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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 2 July 1959, at 10.30 a.m.

President:

Mr. DORSINVILLE

(Haiti)

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the
Pacific Islands [3c, 4, 6] (continued)

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Note:

The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.997 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEMS 3c, 4 and 6

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

- (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)

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.

Economic advancement (continued)

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Before putting my next question in the field of economic advancement, I should like to say that I have read in written form the replies that were given yesterday to my questions. Unfortunately, some of the comments which were somewhat vague in the oral presentation remained as vague and as unclear in the written form. I should particularly like to draw the attention of the representative of the United States to his very confused considerations regarding the position in other countries when he was making certain uncertain references unclear even to himself.

First of all, it is quite clear that it is useless to refer to other countries...

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The representative of the United States wishes to speak on a point of order.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I wish the representative of the Soviet Union would smile when he makes some of these references to the way various members of the Council express themselves. We would feel easier here.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): (interpretation from Russian): Did the representative of the United States read somewhere in the rules of procedure that whenever any representative spoke to him they had to smile? Some of his statements do cause one to smile. We have not heard any such statements so far today, but I believe that we shall probably have the opportunity of smiling at today's meeting also. However, since this does touch upon a serious matter, I wanted to say, with or without a smile, that the representative of the United States yesterday referred to matters which he does not fully understand and which perhaps he should not comment upon. When we discussed the position of the Trust Territory, we saw here that the knowledge of the representative of the United States was not greater than the knowledge possessed by the special representative. That is why we should have preferred to hear more from the special representative, who is acquainted with the actual situation in the Trust Territory. For the sake of the record, I should like to say that the representative of the United States should perhaps speak only of those things of which he is sure, rather than speaking about matters which are not so well known to him. However, this is, of course, an introduction to my second question.

Yesterday the representative of the United States told us that the funds which the United States Government is making available to balance the budget of the Trust Territory, if they were distributed, would amount approximately to \$500 or \$400 for each family. That is contained on page 61 of the verbatim record of yesterday's meeting. I should like to know the average income per family in the Trust Territory: in order words, the income that actually becomes available to the average family in the Trust Territory.

budget
average
income
per capita

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I think that the figure most truly accurate would be a per capita income of \$60 to \$65 per year. On the basis of a family unit averaging five to six, this would be \$300 or £350 per year per family.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from
Yesterday we already had the opportunity of putting a question as to
sufficient amount of funds is being earmarked for the Trust Territory
by the Government of the United States. Now I should like to draw the attention
of the special representative to paragraphs 73, 74 and 75 of the Visiting Mission's
report. I must say that this report contains the conclusion of the Mission that
the most important factor in the slow economic development of the Territory is
lack of funds. For instance, many officials in the Territory had told the Mission
that almost all the programmes in the social, economic and educational fields had
to be curtailed or postponed for lack of funds. Many of the hospitals and
administration buildings needed to be repaired. Then it is pointed out also that
although the expenses for the maintenance of the permanent services, such as
health, education and so on, have not been increased substantially in the past few
years, the costs of materials and equipment have constantly risen. Subsequently,
in paragraph 75, the Mission states that, in its view, the Administration, after
all, is not contributing sufficient funds for the maintenance of present services
and is not making available sufficient funds for economic development.

Yesterday the special representative told us that at present the Territory
is apparently receiving sufficient funds to maintain adequate progress. Therefore,
we should like to know how this works out as far as the Administration is concerned,
since it is using less real funds as a result of the drop in the value of the
dollar. In the light of this decrease in actual funds, how can it maintain the
previous rate of progress, and what is his reaction to this comment by the
Visiting Mission? The Visiting Mission went to the Trust Territory, and the
High Commissioner also went to the Trust Territory, but we have two contradictory
evaluations of the situation. How can they be reconciled?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It is true, as I mentioned yesterday, that directors of divisions will want more money. It is also true that more money could be spent in the Trust Territory in any given year. To me the rate of spending in large measure depends upon the ability of the Territory to absorb the benefits of spending within Micronesia. For instance, we have followed, over the past four years, the policy of limiting our new construction spending, or capital improvement spending, to \$900,000 or \$1 million a year. This, we believe, represents the amount of money which can best use Micronesian skills and effect the best training of Micronesians while we are building these capital improvements.

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

We could go outside and contract for the buildings and spend many times \$900,000 in one year, and achieve a very rapid rate of construction. But the money would go outside; the training would be minimum so far as Micronesians are concerned; and we have elected to use the slow approach to capital improvements.

Americans will disagree with this philosophy because quite often Americans think the best way to get a thing going is to get it done rapidly rather than on a slow, year-to-year basis. So far as education, health and agriculture are concerned -- to me, the three most important programmes to Micronesians -- we have not reduced the number of teachers; we have not reduced the number of buildings; we have not reduced the scope of the programmes. We have, on the other hand, been able through training to use Micronesians very effectively in these programmes. This has reduced the costs somewhat, and permits us to provide more services for fewer dollars, and to counteract this lessening purchasing power which is so constantly mentioned.

Copra production has increased in the Trust Territory over the past four or five years, which has produced income to the Micronesians; and the Micronesians themselves have contributed more and more each year to their educational and health programmes. Their participation, dollar-wise, is not reflected in the subsidy of the United States other than that they permit that subsidy not to increase each year. I would only answer the question by stating that the results of our programmes, I think, in large measure speak for themselves. We can, of course, step up the programmes by spending more money, but I do not think -- I honestly do not think -- that we can achieve greater benefit to the Micronesians by reason of terrifically large increases in expenditures.

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

I have one other remark. In this field, of course, there is, as the representative from the Soviet Union mentioned yesterday, a great area for differences in opinions. When a visiting mission goes to a Territory, it is natural -- and it is right -- that the staff in the Territory and the Micronesians in the Territory tell the Visiting Mission what they would like and what they want. It is naturally the Visiting Mission's prerogative to interpret the words they hear while going through the Territory. The Visiting Mission did not say that we have reduced our programmes, that we have created suffering or problems. They do indicate, however, that with more money we could have -- and I agree -- and we would have bigger and faster-moving programmes. But it is my belief that we are not ready as yet for the bigger and faster-moving programmes.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I must say that the special representative has presented his concept of the situation very clearly. I should like to state that we would like to make our comments on this particular subject, at a later stage.

