arriving at self-government in the sense that we understand it in the Council.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I enjoyed the way the question was phrased. It would be one way, yes, but in back of that question is the implied necessary action, that of causing the Micronesians to understand self-government and legislative procedures as understood by members of this Council. We must first, before we have effective territorial legislation, have effective territorial understanding of legislative processes, and we in the Administration are in the stage now of attempting through education to develop such understanding.



Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I certainly will have some remarks to make in my statement later on, but I am satisfied with the answer given by Mr. Nucker at this time.

We are told that the Marianas are divided into three parts, one which is not a Trust Territory, Rota, with a population of about 1,000 people, which is administered by the High Commissioner. These are two parts. Saipan district is administered by the Navy. We have in this case two agencies, two policy makers and two authorities giving directives. We have noted certain discrepancies in the administration of Rota. For instance, we have different scales of pay in the district administered by the Navy and in those administered by the High Commissioner. Another discrepancy is that we have a separate Copra Stabilization Fund in Saipan, whereas the rest of the Territory has its own. Still a third discrepancy is something I found today in the report of the Administering Authority, that one District Sheriff is appointed by the High Commissioner and one in the Saipan District by the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet.

For good administration, and taking into account that the Navy can always exercise its rights because the Trusteeship Agreement provides such rights to the Administering Authority, is it not feasible, if not today at a future early date, that we will have one single administration rather than two?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I think it is feasible and I think it is to be expected in the near future that there is every possibility that Rota, Saipan and Tinian will be under one administration. For the past several years the Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense have for good reasons believed that the present method of administration has been satisfactory. I do believe, however, that this problem will resolve itself in the near future, into one agency being the administrator of the Marianas outside of Guam, which is, as you know, owned by the United States Government and not under the influence of the Trusteeship Council.

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Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I should like to pursue the question one step further and ask the special representative if he knows of any discrepancies other than those mentioned a moment ago and whether there has been any overlapping or clashing of authority and directives.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There is a wage discrepancy between that on Rota and that on Saipan for a very good reason. There is a difference in the economic structure or picture in each of the two islands.

So far as the reference to the sheriff being appointed by the Commander of the Navy Forces of the Marianas, for Saipan, and one appointed on Rota by the High Commissioner, this problem creates no disturbing factors, so far as any of us have been able to discover.

As regards the two Copra Boards which the representative of the United Arab Republic mentioned, Rota has no copra production. The establishment of the Board outside the Saipan District for the balance of the Trust Territory does not conflict in any manner with the Saipanese Board.

In direct answer to the question, there are no discrepancies or differences between the two Territories, which, in my opinion, are causing any particular difficulties. On the other hand, it would be much nicer if there were no discrepancies at all, regardless of whether they cause difficulties or not.

*polit. campaign*  
Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): In paragraph 52 of the Visiting Mission's report, we are told that:

"a procedure akin to political campaigning was followed in Ponape where candidates were previously nominated and not required to campaign publicly."

(T/1447)

My delegation shares the view expressed by the Mission that this innovation was successful, and we wish it more success in the future. We wish at this juncture to congratulate the Administering Authority for this bold step.

My question is: Would it be possible for the education teams, as part of their functions, to explain to the people the importance of political campaigning? Has this campaigning been applied anywhere else than in the district I have mentioned? If so, where?

(Mr. NUCKER: (Special representative): To the best of my knowledge, Ponape is the only district in which any semblance of a political campaign has taken place in the Trust Territory. I should like to explain briefly for the record that a political campaign even in Ponape does not have the same connotation as a political campaign in the United States or in any of the countries having well developed and defined parties that are political in nature. The campaign in Ponape essentially consisted of two men, each telling all the people why the particular man should be elected to the particular job. I submit that this is the essence of a political campaign. In full reply to the question, one must remember that the Micronesians are not a race of extroverts who believe it polite to go out and campaign, with the individual himself telling of his own good points. I believe that as they become more and more aware, particularly through the results of the municipal chartering programme, of the values of being a mayor or a magistrate, as they are called, subconsciously and unconsciously they will start political campaigns and develop on their own.

I have a certain reluctance about having Americans and Micronesians going into municipalities and trying to teach the individual that he should go out and proclaim his own work. This rather violates the very nature of the individual. I think it will come in time; I am in favour of it. We will encourage it, but I do not propose to engage actively immediately in an educational programme which in effect will be a sales programme.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): What I was driving at was that from all the reports we have read, we note that political consciousness is not as strong as we desire, and I thought that, by educating people in political campaigns by a method which goes into the nature and customs and habits of the people, this would gradually increase that political consciousness in the minds of the Micronesians.

*pol. cons.*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I thoroughly agree with what has just been said. To me, it is a matter of degree of emphasis in our educational work with the various municipalities. We certainly cause them to be aware of the methods used in the United States and in other countries in developing the candidates and in electing candidates. I propose that this should continue.

(Mr. Nucker, Special  
representative)

I am only trying to make the point that I do not think that at this time we should insist upon their developing political parties for campaign purposes, but I do agree that we should exercise influence with the Micronesians to the point that opinions will be expressed by individuals and that there will be growth into this political area that we are discussing.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): Now I turn to the civil service, and I should like to put the following question. In reading the reports and looking at the figures, one gains the impression that there is over-centralization, and I think the High Commissioner will agree with me that over-centralization may have many ill effects. Has there been a study of this particular problem of administration and, if so, what measures will the Administering Authority take to remedy the situation before it goes any further?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have constantly studied the make-up and the structure of the existing patterns of leadership and political divisions according to the cultures of the areas involved. This has been necessary in order that we could with the minimum disruption bring in the present approach to administration, namely, a democratic type of government where people are elected rather than being leaders by either hereditary or selective processes. When one realizes that there are ninety-six centres of population within the Trust Territory, one encompasses the belief that decentralization becomes quite a problem. We do not want to centralize the power within the District Centre to the point that it effects hardship on the outer islands. We are slowly moving -- again through sharing municipalities and bringing in the outer islands to the District Congresses -- into this decentralization which we are now discussing. I think that as time goes on there will be more and more evidences of decentralization. However, we can never expect to have a district organization or a headquarters organization duplicated the tens upon tens of times necessary if we are thoroughly and completely to decentralize.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I fully appreciate the difficulties which obtain in a Territory of that magnitude and with that number of centres. However, I only wish to bring out the fact that one cannot fail to feel that there is somewhat of an over-centralization. Perhaps, as time goes on, a remedy might be found along the lines suggested by the High Commissioner.



Now I wish to put my second question. We note that there are few supervisors in the Public Works Department of Micronesian descent. We realize that the Administering Authority has been able to train medical practitioners and even public prosecutors. Is it not also feasible to pay more attention to the training of supervisors, engineers and agricultural workers?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It certainly is possible, and for the past one or one and a half years we have been emphasizing particularly agricultural work, the developing of Micronesian extension agriculturists and the sending of Micronesians to school for education in agricultural fields. We fully intend to pursue this policy and expect to have within the next several years quite a large number of Micronesians engaged in agricultural pursuits who are not now working in that area.

With respect to public works, it also is possible. It is much slower because of the volume and the nature of the work involved in public works administration. It is our goal within the next few years to minimize the number of American engineers and, as we call them locally, snappers -- American supervisors in the public works field -- and replace them, as we can, with Micronesians. We have started this past year in-service training in the districts and we have also started bringing Micronesians into headquarters for specialized training. We propose to expand these two programmes and intend to send Micronesians to school in engineering and allied works, with the very strong hope that we can show much better progress in the public works field in the future than we have in the past.

*about* Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I should like to invite the special representative to comment on the part of the Visiting Mission's report where it is stated that the Administration should give prompt and serious attention to the people of the Rongelaps if they are to be restored to a normal and productive life. This question is connected with the effects of radiation which occurred a number of years ago. There seems to be some concern on the part of the people and some anxiety that, in spite of the assurances given by the Administering Authority, it is not fully

safe to live where they used to live. Perhaps the special representative will enlighten the Council as to whether it is purely a psychological matter or whether there are still some effects which frighten the people from living again in their homes.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The scientists have assured me, after exhaustive studies on the spot, that the land and the trees and shrubbery on the land are safe. They are not dangerous so far as radiation effects are concerned. The doctors and specialists in their field have assured me that the Rongelapese physically are healthy, that their norm of well-being is at the average of the norm throughout the Trust Territory, that the people are not now sick, nor are they incapacitated by reason of radioactivity. The scientists have further assured me that the fruits of the land, the coconuts, and the fruits of the sea, the fish, are safe to eat, one reservation only having been made, that land crabs should not be eaten. The agriculturists have assured me that the islands in the Rongelap Atoll are sufficient in size to grow all the food needed by the Rongelapese in terms of Marshallese food patterns and their needs of food which comes from the land.

I feel very confident in assuring the Trusteeship Council that at the present time there is no known reason why physically the Rongelapese could not live from their land and be healthy in so living. I will agree that there is a very definite psychological problem involved in the administration of the Rongelapese. I believe we can, over the period of the next several years, eliminate this psychological problem. That problem is created -- and I believe would have been created with any other group of people anywhere in the world -- by the fact that eighty-two or eighty-four of them were victims of the fall-out and that, as a result of that fall-out, they were given special care far above ordinary care given to human beings. They were fed; they were clothed; they were housed; they were cared for completely for several years while they were off their island. Since being returned to their island two years ago, they have received monthly quantities of food; they have been given help with their clothing; we have provided an agriculturist to work with them to help develop their land;

(Mr. Nucker,  
Special representative)

they are given special transportation consideration; and they have been subjected to special examinations several times a year to ensure that they are healthy and to ensure that there is no problem which might at this late date arise from the fall-out of five years ago. All this has caused the Rongelapese person to feel that he is entitled to much special care, and it is a little difficult, we find, to cause a person to think he is well when at the same time you are giving him a physical examination to make certain he is well. This is our problem, and I believe that with the lessening of the visitations of the scientists and doctors to the island the Rongelapese will settle into life on Rongelap as he lived it before the fall-out. This will take a little time.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): It only remains for me to thank the special representative. I have no more questions on the political aspects.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): My first question is one of a general nature rather than of a political nature, but the subject that it deals with has such profound repercussions on the political future of the Territory that I thought I had better ask it first.