My next question is a very specific one. How many kilometres of new highway have been built during the Trusteeship period?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): An answer to that question, without the person receiving the answer having a concept of mileage potentials within the Trust Territory, would be somewhat meaningless. We have either built or improved twenty-five to thirty miles of highway in the Trust Territory. When it is recognized that this, comparatively speaking, small amount of mileage is applied against an area which consists of so many islands that are not a mile long or not over a quarter of a mile wide, then, in perspective, I submit that it represents a reasonable extension of highways and a reasonable improvement of existing highways.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should also like to refer to the comment of our President, and I shall not make any comments now. The special representative has explained the significance of this figure of twenty-five miles of built or improved highways.

industry
I should like to know what are the measures being undertaken by the Administration towards the ~~re-establishment of such forms of industry~~ as the sugar industry, the pineapple industry and the fibre industry. It is known that the indigenous population has plied the Visiting Mission with such questions -- and also those American members of the Press who visited the Trust Territory -- and all of them, in unison, had pointed to the fact that formerly, under the Japanese regime, they had fishery plants at Dublon and Ponape; and, they are asking the question why the Americans are not building similar factories. In addition to that, there are other branches of industry which formerly did exist, and now are not being developed in the Trust Territory. Some of the information is already available in the report of the Visiting Mission, but we should like to know the point of view of the Administration of the Trust Territory in relation to the possibility of re-establishing the old forms of production in industry, the creation of new types of industry, in order to develop the economy of the Trust Territory in all possible directions.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Prior to World War II the Japanese did build up a sugar industry in some of the islands, they promoted the growth of pineapples, and they had a sizable fishing industry in operation in the Trust Territory; but one must realize the reasons the Japanese had and the conditions of the world at that time. Japan was supplying its homeland with these products: sugar, pineapple, fibre and fish. Japan had more Japanese in the islands than there were Micronesians. The connotation that because in years past there were industries in Micronesia there should therefore be those same industries there now is an erroneous one. The Micronesians were growing the sugar for Japan, as they were the pineapples and fish products, under completely subsidized programmes in which the Micronesians participated but little so far as the total effectx of the industries is concerned. They worked in the fields and they worked on the ships, but the industries were not Micronesian.

Today to have a successful Micronesian industry in these fields requires an ability to meet market conditions and an ability to grow these products in a competitive world and distribute and sell them under competitive conditions. Those conditions do not exist today in Micronesia. I do not believe that this Council would look favourably upon a series of programmes which of necessity would require the bringing into Micronesia of a population larger than the present Micronesian population when those people brought in were from outside countries. So that conditions are not the same.

We have gone into these items very thoroughly, and we are currently trying to develop a Micronesian fisheries industry. We are having difficulty but I think we will succeed in developing a programme which will be of benefit to the Micronesians, not to the Administering Authority.

Mr. OBIEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Visiting Mission heard from both the indigenous inhabitants and the officials of the regional administrative establishments that there were numerous difficulties in connexion with the transporting of various types of products. In this connexion I should like to know whether it is technically possible to use in the Trust Territory for short-haul navigating those United States vessels which were put into mothballs after World War II.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): In truth the backbone of our shipping consists of vessels belonging to the United States which had been or would otherwise be in mothballs. We now have four large vessels in that category. We are considering the acquisition of another such vessel.

The ultimate answer to shipping in the Trust Territory consists in having ships built to the needs of the Territory. Our mothball fleet was not built with the thought in mind of servicing one hundred groups of islands scattered over 3,000 square miles. Most of our ships are too large. But the basis of the question is good, and the fact is that we are using those ships and considering using more.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In our view it would be possible to acquire a far greater number of vessels of that kind for the Trust Territory, which would make for more frequent trips between the islands, and this is particularly so when you see as you go up the Hudson River that there are hundreds of vessels which could be used for that purpose.

now The next question refers to page 59 of the report of the Administering Authority. There we read that in the Trust Territory there are no export or import duties or quotas. On page 201 of the report of the Administering Authority we see for the financial year that the imports of the Trust Territory constituted \$4,335,000. Of this over-all figure the greatest sum, \$3,272,000, was in relation to imports from the United States. I should like to know whether this same rule is applied in the United States in respect of goods which are exported from the Trust Territory in to the United States. In other words, are there any import duties for merchandise which is an export from the Trust Territory?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The only import duty for exports from the Trust Territory into the United States is that on handicrafts. I think that is a 15 per cent duty. Currently we are working with the Congress of the United States in an attempt to get that particular import duty eliminated and expect so to do in the not-too-distant future.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We have no further questions on this section.

Mr. RASGOIRA (India): I have a few questions in the economic field. Before I ask them, I should like to say that I missed a part of the questioning this morning, so that if my questions repeat those that have already been asked, I should be glad if the High Commissioner would simply say that the question had been answered, and I shall look at the document when the record becomes available.

My first question relates to economic planning and development of the Territory. There is a lot which has been done in this Trust Territory by way of economic development and I think it should be possible for my delegation to say that economic progress has not been unsatisfactory. Yet, as the Visiting Mission itself points out, a lot remains to be done. I wonder whether the Administering Authority and its representatives in the Trust Territory have any concerted, integrated plan of development, or if any such plan has been formulated or is in the process of formulation. After all, in this Territory we are face to face with the phenomena of a sharp fall in resources, excessive demands, a lot to be done, and in these circumstances success can best be achieved by way of planning. If there is any planning done, we should like to have some details thereof. If there is not, we should like to know whether it is the intention of the Administering Authority to undertake some and whether machinery is being brought into existence to associate the people of the Territory with economic planning for the future. That is my first question and I should be grateful for a reply.

*econ.
planning*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I first want to state that there is a lot to be done. With that statement that has been made I thoroughly agree.

With respect to plans in the past, we have had constant meetings in the districts and at Headquarters with our staff and with Micronesian staff looking towards increasing first, the production of copra, second, the production of trochus and rubber, in Saipan. increasing the production of vegetables and in all the Territory, increasing the production of handicrafts. This probably constituted the major planning because we were motivated by the desire to increase the production of those products that we knew the Micronesians knew how to handle.

We have had soil surveys and mineral surveys made in the past, the results of which so far as mineral and power resources are concerned have been extremely negative. We have had fishing surveys made, the results of which have been extremely positive in that we are assured of a source of fish and, even more important, a source of bait fish with which to go deep-sea fishing.

There has not been an integrated survey made within the past three or possibly four years. I am mindful of the Visiting Mission's comments and I am becoming desirous personally of having a total survey made so that in one package we can have comments on all potential resources and potential development factors and also get a review of our own thinking to see if we have missed anything. I shall seriously consider the recommendations for a complete economic survey and see if, between now and next year, we cannot get something started along that line.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I am glad to hear that answer. It seems to my delegation that the Administration now has at its disposal a certain amount of information which can be welded together into an integrated plan. We should certainly look forward to the framing of such a plan because it seems to us that if this Territory is to become self sufficient at some future date it will be necessary to lay down not only target dates but also priorities in the matter of development.