In the Visiting Mission's report mention is made of the very high rate of increase in the population of the Trust Territory. In fact, I think it gives a rate of natural increase of 3.8. Looking in the annual report, I see that the population has increased by about 9,500 in the last four years. Could the special representative tell me whether the Administration has any exact figures, any population projection, which would give the Council an idea of how accurate this figure of 3.8 may be?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I think the figure of 3.8 per cent was arrived at from inaccurate figures, and I do not fully credit it simply because we have not had accurate population figures since 1947 when the United States became interested in the island. Neither have we had accurate birth and death registrations and our population figures therefore have been estimates in the true sense of the word. Last year we finished our first actual population taking in the whole of the Trust Territory, and we came out with a figure of 70,600, I believe. I believe this figure to be accurate, but I do not think that we can jump back from it and assume that because several years ago we reported 62,000 and now we have 70,000 we have had a 9,000 increase in the population. The population is increasing, but I do not think that the rate of 3.8 per cent a year is on a factual basis.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): I thank the special representative for that answer; for a moment I thought the Western Samoans would have to look to their laurels.

I wish now to turn to the subject of the Organic Act for the Trust Territory. It was intended, I think, to pass an Organic act for the territory in 1960, and last year the Administering Authority said that it doubted whether this would be possible. Could the special representative tell us what the Administering Authority's present views are concerning the possibility of the early adoption of an Organic Act, and, if delay is still inevitable, what are the reasons for the delay?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Organic Act and the year 1960 live to haunt me, frankly. I doubt very much if we shall have an Organic Act by 1960. We in the Trust Territory are working with the Department of the Interior and we are hopeful of having a proposed Organic Act ready for presentation to Congress in 1960. If we are successful in having it ready for submission to Congress, the Act would then have to be acted upon by the United States Congress, and whether we can get it in early enough in 1960 for action by Congress in that year is a matter of doubt. We intend to try, and that is the best answer I can give.

*Staff*  
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): The 1956 Visiting Mission suggested that it might be necessary actually to increase the overseas staff employed in the Territory as a temporary measure, so as to be able to increase the local staff in the Administration later. The number of overseas staff seems to have fallen in the last few years and is now less than 250. The question arises in my mind as to whether the Administration has found that this reduction in any way hinders the training of local staff, as the 1956 Visiting Mission thought it might.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I do not think that it has hindered the training of Micronesians; I believe the reduction in American staff has had the contrary effect of causing more training of Micronesians to take place. It is necessary to get the job done and when you have fewer Americans you use more Micronesians and you emphasize training. I believe that this past year has seen a greater amount of actual beneficial training of Micronesians than any other year.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): The Visiting Mission, in paragraph 46 of report for 1959, recommends that the Administration should give consideration to the employment of some Micronesians at the headquarters of the Territory. Could the special representative tell me whether any Micronesians from the Trust Territory are at present employed at headquarters; if so how many, and if not why not?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): At the present time there are two Micronesians employed at headquarters, but they have become American citizens and they fall outside the category of Micronesians. My reply therefore is that we have no Micronesians assigned to headquarters. The only reason we have no Micronesians at headquarters is that in the past we have had the problem of their having to live in Guam, away from home, and there were also other considerations which caused us to believe that we were not yet ready to bring Micronesians into Guam for work at headquarters. Beginning this year, in fact beginning next month after I return to Guam, we are going to implement a programme which was discussed and decided upon before I left Guam last month,



(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

according to which we are going to bring to headquarters two or three Micronesians at a time for assignments lasting from one to three months in specific fields of work, giving us the benefit the training of Micronesians at headquarters level and giving headquarters the benefit of Micronesian work at that level. This programme is intended to result within the next several years in the hiring on a permanent basis of Micronesians for work at headquarters. We have thought our programme through and we are ready to implement it upon my return to Guam.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): The representative of the United A Republic asked many questions which I was going to ask concerning the association of Rota and Saipan. The Visiting Mission raised the question of the association of Saipan with the rest of the Trust Territory and referred among other things to the Copra Stabilization Fund and the Title and Pay Plan as being different in the Saipan district from the corresponding funds and plans in the other districts. I notice that it is stated in the annual report that the Judge in the District Court of Guam serves as Chief Judge for the Saipan district. If I understand correctly the Code of the Trust Territory applies in Saipan as it applies elsewhere, and I was wondering whether the special representative could tell me whether any thought had been given to sharing the same judiciary and what would be the obstacles to having the Chief Judge in the Trust Territory serve as the Chief Judge in the Saipan district, which would seem to make for a uniformity of approach.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There is certainly no objection, and I think I can speak freely for the Navy in this respect, to having the Chief Justice of the Trust Territory act as the Chief Judge in Saipan, other than the physical factor of the work load. I should like to point out that the Chief Justice at Guam also acts as one of the judges in the Trust Territory in our Court of Appeals, when action is taken from decisions made by our Trial Court. There are currently two American judges, qualified, approved and appointed, to act in Guam on matters relating to the Trust Territory. One is the Chief Justice I have just mentioned, who serves the same purpose in Saipan as he does

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

in the Trust Territory. The Chief Justice in Guam does not go to Saipan to sit on normal cases; he hears appeals.

Adv. Co. Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): The special representative may not have to give me all these details himself, he may be able to refer me to somewhere where I can find them, but I did wonder where I could find details concerning the Inter-District Advisory Committee, its legislative basis, the number of its members, how they are elected and the progress of the scheme for "holdover" members. I have looked at the annual report and cannot find all these details.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I am afraid I shall have to give a rundown on this, since I know of no one place in which we have written up the evolution of this Advisory Committee.

The Inter-District Advisory Committee results from an idea put into effect about three or four years ago in which each district was advised by the High Commissioner that they should have two elected representatives sent to Guam for the first meeting of what was then called "a Delegate Conference". I specifically instructed the District Administrators that they should not select nor appoint, but should have the Local Council or Congress elect those members. This was done, and we held our first, second and third meetings. As a result of those meetings and the interest displayed by Micronesians, decisions evolved at the request of the Micronesians which resulted in the Delegates Conference becoming known as the Inter-District Advisory Committee to the High Commissioner, Also as a result of last year's meeting a decision was taken that it would be much better if at least one delegate was a "holdover" delegate, each year from the year before. The rules were created during the meetings and were approved by a vote of the delegates at the meetings. Beginning next year, one of the two delegates will be the same as one of this year's delegates, and there will be one new delegate each year. That new delegate will in turn become the holdover delegate and another new one will be elected. This is the way it works; we have not written it up anywhere that I know of except in the minutes of the meetings of the Committee itself.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): I assume that in the Districts which have District Congresses it is the Congress which nominates the representatives on the Inter-District Advisory Committee. What happens in the case of Saipan and Yap, the two districts which have no Congresses? How do they nominate their representatives?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): In Saipan, the Saipan Congress, in co-operation with Tinian Council, agreed upon the delegates to be sent. In Yap, the Yap Island Congress -- last year it was called the Council -- elected the delegates. I will anticipate the next question; this does leave us in the rather weak position that these two Districts, particularly Yap, are not able to say that they have an elected representative who represents the outer island in the District. This is so, but I think that within the course of the next several years this matter will be rectified.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): The special representative has touched on my next question in answer to my last; can he tell us what progress is being made in Saipan and Yap towards the establishment of District Congresses, and does he hope that at a fairly early date such congresses will be established?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I have been very pleased with the results in Yap District during the past year. Frankly, a little over a year ago I was somewhat skeptical as to the rate of progress Yap would make in connexion with developing a Yap District Congress. But the charter for the Yap Island Congress is written so broadly as to permit the inclusion of outer-island representation without the need for the redrafting of the congressional charter. This was done at the request of the Yap Island Congress members, looking towards the inclusion in the very near future of outer-island representation. I think that within two to three years, maybe sooner, we will have a truly representative District Congress in Yap. This pleases me because Yap has always been the conservative member of our district family.

With regard to Saipan, I do not feel that there will be any difficulty at all in the establishment in the very near future of a Saipan District Congress. There are only the two islands at the present time, Saipan and Tinian. They work so closely now as in effect to have district representation which on paper they do not have. It is a matter of paper work more than actual change.

*Page 2*  
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): This is my final question. For some years, there has been a confusion of electoral and suffrage provisions in the various districts and municipalities in the Territory. I was wondering whether the special representative could tell us what progress is being made to systematize these provisions with regard to electoral rolls and registration on a territorial rather than a district basis.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I think considerable progress has been made. We have some distance yet to go. Within all districts except one the voting age is eighteen. That district is Palau where the voting age is twenty-one. We are constantly talking with the people there and I believe that in the not too distant future they will drop the voting age to eighteen.

With the bringing into being this past year of unicameral congresses in each of the districts having congresses and with the settling almost throughout the districts on the term of two years for a congressman to be elected -- one district, Ponape, moved way ahead; it now elects for four years which is also the term in one other district -- I believe we are on the road towards a degree of standardization which is desirable and which I think will be accomplished in the natural process of growth.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): I have one or two questions which I can put this afternoon if that will assist the Council in its work.