(Mr. Rasgotra, India)

The question that follows from that relates to the financing of development projects. May I introduce it in this way. The method adopted in most countries today is that sums are put into a development fund and then sums are allocated to various development projects. In the information that has been submitted to us, I have not come across any evidence of that method of development financing. Perhaps the Administering Authority has some other method in operation. Would it be possible for the special representative to give some indication as to how development projects are financed? Are they financed out of the regular annual budget? How are appropriations made and so on?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Essentially they are financed from annual appropriations. The money is set aside annually for those projects which have been determined to be put into action or to be continued as a result of the previous year's work. For instance, each year we cover our agricultural programmes, which include the fishing projects, the cacao experimentation, the pepper experimentation, the trochus surveys, etc. We do not finance the projects from a single fund set aside as such for economic development purposes, but we do finance those projects which we determine to be of value in the coming year. It is with the thought in mind that a survey might indicate projects which the staff of the High Commissioner has not thought of and which might be of value. If we find them and we really believe in them, I assure the representative of India that we will be able to finance them.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): My next question relates to public domain lands. We were told yesterday that they constitute about 60 per cent of the total land area of the Trust Territory and we were also told that the large bulk of this public domain land is cultivable land. I think I am correct in that impression. I assume that this land at the moment is not under cultivation and that there are no individual owners or cultivators of this land.

In the neighbouring Trust Territory of Western Samoa, as the special representative I am sure is aware, we have an organization called the Western Samoa Trust Estates Corporation, which is run by a corporation under the direction of Government. These trust estates contribute to the development of

(Mr. Rasgotra, India)

the Territory funds of the order of £30,000 or £40,000 annually. I was wondering whether there was a possibility to establish, say, co-operative farms or State-owned farms on this public domain land, or at least on those parts of it which are cultivable, on a co-operative basis at Government initiative, if necessary, so that these lands could be rendered productive and the value derived from their production could be poured into the development of the Territory. Is there a possibility of that kind? Has any thought been given to it? Does the Administering Authority envisage action on the lines I have suggested? I should like to hear the views of the special representative.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Thought has been given to the development of Government-operated and controlled plantation-type activities in the Trust Territory. The decision has been not to go into this type of activity at the present time beyond the few small areas we are now operating, for instance, the small one at the Metalanim plantation, at Jaluit where we started one, and where the typhoon blew us out of business. A breakdown of our land essentially indicates that there is under public domain probably 150 to 170 square miles of cultivable land. In the main, this land today has coconut trees, breadfruit trees and pandanus trees, which are available to the Micronesians for harvest purposes either for their own consumption or for the making of copra. At the present time it is my thought that we serve the Micronesians better by holding this land against homesteading needs in years to come rather than developing it as plantations for profits to ease income pressures at the present time.

In short the problem has been discussed and the decision has been made, not irrevocably, not to go into this type of activity at the present time.

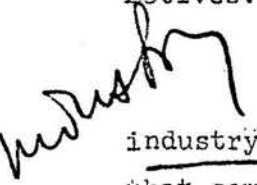
Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I understand that the decision of the Administering Authority in this regard is not irrevocable. But could the special representative tell us what led the Government to this decision? I am not suggesting that government ownership or government operation of these lands should be perpetuated. I presume that if in the future it should become necessary to parcel out this land, under a homesteading programme or any other programme to the inhabitants, that could be done even if these lands were developed in model farms or co-operative farms owned and operated by government. What exactly are the difficulties in undertaking a programme of this kind which led to the decision that the Administering Authority has in fact taken in this regard?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I can only reply that it has been our considered judgement that we would do a better job in terms of current needs, under the current picture economically, by working with the Micronesians in developing their present lands to a great extent than moving our energies into developing government lands which would tend to cause us not to develop as much interest in the Micronesians' own holdings. We have been devoting our time to Micronesian land rather than to government land.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I see that we have the same thing in view, but it so happens that our approach is somewhat different from that of the Administering Authority in this matter. It is our feeling in the matter that if a farm of the kind to which I refer could be developed, it would serve as a model farm and it would be a lesson in model or productive agriculture to the inhabitants of the Territory, and they could probably gain a lot of experience from the work done by government in this field. At any rate, the Administering Authority has taken a certain decision. We note that it is not irrevocable and we hope it will be kept under review.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I just want to take this opportunity to clarify one point. We do have model farms; we do have experimental plots on a commercial basis in the Trust Territory which are used for demonstration purposes for the Micronesians. We have one at Madolenihm in Ponape District which is quite sizable and it is being used constantly as an educational background. It includes coconut, cacao, livestock, pepper. We had a sizable cacao plantation in Palau which we subsequently gave up. We are retaining a certain smaller area there for the purposes just mentioned.

I did not want the Council to think that we did not have these projects. But I am speaking in terms of developing new ones or big ones for profit-making motives. I do not want to go into that phase at this time.

 Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I have a question or two in the field of industry and industrial development. The special representative will recall that some years ago, before this Territory came under international trust, there were to be found in the Territory the beginnings of a sugar industry, pineapple canning and fibre. These industries were dislocated or completely destroyed during the war. Is there any plan to revive these industries? What are the possibilities of developing sugarcane production in the Territory or pineapple canning or fibre? Have any surveys been made and what are the results of those surveys?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have studied the sugar potential and the pineapple potential, and as mentioned in the reply to the question of the representative of the Soviet Union, we do not at this time feel that these products are capable of commercial development in the Trust Territory. I think I gave a rather extensive reply to the representative of the Soviet Union.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I should be glad to look up the record of the special representative's reply to a question on this subject by the representative of the Soviet Union. I am aware that the Administering Authority

(Mr. Rasgotra, India)

is attempting to diversify the agricultural produce of the Territory. That is necessary if the cash element in the Territory's economy is to be increased. Is there a possibility of developing coffee production or tea production in the Territory? I am asking this question because there is no precise information available on the subject in the reports.

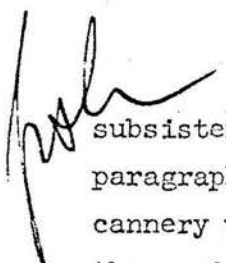
*Agri.
Produce*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We are hopeful of developing a coffee industry. I am told, and I believe correctly so, that the soils of the Trust Territory will not lend themselves to tea production. Having visited Japan and, with admiration, noted the manner in which they had been able to grow tea, and recognizing that the Japanese administered this area for a period of approximately thirty years, I am satisfied that if tea could have been grown there, it would have been grown there. But we have hopes for coffee.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): As you are aware, there is a revolving fund in the Territory and there were some questions asked about the operation of that revolving fund last year by my delegation. I would like to know if the special representative is in a position to give us some details about the operations of this fund during the year of the annual report. Were there any loans made from this fund, to what purpose and to what effectiveness?

fund

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Initially the fund was for \$500,000. Loans during the past year have been granted for a sum of about \$100,000. Loans since the beginning of the fund have totalled \$578,000 in round figures; \$361,000 has been repaid, leaving a balance in the loan fund due to the Government of about \$216,000. The activity of the fund seems to have settled down during the past year into the issue of short-term loans. We have not recently had requests for long-term loans from this fund. It has been extremely beneficial to the Government of the Territory.

 Mr. RASGOTRA (India): We are glad to observe that a programme of subsistence fisheries has now been established in the Palau District. In paragraph 113 of its report, the Visiting Mission indicates that the pilot cannery will be in operation as early as the spring of 1961 but not later than the spring of fiscal year 1962. In view of the great importance to the Territory's economy of this subject, and of the development of fisheries in general, we assumed that the completion of this project would have been stimulated, but we find in the special representative's opening statement that the date for the completion of this project has now been extended to 1965. Could he tell us why this project is now to be delayed for another four or five years; and could he also tell us whether some steps are being taken to meet the desires of the people of the islands for additional fishery experts?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I can only suggest that in the past the use of the word "cannery" has been confused with fishing projects. I have never had the belief that we would have a working cannery established by 1961. There are so many steps preceding the construction and opening of a cannery. The acquisition of a ship, the training of Micronesians, the preparation of ice plants for chipped ice, and a multitude of other details go into the development of a fishing project from its beginning through the cannery phase. It is our hope that the fishing project as it is now set up will enable us to reduce, through the use of fish caught locally, the amount of fish imported into the Trust Territory. The Council will remember hearing mention of the amount of \$130,000 for fish imports, the original suggestion

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

being that we could reduce that amount, with which I agree. I do not see how we can get our cannery into operation before 1965, though I would venture to hope that we might get it into operation before then if all other facets of the problem work themselves out.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): My next question relates to the ~~settlement of~~ claims, about which some questions were asked yesterday by the representative of the United Arab Republic and in one of his answers the special representative said:

*Japanese
claims*

"I have no way of answering that question. I have not at any time been a party to discussions as to the amounts of the claims, nor to the negotiations with respect to the claims. It is outside my competence." (T/PV.996, page 23-25)

My question relates exactly to this -- the amount of the claims and their nature. We all know that the inhabitants of the Territory are considerably exercised about this matter; it has been under negotiation for some time and, as the representative of the United States himself pointed out, further negotiations are in view. He told us that the Japanese Foreign Office has made a statement on the subject. Surely there must be, in the possession of the Administration of the Territory, some record of what these claims relate to? Are they land claims, property damage claims, and what is the total amount? I do not wish to go into the details of the claims at this stage, but we would like to know the size of the problem.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The claims we are discussing are war claims and include claims for damage to land, to homes, to personal property and to individuals. The statement I made that I did not participate in any negotiations is correct, in that, immediately after the war, claims were submitted from various parts of the Trust Territory to the then administering agency of the United States Government, namely, the United States Navy. Since that time, the matter has as I understand it been the subject of discussion between our State Department and the Japanese Government, the State Department

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

having, so far as I know, knowledge of the claims originally submitted. I have not that knowledge, and therefore I cannot discuss the matter intelligently at all.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I quite see the High Commissioner's difficulty and I sympathize with him, but I wonder if the representative of the United States would like to add something to the answer given by the High Commissioner?

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I am sorry, but the statement I gave yesterday was all that I am able to say under my present instructions; we cannot explain it any further.

community
Mr. RASGOTRA (India): In that case, I shall not press this question further. My delegation has always evinced special interest in community development in almost any territory and especially in Trust Territories. I was very much interested in the answer the High Commissioner gave to a question from the representative of the United Arab Republic yesterday, but we are not clear in our minds as to the outline of the community development programme in the Territory. We would like to know whether this programme, if there is one, operates on a District basis or an Island basis, or even on a village basis, and who, in the unit of community development, is the prime mover of the programme -- is there a community development officer and how and where is he trained? I recall reading somewhere that the Administering Authority is trying to obtain the services of a community development officer; I am not sure whether my recollection is correct, but is there a community development expert available to the Administration in the Territory and if there is not are any steps being taken to train a group of young men from the Territory in community development work, either here in the United States or in some other country where community development work has been undertaken?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): We do not have on our staff, the American staff, an individual known as a community development officer nor do we have an individual charged with the specific responsibilities of a community development officer under any other name in our programme. Our community development work starts in the district. Generally, it is sponsored and promoted by the District Administrator. We do have community development officers in the districts who are Micronesians, who work with the municipal leaders in developing the desires of that municipality for help in given programmes. We also expect our educators and our health people to report needs and make suggestions for particular programmes in given communities.

I believe that our community development is progressing probably more satisfactorily than if we had pinpointed through one man precise jobs in particular communities because our community's help now stems from the requests of the communities working each with the other and through Micronesian Community Development Officers.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): This statement gives me the impression that this programme is going along on the right lines. Perhaps before I finish, I may remark, as I did in the case of development in general, that there is a need, in our view, to link up the various district and island programmes into one integrated plan of community development and to undertake proper training programmes for those who are responsible for the implementation of these programmes in the districts. I am not suggesting that responsibility should be pinpointed on individual officers in islands or districts. In fact, the essence of the community development programme is that there should be no such pinpointing of responsibilities and that initiative should be stimulated in the community itself. In that, we agree with the High Commissioner entirely. We think the approach is correct, and we hope that this programme will expand.

Social and Educational advancement

Mr. SALSAMENDI (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) (interpretation from Spanish): I had asked the President to call on me to speak in order to say how much I regret the fact that we received the annual report at such a date that our Secretariat could not prepare its observations on the report so that they might be considered by the Executive Council.

(Mr. Salsamendi, UNESCO)

of my organization, which is the body that normally transmits to this Council these observations of the organization. For that reason, our contribution has not been made on this occasion.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): Before I ask my questions, I should like to make one observation. We are really gratified to see the report of the World Health Organization which we consider to be most useful. I have to express regret, on behalf of my delegation, that it has not been possible for UNESCO to make their observations available to us. I understand their difficulties, but I trust that in future years we will have the benefit of this specialized agency's views on educational advancement not only in this Trust Territory, but also in all Trust Territories.

Walt Last Tuesday I asked the special representative a question of a general nature regarding the dangers of over-centralization. Among other things, he replied:

"We are slowly moving -- again through sharing municipalities and bringing in the outer islands to the District Congresses -- into this decentralization".

(T/PV.994, page 41)

We have read with interest the observations of the World Health Organization contained in document T/1470, and I should like to quote a pertinent paragraph which deals with this particular point. It states:

"The vast distances which separate the outlying islands and atolls from the district centres -- a handicap in all aspects of the Territory's Administration -- create particularly difficult problems in the organization of medical and health services, and the only solution is obviously to decentralize the services to the greatest extent possible, strengthening them gradually in terms of qualified staff and physical facilities as more trained personnel and additional funds become available." (paragraph 2)

There are two or three pertinent facts in that statement to which we attach some importance. In spite of the assurances that we have received from the special representative, I should like him to comment on the apprehensions of WHO which I have just read out.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I can only state that I agree with the comments and that I was pleased with the manner in which the comments were made:

"strengthening them gradually in terms of qualified staff and physical facilities as more trained personnel and additional funds become available." (Ibid.)