During the statement the special representative made yesterday, he referred in a number of places to the policy of the administration of providing for a Micronesian understudy for a member of the administrative staff. In one or two places he said that there were ~~target dates~~ by which time the American staff would in fact be replaced by the Micronesians concerned. I wondered how this was done exactly, whether the dates concerned referred to replacement of the American staff concerned by actual individual Micronesians whose careers were mapped out for them in advance in this way; or whether it was simply a plan for the establishment of the organization which would involve the replacement of one American incumbent, whoever he may be, with a Micronesian, whoever he may be and wherever he may come from.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There is a combination of causes which permit us to indicate these dates by which time we anticipate replacement of Americans. Since my arrival in New York, I have received a letter from our present head of the Dental Department, Dr. Jaffe. He is a much-loved American who has, by everyone's considered opinion, done a terrific job in the Trust Territory. Dr. Jaffe is planning to retire by reason of age. His letter to me forecast the time of retirement and indicated his choice of the replacement, who is a Micronesian. Dr. Jaffe told me who the Micronesian is and why he recommended him. Dr. Jaffe indicated what ought to be done by the Micronesian in order to ensure a smooth turnover. This is one way that we get them.

At the present time, we had several Micronesians in school who have evidenced exceptional administrative abilities. We plan on using them, unless a personality or some other reason we do not know of now occurs, as replacements for Americans who now are in administrative posts. We estimate a date based on the fact that we have several good candidates, at least or two of whom should work out. It comes from scanning the field of known Micronesians and from an assessment of the nature and qualifications and level of Micronesians in college, plus individual recommendations by specific staff members.



(Mr. Nucker,  
Special representative)

At the present time, I also have a definitive recommendation from my Director of Sanitation for his replacement within the next year. He strongly recommends a Micronesian whom we are now watching very closely. So in a little over a year I expect to replace a Director of Sanitation.

Incidentally, I should like to submit to this Council that I think it is unusual and highly commendable that we have been able to find Americans who are willing to come to Micronesia to work hard with the sole purpose of working themselves out of a job. We have a number of such Americans and I am quite proud of them.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): My next question arises from the remark made by the special representative at the end of his answer to my last question. This is a problem with which the United Kingdom Government is very familiar and I wondered whether the United States Government had found it necessary to make any systematic arrangements for the compensation of American civil servants who did find that the successful culmination of all their work was to put them out of a job and perhaps to bring them back to the continental United States with their own careers in the United States interrupted. Perhaps it is the practice only to employ American civil servants on short-term contracts. Or how does that work?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The last statement is the key to our employment programme -- short-term contracts -- plus one other statement which I should like to make for the purpose of clarification. A number of years ago, I had the pleasure of working with the English Colonial Office, and I know that they have a well-defined Colonial Service in which men can rise in the ranks and devote their life to colonial work. The Trust Territory, on the other hand, is not a branch of the State Department. We do not have access to nor do we use foreign affairs officers brought up through the State Department Programme. Our employees are United States civil service employees. One of the blessings of our civil service programme is that an employee may come out to the Trust Territory on a two-year contract at a time, at the end of which he can come back to the United States and fit back into our United States civil service programme. Therefore, we do have a decided advantage in that respect.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): That ties up with the reduction in the turnover of American staff, which was also reported by the special representative. Is this reduction in turnover in fact accounted for by more Americans signing on for a further term?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): In large measure it is.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): I turn to a different question. I was very interested in the remarks made by the special representative on the establishment of the new unicameral congresses in Ponape and the Marshall Districts. I wonder whether any of the former members of the upper house of the old Congress had in fact run for election to the new unicameral congress and so continued their role of leadership in the political life of the District.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I shall deal with each District separately. First, in the Marshalls, the old noble line did not run for office because in the present unicameral legislative body the Iroi or leader of the noble line is entitled to sit in that Congress and does not have to be elected. He sits along with the elected members. There are twelve ~~seats~~ held by the nobles and there are thirty-eight seats held by the elected representatives. Each member, the Iroi and the elected members, have one vote and one vote only. Therefore, we have effected a unicameral congress while at the same time satisfying to a large degree the desire of the Marshallese to continue to honour their nobles or their leaders, the Iroi.

In Ponape, all members are elected. I am satisfied that some of the members are of noble lineage, the leaders, but they are in the minority. The Nahnwarki, which is the highest title we have in the Marshalls, in my opinion has not run. I could check to make certain. There is the feeling that they should not subject themselves to an election as they might be defeated. Some of the lesser titles have run and have been defeated.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): There are references both in the Visiting Mission's report and in the special representative's opening statement to expenditure by the municipalities and for school building, and no doubt for other purposes, under the grant-in-aid programme. Now a political aspect of our interest in the grant-in-aid programme is in the means by which the central government, the Administration, supervises the expenditure of monies granted under the grant-in-aid programme. To what extent can they manage to maintain sound financial principles and yet give to the municipalities the satisfaction of planning their own expenditures in this field?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): A grant-in-aid results from a request made by a municipality for the construction of a school building or a public building of some kind. On receipt of the request, the District Administrator determines that the building being requested is necessary or is a good thing. Deciding that, he sends the Director of Public Works, along with the activity chief involved -- if it is a school building, it will be the Director of Education -- to the municipality and plans are drawn for the size of the school and the nature and type of construction of the school.

Then the Director of Public Works estimates the quantities and costs of materials, as well as the amounts of labour and value of labour to into this school. After the preliminary work is done, the request approved by the District Administrator, with the supporting data, is sent in to headquarters where it is reviewed by my public works staff, by the Director of Education at headquarters and myself. If approved, we then notify the District of the amount of money we will provide for the purchasing of materials and the necessary expenses for the construction of the school.

We will not provide more than 50 per cent of the total estimated cost of that school. Then, as construction begins, our local staff -- the District Director of Education, the District Director of Public Works -- checks weekly on the progress being made on construction, and money is given to the municipality to pay for the supplies being used in the construction of the programme.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): One of the great political needs of the Territory, of course, is the building up of territory-wide political consciousness, which is extremely difficult, and a number of ways in which this might be done have been suggested by the special representative over the years and by the successive Visiting Missions. There is one way, which is mentioned by the Visiting Mission in paragraph 46 of its report, which is through the building up of a territory wide civil service of Micronesians who are prepared to serve anywhere in the Territory.

*post  
consciousness*

This kind of liability to posting away from their own homes could be, I imagine, something of a deterrent to Micronesians who would otherwise want to join a civil service. I wonder whether the special representative thinks that anything substantial might be achieved in the way of a Micronesian National Civil Service, if I could put it that way, with liability to posting to islands other than their own.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I find the greatest deterrent to this utilization of Micronesians in districts other than our own, to be the Americans. If we had an American working on Palau and transfer him to Truk, he immediately wants to surround himself by his Palauan workers. And if we send an American from Truk to Palau, he wants to transfer all the Trukese to Palau to work. So that we do have that problem.

Seriously, I do not anticipate any great difficulty with this use of Micronesians in districts other than their home district. I tend to go along with the Visiting Mission in that it is a good thing because it exchanges ideas and people more readily than most any other way. We cannot let it get out of hand, so that we simply transfer working population from one district to another for the sake of transfers, because we also give living allowances and provide quarters when we move a Micronesian from one district to another. Therefore we Americans, being dollar conscious, are going to keep that in hand.

*charter*  
Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): The special representative, in his opening statement, described the great success of the chartering programme during the last year and the Visiting Mission also describes in very interesting detail the processes which are gone through when a charter is granted. It seems to be pretty much of a success story and I wonder if the special representative could give us any information on the other side of the story, if there is another side. Can he think of any examples where as a result of all this, or following all this political education and consultation that goes on, there has still remained a resistance on the part of the local people to the idea of a charter?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I doubt if there is any programme pointed towards change, which it is thought in our instance to be synonymous with progress, which has not had its problems. In the instance of chartering of Micronesian municipalities, however, the difficulties and adversities have been surprisingly small. To the contrary, one of our major problems today is to not charter too rapidly. Many of our municipalities now want to be chartered because it is the thing to do. Everybody is wearing a charter and we want a charter too. The Administration has held that we do not want to issue a charter to any municipality until we are satisfied that the municipality understand what it is asking and what it is getting and is in a position to carry on under the charter.

We have had boundary disputes arise from chartering programmes which, while vexing, have been healthy and wholesome because they have resulted in the settling of problems which have remained unsettled for years. One municipality, since it could not be the first to be chartered, has made it known that it is going to be the last to be chartered. We have had problems, but they have been pleasant ones.

Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) (interpretation from French): I think that it will further the work of the Council if I put the very few questions which I have this afternoon. As a matter of fact, several of these questions have already been answered and I have only two questions at this time to put to the special representative.



(Mr. Salomon, Haiti)

Could the special representative tell us whether any advantages are derived by a Micronesian official if he becomes a United States citizen, and in the case of such a change, does the status of the official also change? Is there an increase in salary or does he automatically enter the American civil service? Could the special representative also tell us how many Micronesian officials have in the past few years acquired American nationality?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): To my knowledge there are no Micronesian officials who have acquired United States citizenship. There are a number of Micronesians, over the past number of years, who have acquired United States citizenship. When I say a number, I should like to clarify that. I believe that 30, 40 or 50 would be a good estimate. Those Micronesians, however, who have become United States citizens, became citizens by reason of having been on Guam at a certain time and having stayed on Guam the five year requisite for becoming a citizen and are continuing on Guam as American citizens.

I know of none who have returned home to work as American citizens. We had one exception. A young Micronesian who went to school in the University of Washington -- or it might have been Washington State University -- became a citizen, returned to Micronesia and then elected to return to the United States to work at the university. So the problem posed is not a problem in fact at this time.

Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) (interpretation from French): My next question stems from a reply given earlier by the special representative to another question which was put to him. He stated earlier that the Administering Authority had obtained guarantees from scientists that in the future no unfavourable effects would accrue to the population -- in very small numbers, as a matter of fact -- who had come under the radioactive fallout resulting from tests. No doubt, this assurance was given on the basis of very thorough-going studies carried out elsewhere by the Administering Authority.