This has been the heart of our medical programme: to move into the outer islands as we have obtained the ability to do so through the use of trained personnel. We have for each of the past several years been moving in that direction and we intend to continue to do so.

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

To me, the additional funds becoming available do not pose the problem that additional trained personnel pose. We are trying to get our trained personnel and will continue to move in to the outer islands, which in effect is decentralization as contemplated.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I understand from the special representative that lack of funds, to which I have referred on various occasions, is not going to be the major difficulty; rather it is the training of personnel, and we hope that that problem also can be tackled shortly.

Our next question concerns paragraph 4 of WHO's report. In particular I should like to quote one or two lines:

"There have, however, been decreases in the numbers of medical and health aides; the number of medical aides in hospitals has decreased by twelve since the previous year, and the number of health aides working in outlying dispensaries has decreased by six, from 124 to 118." (T/1470, page 2)

In one statement we hear that we want more personnel, we want to decentralize, and from another angle we see that there have been decreases in this field. Perhaps the special representative can explain how he understands the problem.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have also decreased the number of dispensaries during the past year, and I wish to mention that in order to talk about the problem as a whole. The statement goes on to say "that the number of dispensaries was reported to be 123 in 1957, and was reduced to 118 in 1958, there seems to have been some retrenchment in services to outlying areas." (Ibid)

So we have fewer dispensaries, we have fewer medical aides and we have fewer health aides. That is the essence of the question. In direct response, we have built two hospitals in the outer islands and, as a result of these hospitals, we have lessened the number of dispensary stations and the number of health aide stations, because the people come into the hospital, which serves a greater number of personnel. We have also in three areas built small receiving stations -- we cannot call them hospitals, and they are not in truth dispensaries, but rather health centres -- and we have put graduate nurses in charge of those receiving centres. So we have, in truth, given better service to the areas involved in this

loss of health and medical aides, through the opening of hospitals and the opening of health centres and the use of nurses we are now getting through our nursing school activity at Palau. The short answer is that we have, no doubt, a small amount less of medical or health aides but we have expanded services in the areas involved.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I am not sure whether I am convinced by the statement of the High Commissioner. However, perhaps he and I can have a talk together on this point outside the Council.

Now I should like to ask him to comment on the statistical discrepancies to which WHO has referred. It is somewhat disturbing to us, and the agency has recommended that a more uniform system of statistical reporting should be established.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): This is a proper request. Each year I find that, statistically speaking, I have difficulties, primarily because each year we better our statistical approach in the Trust Territory, and this results in a different view from time to time over the statistical approaches taken in the past. For instance, I personally am quite surprised at the fact that the number of hospital beds was reported as 476 in 1957 and 416 in 1958. This would indicate the decrease in the number of hospital beds in our Territory in 1958, and for the life of me I cannot understand what happens to the money when we build new hospitals and wind up with fewer beds. This must be statistics. I can only apologize. We are in a young and growing country and we are developing our statistics, and I think they are getting better from year to year. Our present statistician in the health field is a qualified and well known statistician in her field, and I can only ask the patience of this Council for the next year or two so that her statistics may be properly compared, one year with the other, when these evident discrepancies appear.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I have great sympathy for the High Commissioners, and I shall not press the question any further, but perhaps corrective measures will be taken in next year's report.

One of the problems that is of some concern to myself and my delegation is the question of the predominance of medical practitioners in a Trust Territory administered by one of the most highly-advanced countries in the medical field. I see that qualified doctors are in the minority, while practitioners are in the majority. It certainly does not take more than eight years to train a medical practitioner and, of necessity, it would not take more than ten years to train a medical doctor. I am not an expert in this field and I may be corrected, but would it not be a sound policy for the Administration to do away altogether with these medical practitioners or just keep them as assistants to the doctors, or have them take a course in a medical school and get the doctor's degree. I think that in the twentieth century, in a territory of this magnitude, medical practitioners, in spite of their ability and their performance, do not seem to be the proper people to be servicing the Territory. May I hear the comments of the special representative?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I shall be pleased to comment on this question because I have such a deep, profound respect and admiration for our medical practitioners, for their skills, abilities and the work I have seen them do. Our medical practitioners have been studied by qualified and certified doctors who have all the degrees, and I have yet to hear any of those American doctors speak other than in the highest terms of the skills and abilities of the medical practitioners. Our problem rests in this area of non-certification in terms of United States standards. I would love to be able to have our medical practitioners take examinations looking towards getting certificates of some kind, so that they could truly say "We have a diploma". This diploma would not, from my knowledge, permit nor cause the medical practitioners to be better able to prescribe pills or perform surgery than they now are doing.

Now, to answer specifically, we are now engaged in a programme of training, looking toward the acquisition of certificates by our medical practitioners. We find, however, that their lack of schooling -- and the statement "eight to ten years" is a good statement so far as time is concerned -- their lack of academic schooling years ago, argues against their ability to get a certificate today. We have started during the past year or so looking towards training for certification -- I think we will have them. In the meantime, judging by what qualified doctors have said, and based on surveys of individuals knowledgeable in the medical field, I am more than satisfied with the quality of work performed by our medical practitioners. Incidentally, we just took a leaf from the book of one of the other Administering Authorities, and are now calling them medical officers instead of practitioners.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I wish to assure the special representative that I have passed no judgment on the medical practitioners; I take his word -- and I believe every word he said. However, there are certain difficulties for the certification. I hope that that will be overcome in the near future. The Mission in its report suggested that some doctors from the Medical Corps of the Navy be invited to make periodic visits to the various districts. Could he tell us the reaction of the naval authorities on the subject?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Navy doctors do now and have constantly in the past gone into the Trust Territory both on invitation and on request. Just before I left Guam to come to the States, the Navy doctor in Guam in charge of internal medicine, spent ten days in the Trust Territory. Before him, other doctors within the past twelve months had gone into the Territory and worked with our medical officers, and constantly report to me on their findings and recommendations. We do have an open-door policy in that respect.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): Complaints have been heard of and represented to the Visiting Mission regarding the fees. Now, how important are these fees, and are there possibilities of abolishing them altogether?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Believing that this question would be raised at some time during the examination, I have one of my few prepared answers which I should like to give at this time.

The suggestion of the Mission that the Administration might consider abolishing medical fees, unless a more equitable system could be put into effect, is one which in my opinion is based on a misunderstanding of the system in question. It is true that we do not have standardization of medical fees across the board. This is because it is our policy to establish fees in keeping with the ability to pay. Fees are standardized by districts and localities. They may range from ten cents to twenty-five cents per

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

out-patient visit; but no one who cannot afford to pay is forced to do so. We feel that through payment of fees a sense of responsibility towards the local medical service is developed. A few individuals will always find cause for complaint. Certainly, this is not unique in Micronesia. Isolated cases of local abuse or embarrassment, such as noted in the Visiting Mission's report, are easily solved. I do not think that our medical fees can be construed by anyone as being more than merely nominal: ten cents to twenty-five cents a visit, a maximum of fifty cents a day for hospitalization, and I think the most serious operation in all of the Trust Territory would not cost more than \$10.00, and no charges would be collected unless the person had the ability to pay; and the ability to pay is determined locally. We do not have a credit board set-up nor a collection agency heckling these people when they do not pay. But it does give a sense of responsibility to the Micronesians when they do pay something for their health care.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): The answer is satisfactory. However, judging from the statements we heard this morning that the average income per capita of the inhabitants is between \$50 and \$60 per annum, I still think that an operation costing \$10 is excessive. I still think fifty cents for hospitalization is excessive. Therefore, I would suggest for the consideration of the Administering Authority, and the Council here, of course, to recommend its abolishment, after a thorough study. After all, the income that may be derived from medical fees is not going to affect the budget to a great extent.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I will agree that the income does not affect our budget materially at all. But I would like to call attention to the danger in the statement just made. It is true that the per capita income is only \$60 a year. That is the average. It is also true, as I have said, that those people who cannot pay, are not expected to pay. There are Micronesians who make much more than \$60 a year. We expect those who can afford to pay, to do so; but the conclusion that because we have a \$60 per year per capita income, then to develop free medical treatment for those who cannot afford to pay, does not necessarily follow.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I said in my question and comment "average." I used the word "average" especially, because I knew that there are people who probably receive much more than \$60, maybe \$600. However, I still believe that they should be abolished, but I will not pursue it. I can do so in my statement. There are a number of observations in the report of the WHO upon which I will comment in my statement but which do not require any questions and answers now.

Turned for CR
May I turn now, with your permission, to the field of education, about which I have only two or three questions. The Visiting Mission reports, as it has in many other instances, that there is a lack of sufficient American personnel and that limitations of budget and lack of funds were the main and chief reason for this. They also speak of teacher-trainees, and here also they do not have a sufficient number to train teachers. What are the observations and comments of the special representative in this respect if he cares to make any?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Briefly, I must repeat that I do not think the lack of funds is a controlling factor in our educational programme. We do need more Micronesian teachers and we hope to acquire them through the use of teacher-trainees and teaching techniques to educate Micronesians to teach their children. It is practically impossible to bring American school-teachers or other national school-teachers into Micronesia to teach Micronesian youths when the teachers brought in cannot speak the Micronesian language. We must go through the Micronesian teachers. This is a slow process but we are making very good progress, and I believe as the next two or three years roll by we will have a reasonably adequate staff of Micronesian teachers to develop the educational programme we would like to have in Micronesia.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I fully appreciate the point brought out by the special representative and I trust that he will be able to overcome this kind of difficulty.

(Mr. Asha, United Arab Republic)

My last question is also on the subject of curriculum materials. The Visiting Mission attributes the inadequacy of this service to lack of funds, but without asking for any special comment from the special representative, I trust that this question of lack of funds will not figure to any appreciable extent in the future. My only observation is whether UNESCO could play a useful part in assisting the Territory with technical aid such as it renders to Members of the United Nations and other Trust Territories. *Curriculum*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Personally, I would think that UNESCO should be able to aid the Trust Territory in its educational programme. I know that our director of education is in constant contact with members of UNESCO. Upon returning to Guam I shall discuss again with our director of education the potential and possible uses in which he thinks we might enjoy having UNESCO participate. I should like to discuss this problem further with our director of education. As I mentioned the other day, we have been working very closely with the educational section of the South Pacific Commission. To me it is a question of where we can get the best help and the most help. We have no objection to receiving help from any source.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I am glad to hear that the High Commissioner has no objection to receiving help from any agency, but I think that the initiative should come from the Trust Territory, not from the organization itself, and as long as the director of education is in close touch with the people from UNESCO, I do suggest that perhaps a visit from one of their experts might be of material assistance to the director of education in the Trust Territory.

In this connexion I should like to ask one final question: whether the dissemination of information about the United Nations is being fully implemented in the Trust Territory. *Issue*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I honestly believe it is being implemented very well, and in reference to the Visiting Mission's report this is one area in which they did not say we needed more money in order to effect a proper programme.

Gen. Sec. [initials]

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I have a few questions to ask of the special representative in the social and educational fields. The first question I want to ask of him is related to general social conditions in the Trust Territory. Of course, we know from the annual report that there has been no change in the general social conditions during the year under review. However, traditions and customs peculiar to the village societies in Micronesia are being constantly modified by the adoption and adaptation of new cultural forms and patterns. We also know that the Administering Authority states that this is a slow and gradual process and that modification varies considerably from region to region.

I think I need not read all the various cultural patterns in the various districts of the Trust Territory, but one question I should like to ask of the special representative is in connexion with the titles of the chiefs. In the Ponape district we learn that the Nanmwarki are still held in great respect but that their practical authority has now been reduced to the approval of land transfers and the settlement of inheritance disputes. I should like to ask the special representative whether the Nanmwarki in the Ponape district is tendered the traditional annual feast by his people.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Yes, that custom is still in effect. However, an interesting development occurred this past year when, by reason of the typhoon, it was agreed by the Nanmwarki and the people that the feast for the year would be set aside, not held. But the custom, to my knowledge, has not been eliminated.

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U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I take it from the statement which has just been made by the special representative that if there are no typhoons the people will still have to continue to hold feasts.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The short answer is yes, but I would like to qualify that answer with regard to the words "have to". The people more or less want to. It is a custom which they have not as yet decided to give up. But I think if the people themselves should decide against this custom, it would be eliminated. There is not the matter of force, which is connected with the words "have to", involved in the programme.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): My next question is related to the religious practices in the Trust Territory. I think this Council knows that the great majority of the inhabitants of Micronesia are the followers of Christian religion. But according to the annual report, there still persist religious practices and beliefs which appear to have been basically founded on ancestor worship. Traditional beliefs, superstition and taboos are still familiar to many peoples of the islands and sorcery still persists to a small extent, and simple magic formulas are widely known in many islands. I wonder whether the special representative would be able to tell us, with closer contact now with the new cultures and when the people have more communications enabling them to move about, whether these practices will disappear, if not rapidly then very gradually?