The periodic visits of scientists to examine the state of health of the inhabitants, however, must probably have given rise to the impression that such unfavourable sequels in the health of the inhabitants were still to be feared,

(Mr. Salomon, Haiti)

and no doubt these periodic visits have kept up this fear and apprehension on the part of the inhabitants. Could the special representative tell me whether it is planned to put an end to these visits, which we understand have been spread out over the past few years?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I am very pleased that the question was put in this manner. I want, however, to erase one erroneous impression that I must have created. The scientists have not given any guarantee that there will at no time in the future be no results from this past fallout. The scientists have assured me that at the present time the people are healthy and that they expect no future problems, but they have not guaranteed that there would be no future problems.

The representative of Haiti is absolutely right when he says that the people, based on the numerous physical checkups, believe that there can be or there must be some reason for these continued checkups. This is a matter of concern to them.

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

I have discussed this problem with the scientists, and they tell me that they can reduce the number of trips and they can reduce the number and nature of the experiments to be made in the future, based on the information they have gained in the past from the exhaustive tests they have made. I am satisfied that in the future there will be fewer trips, and those trips which are made will not be so large nor will they have so many exhaustive tests taking place, as has been the case in the past. I think we are working on the problem in the right direction.

The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.



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Trusteeship Council  
24th Session, 28th Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1511  
30 June 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

JUL 1 - 1959

The Trusteeship Council this afternoon concluded its general debate on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi with a statement by the representative of the USSR.

VALENTIN I. OBEREMKO (USSR) first commented on the political situation in the trust territory.

Asserting that the Belgian Government "still considers the trust territory as part of the Belgian Congo," he alleged that the administering authority was seeking "to retain complete control" over developments in Ruanda-Urundi.

When Mr. OBEREMKO began to quote statements by Belgian statesmen concerning policies for overseas territories, ALFRED CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) stated on a point of order that statements of Belgian officials which did not relate to Ruanda-Urundi had no place in this discussion.

The representative of the USSR replied that his citations were relevant.

He went on to say that a working group, comprising Belgian officials "but not a single representative of the indigenous inhabitants," had been in Ruanda-Urundi to study the situation and to recommend future political measures. The preliminary documentation submitted to this working group, he asserted, was based on the premise that Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo would in future form a single country.

There were attempts "to camouflage" Belgium's "colonial policy," the Soviet representative went on. But, in fact, Belgium "is suppressing national liberation movements."

When Mr. OBEREMKO went on to refer to the "many Africans killed" in the Belgian Congo during the "cruel reprisals" earlier this year, Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) interrupted to say that these remarks were "completely out of order" and should "be stricken from the record."

Continuing, Mr. OBEREMKO pointed out that Ruanda-Urundi was linked in an administrative union with the Belgian Congo. Immediate steps, he said, should be taken to "liquidate" this administrative union, which, in his view, subordinated the affairs of the trust territory to those of the Congo.

(END OF TAKE 1)





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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

Turning to economic matters, Mr. OBEREMKO (USSR) said that, if one discounted the manufacture of "some bricks and a few pots and pans," there was no industry in Ruanda-Urundi. Any profitable trade or business was exclusively in the hands of Europeans while the Africans were obliged to continue their primitive existence and to seek jobs outside the territory.

Mr. OBEREMKO then sharply criticized the territory's budget. He accused the administering authority of "foisting upon Ruanda-Urundi expenses which it should assume itself." Even the annual report to the Trusteeship Council, "printed on such luxurious paper," and the "memorial plates for deceased Belgian officials" were paid for by the trust territory, the Soviet representative said.

"The administering authority is not investing a single franc of its own into Ruanda-Urundi," he declared. Instead, Belgium was merely shifting investments from one territory to the other by utilizing funds derived from both the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

Labor and educational policies, Mr. OBEREMKO continued, "are based on racial discrimination and segregation." The right of association was "fictitious," because the whole policy of the administration was designed "to crush all political parties." Africans could be arrested and expelled on vague grounds of public order.

Africans could not move from one chiefdom to another without a visa, he said, and a night curfew was imposed in Usumbura. Corporal punishment was still applied, he added.

Mr. OBEREMKO called for immediate legislative, administrative or other measures to remove provisions which permitted racial discrimination against the indigenous people.

As for social progress, Mr. OBEREMKO went on, the fact remained that there was only one physician for every 60,000 inhabitants and a total of only four dentists for over four million people.

The administering authority "is not doing its duty" in the educational field, he said. Responsibility for schools had mostly been passed on to religious missions, although the population was clamoring for secular education.

(more)

Only one-fifth of the school-age children had the possibility of enrollment, according to UNESCO's observations, the Soviet representative said. "There has been absolutely no progress in national education."

Merely to provide elementary education for all children, expenditures for education would have to be doubled, the Soviet representative said. Likewise, intensive efforts would be required to remedy "the very unsatisfactory" situation in other fields.

In conclusion, Mr. OBEREMKO requested the Trusteeship Council to urge the administering authority to considerably increase the budget for the trust territory's development, with the cost to be borne by Belgium.

(END OF TAKE 2)

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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 3

The Council then resumed examination of conditions in the Pacific Islands, administered by the United States.

MASON SEARS (United States) introduced Bethwel Henry of Ponape who, he said, had recently obtained his BA degree from the University of Hawaii. Mr. Henry, he added, had been selected to represent the Ponape District at an Inter-District meeting to be held this fall. It was on the shoulders of such young men, he said, that the future of the territory depended.