Religion

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I believe that the practices will disappear in time. They are gradually lessening at the present time. I am satisfied that they do not have a major effect on our Administration today and that as time goes on, the effect will be practically nil.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I thank the special representative for his answer and his assurance that these practices will disappear in the course of time. My next question is related to the youth organizations. This information is also contained in the annual report. In Palau and Yap there are some youth organizations. These organizations were founded, I believe, when the Japanese were administering the country. We also learned that the graduates of secondary and higher schools have organized for social and athletic purposes and that there are also discussion groups in all the districts if not throughout the country. I wonder whether the special representative could tell us what the aims and objectives of these youth organizations are.

Youth organizations

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): To the best of my knowledge there are no aims or objectives which could be considered national or political in nature. In the social structure, particularly of Palau and Yap, there is a division according to age with respect to the abilities of individuals to participate in the various levels of Government. Under the Japanese, several youth organizations were developed primarily for the exchange of views and thoughts in discussion, not for purposes of overthrow or political controls.

A new grouping has developed which I think is natural and one which I am pleased to see take place. Students returning to their islands from school have gotten together to discuss and maintain the common bonds which they have as a result of their outside schooling, to use and practice their English and to develop ideas and manners in which they can be more helpful to the society generally at home. I have been quite pleased with the groups I have met with, of young men and women who are returnees from outside school experiences.

Club
U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I am desirous of knowing the connotation of an organization known as the "Twenty-Thirty Club" of Palau. Does it refer to the numerical strength of the organization or does it refer to the age group of the members of that organization?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It refers definitely to the age group of the organization.

Status of women
U TIN MAUNG (Burma): Now I want to discuss the status of women. We are glad to note that in the Trust Territory, in the year under review, activities of women's groups have expanded considerably. We note that in the Ponape district women's clubs have been most active in the social field. The Women's Association of Ponape has, I think, a total membership of thirteen clubs, eight of which were organized during the year under review. Perhaps the special representative will be able to tell us the total membership of all the women's clubs, at least in the Ponape district, and whether they belong to the families of the chiefs or the employees of the Administration or the employees of the commercial firms.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The total membership of the women's clubs in the Ponape district would be over 300. The figure of 400 is in my mind, but that may be a little high. The membership consists of women from all walks of life. There are no restrictions as to membership by any grouping of society whatever. The wives of the chiefs, the wives of the Government workers and the wives of the farmers or the people who live off land all belong.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): Perhaps the special representative will be able to tell us the name of the President of the Ponape Women's Association. I think that this lady is well-known.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The name of the lady in question is Rose Makwelung. She is a very high type individual, extremely outstanding in her community work and interests, and a very valuable asset to the people of the Trust Territory in Ponape. Her influence is being felt in other districts. As a matter of interest, about a month before we left Guam a request came in from Yap, asking my wife to help in the development of a women's club group in Yap and it is only natural to say that that help will be given.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): In reply to a previous question I think the special representative stated that ~~the membership of the women's associations~~ was about 300, which is probably correct since a few years ago which was about 200. The annual report says that preliminary arrangements were completed for the holding of a women's conference in Kolonia, in the Ponape District, in July of this year. Could the special representative tell us a little more about the details? I do not know whether they have discussed the programme, but we shall look forward to hearing more of the activities of this association at the next session of the Council.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The women's clubs in Ponape did have a conference or meeting at Kolonia several months ago. The meeting was very well attended and the discussions covered subjects such as child-care, sewing, cooking and numerous topics of local interest to women in the community. The meeting was extremely well organized and is well worthy of mention; all the ladies had their pins with their name and place of origin, they were assigned to committees and the reports I have received on the results of that conference would indicate that the women in Ponape do not need to feel the slightest embarrassment about the manner in which they conducted their meetings or about the topics they discussed, in comparison with any group of women anywhere in the world.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I believe that in the month of August 1958 there was held in Tokyo the Pan-Pacific International Women's Club Conference. I take it that the lady just mentioned headed the delegation from the Trust

(U Tin Maung, Burma)

Territory and I wonder whether the special representative can tell us the names of the other delegates.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There was a delegate from Truk, Miter Haruo; a delegate from the Marshalls, Mrs. Isaac Lanwi and of course the Mrs. Rose Makwelung who was previously mentioned.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I thank the special representative for giving us these names; he is aware of our interest in the status of women and we are glad to have been able to take down these names for future study and reference.

The question of the provision of additional physicians has already been touched upon by the representative of the United Arab Republic, and my delegation has noted the observations and comments made by the special representative. I do not want to go into details for the moment, but I have a few questions. First, where is the Director of Public Health stationed, and second what are the mechanics for requisitioning an aircraft to carry patients in cases of urgency, particularly critical surgical cases?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Director of Health is located in Majuro, in the Marshalls District. The Assistant-Director of Health is located in the Truk District. We have direct radio communication between each of the districts and the headquarters office in Guam. We have three airplanes, and seldom more than two are off Guam at the same time. Requisitioning a plane for a mercy flight consists simply in calling Guam and making the need known. The District Director of Health and the District Administrator agreeing to the need, headquarters poses no question. In the Marshalls we have access to the planes of the Navy at Kwajalein for emergency and mercy flights. In Guam we also have access to the planes of the Navy and the Air Force on Guam. One thing for which I am very proud and thankful is that in the five years I have been in the Trust Territory we have never to my

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

knowledge had to hold up a request to meet emergency or mercy needs because of a lack of planes.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): For the moment I do not wish to comment on the observations just made by the special representative. We shall be able to say something about them in the general debate.

We know that the ~~medical ship called~~ the "Frela" is to be put out of commission and although no replacement has as yet been made we hope that three ships will be put into operation so that the medical needs of the Trust Territory will be met. I would like to know whether the special representative can tell us whether the ship has been disposed of, and who got it.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Just prior to my departure from Guam, the ship, the Frela, was offered for sale to the highest bidder. I do not know who purchased the ship. I do not know if the sale was consummated because I had left Guam before the time element was up and the advertising of the ship for sale. It is our full intent to dispose of the ship. I do not know who purchased it.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma): I now go to the educational field.

I will only ask one question as most of the questions have already been asked by previous speakers.

I should like to refer the special representative to the communication from the President of the student body of the Pacific Islands Central School which is found on page 8 of Annex IV of document T/1447, the report of the Visiting Mission. I do not think that I need go into the request that has been made by the student body. I merely wish to know what the special representative's comments are on the three points raised by the student body.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Taking those points in order, the first point is the question of the PICS Budget being appropriate to PICS students. I can answer that in the affirmative. This year the PICS students move to their new PICS school at Ponape and the budget, as approved for that school, should be adequate completely for the needs of the school. There will be a new plant instead of the old run-down plant of last year.

They ask that we consider extending our educational courses for outside study to four years instead of two years. Steps have been taken to increase the number of four-year scholarships, and I think this condition will be met. However, we still intend to send a number of students on two-year scholarships in order to effect a broader base of outside education -- the ability to send more students on two-years' than if we sent all students for four years.