The Council then heard a statement by Mr. Henry who spoke as a member of the United States delegation to the Trusteeship Council.

Mr. HENRY said he was from Mokil Atoll in Ponape District, Eastern Carolines. He said he had had the pleasure of meeting the members of the 1959 visiting mission last February when they stopped in Honolulu to visit Micronesian students.

His main interest, he said, had been in political development and education. He had spent some time in Ponape District working in both fields, and had just completed four years study at the University of Hawaii, majoring in government.

In his district, he said, they had seen the gradual development over the past ten years of a representative, legislative body for the entire district. Last year, a congressional convention was held and a charter for an all-district, unicameral congress, with all members elected by popular vote, was drafted and adopted. This new Ponape District Congress, he said, was now in operation and had had several productive sessions.

While he cited only examples of his home district, the same pattern of gradual development toward the objective of self-government and self-improvement, he said, could be shown for all the other districts as well.

(END OF TAKE 3)





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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 4

Despite the positive improvements he had mentioned, Mr. HENRY (United States) went on, there were still many obstacles to overcome. Micronesia today was no longer an isolated world; it was part of the world community.

However, he said, most Micronesians still thought only in terms of local or district interest. "We must educate ourselves to begin to think along broader terms -- in territory-wide terms as well as in district terms," he said.

Through the programs initiated by the administering authority, people were beginning to see their problems in a wider and more realistic perspective. People, he added, were realizing more and more that they had common interests and common goals.

This autumn, Mr. HENRY said, elected delegates from each district would again meet with the High Commissioner and his staff to discuss common problems. He had been selected as a delegate to this Inter-District Advisory Committee meeting.

He said he was returning to Ponape and was planning to work in education. In his opinion, further education was the most pressing need in Micronesia today.

There were other problems in the territory which needed attention, he continued. There was need for more competent persons for specialized fields; there were problems of transportation and communication, and the problem of overcoming the reluctance of older Micronesians to accept modern agricultural methods. They would continue to need outside financial assistance and technical aid in order to build a well-balanced economy which could meet their increasing demands.

In closing, he expressed his gratitude to the administering authority for its "guidance to our progress toward self-government in this new age," and to the Trusteeship Council and the United Nations as a whole.

(END OF TAKE 4)



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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 5

The Council then began the questioning of the administering authority's special representative, DELIAS H. NUCKER, High Commissioner of the Pacific Islands.

RAFIK ASHA (United Arab Republic) asked whether the question of moving the administrative headquarters, now in Guam, to a site within the trust territory itself would be one of the questions which would be discussed at the Inter-District Advisory Committee meeting this autumn.

Mr. NUCKER said it would be discussed at the meeting scheduled for next October.

Mr. ASHA asked whether the administration envisaged the Inter-District Advisory Committee as a nucleus of a future legislative body for the territory.

Mr. NUCKER said it was regarded as a forerunner of an eventual elective body representing all the districts. The present stage was only a first step toward the establishment of an elected territorial legislature.

Asked how long this process would take, the special representative said it was a little difficult to say precisely how long this process would take. He would hazard a guess that in five or ten years they should have an elected territorial body.

Mr. ASHA referred to the fears of the people of Rongelap, who were temporarily evacuated in 1954 because of unforeseen radioactive fallout. He asked whether the fears that radiation had contaminated their atoll and lagoon were purely psychological or whether some radiation effects were still being felt.

Mr. NUCKER said he had been assured by scientists, after exhaustive study in the area, that the atoll was safe and that there was no danger of radioactive effects. He had also been assured by doctors that the people of Rongelap were physically healthy. He hoped that in the next few years it would be possible to eliminate this psychological problem.

(END OF TAKE 5)



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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 6

P.K. EDMONDS (New Zealand), referring to the high population increase, asked whether there was an accurate estimate of the rate of growth of the Micronesian population.

The special representative said that the necessary basic population statistics were not accurate because all statistics could not have been ascertained in the few years since the United States took over the administration of the islands. The estimated rate of population growth of 3.8 per cent was not based on verified statistics.

The special representative then replied to several questions by the representative of New Zealand concerning the organization of political institutions in the various districts.

GEOFFREY CASTON (United Kingdom) asked how the administering authority had arrived at the anticipated dates on which Micronesians are to replace American officials.

The special representative said that various factors enabled the administering authority to judge the situation. For example, he added, there were many Micronesian candidates who, as soon as they were qualified, would be put into jobs now held by Americans.

GEORGES SALOMON (Haiti), referring to the fears of the people of Rongelap that their atoll might still be suffering from radioactive contamination, asked whether the frequent checkups by scientists had contributed to those fears.

Mr. NUCKER said he had discussed the problem with the scientists and had been assured that the number of such trips and the number and nature of experiments could be reduced. He said he was satisfied that in the future there would be fewer trips of such a nature.

The questioning of Mr. Nucker will be continued by the Council at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

(END OF TAKE 6 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1511)