The third question is one which is perennial, of course. They ask us to consider the fact that there are very few Micronesian students going outside of the Territory for schooling "because (we feel) that the scholarships granted to us are very few."

Central School

(Mr. Mucker,
Special representative)

This is a natural request. There were 120 and there will be 150 students going to PICS. The vast majority of those students would enjoy nothing more than having full scholarships for outside additional schooling. Five years ago we were giving three scholarships a year for all of the Trust Territory. Today we are giving eighteen to twenty scholarships a year in the Trust Territory. I believe that we now have close to fifty scholarship students away from Micronesia. I do not think we can increase nor do I think that we should increase this scholarship programme too much at the present time.

Labour
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): My first question deals with labour conditions in the Territory. On page 88 of the annual report there are some comments on the present position of labour legislation but certain points are not very clear to me. Could the special representative tell me whether it has been possible to introduce into the Territory any form of general workers' compensation legislation or any wage-fixing machinery for workers outside the public service?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Through our "Title and Pay Plan" covering Micronesian Government workers, we provide for care of employees injured on the job. I presume that is part of the question.

We have no legislation requiring that same treatment to be given by commercial firms operating in the Trust Territory. We do request, and the commercial firms generally follow, the wage pattern developed in the Micronesian Title and Pay Plan. We have no laws of minimum wages, etc., as you may have in mind in the Trust Territory.

Health
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): In the annual report the Administering Authority mentions that the District Director of Public Health in Palau made a survey of tuberculosis in his District. Could the special representative tell me the results of this survey and also the progress of the anti-tuberculosis campaign which has been going on in the Territory since 1956, whether the Administration thinks the campaign has been outstandingly successful. If not, why not?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I do not have on hand the statistics with respect to the survey in Palau. I recall conversations with the doctor which indicated that the survey from his standpoint was very valuable, that the incidence of tuberculosis was not abnormal in the Territory -- abnormally high or abnormally low -- that the results of the survey did aid tremendously in the BCG programme which is now practically finished in Palau.

We have been conducting a BCG programme throughout the Trust Territory for the past several years. It cannot be said to be outstandingly successful. It has been of value. I think, considering the factors of distance and isolation of population groups, that our medical force has done an excellent job. I believe I am safe in saying that within two to three years we will have completely covered the entire Territory with the BCG programme, which we are working on constantly.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): I notice that dysentery is one of the principal diseases in the Territory. On page 96 of the annual report this statement appears: "Flies are abundant throughout most of the Territory." It is rather a strange word for flies, but the point arises that while mention is made of certain measures of a physical nature in controlling flies, no mention is made of biological control of any sort being introduced into the Territory.

(Mr. Edmonds, New Zealand)

The reason I ask this question is because I think the special representative may not be aware that in Western Samoa, for instance, the introduction of certain beetles, such as the fly-catching beetle and the dung-eating beetle, many years ago did stop to a very large extent flies carrying dysentery. I was wondering whether any action of that sort had been taken or was contemplated by the Administration of the United States Trust Territory.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I know of no biological controls which have been introduced into the Trust Territory in an effort to control this abundant fly population. I am grateful for this knowledge and assure the representative of New Zealand that our entomologist will be writing to his Government upon my return to Guam to find out what ought to be done or what has been done, to see whether we can apply it in our Territory. I wish to thank the representative of New Zealand.

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Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): Perhaps the special representative could give us some more information about the three medical field trip vessels which have been requested. Has he any idea when these vessels will be made available, or what is the present position with regard to these requests? Has the purchase of the vessels been authorized? Exactly what is the present status?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There are no current plans to purchase such vessels. The idea now is a gleam in the eye of our Director of Health. As time permits, we should like to purchase the vessels and put them to the use intended. We have no specific plans at present.

↓
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): This seems to be a gleam in the eye which could be very fruitfully materialized.

The WHO paper refers to the supervision of Micronesian medical practitioners by fully qualified doctors. It seems, from the special representative's opening address, that the Administration does not see eye to eye with WHO on this point. Could the special representative tell me how many fully qualified doctors there are now in the Trust Territory who carry out supervisory functions with regard to medical practitioners?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have, in terms of United States certified doctors, only two, our Director of Health and our Assistant Director of Health, now in the Trust Territory. Our Director of Dental Services is a qualified dentist by United States standards. In the Saipan District there are three or four qualified American doctors. This would be the extent of our outside certificated doctors.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): Mention was made in the Visiting Mission's report, on page 74, of the possibility of giving further training to Micronesian medical practitioners. Mention was also made of the difficulties which have arisen in regard to these medical practitioners, as they have arisen with regard to giving further training to any medical practitioners in the Pacific. Mention was also made of a special medical scholarship fund which has already been established for this purpose. I wonder whether the special representative could give us some details of this scholarship fund and also some indication of how many medical practitioners in his opinion will be perhaps capable of taking advantage of this fund; and also how many, in the minds of the Administering Authority, should be trained as fully qualified doctors, because, in view of the finances of the Territory and the number of medical practitioners who appear to be satisfactorily discharging their duties, obviously there must be some limit to the number of fully qualified doctors the Territory needs and can afford.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The special scholarship fund is not a fund set up to care for our medical educational programmes and needs. The financing of the Micronesians who go on to school in the medical programmes is accomplished under the Health Department funding. I should like to have, as soon as we can acquire the training for doctors, at least one Micronesian doctor fully qualified by United States standards in each district. This is going to require time. We have students now whom we expect to put through to their degree completion. I would judge that it will be, by the very nature of things, five or six years before the first ones start coming off the line. Each year we send students to Suva, carry them through five years at Suva and then bring them back to the Trust Territory, where they serve two years in the equivalent of internship in our hospitals. Then they are sent to Hilo hospital

(Mr. Nucker,
Special representative)

in Hawaii for an additional year or more, then brought back to the Trust Territory to undergo examinations, and then certified as medical officers by our Director of Health. A medical practitioner, therefore, has a minimum of eight years of medical training from the time he leaves high school or the equivalent. Additionally, we bring our medical practitioners into the Guam naval hospital, where they are given special courses, or courses in special aspects of medicine, one to three months at a time.

At the present time the Director of Health of the Marshall Islands District is in the United States completing, if he has not already completed it, a year's training at the University of California -- that is, additional training in health work. So the training process is a continuous one and a current one for our medical practitioners. But the specifications or qualifications, as it were, required for a degree emphasize the academic side of life, and our men just do not meet those requirements; so they are estopped from getting the degrees.

With the educational programme advancing as it has in the past few years in the Territory, I am satisfied that in the future we will be able to meet the academic as well as the practical aspects of medical education and be successful in getting degrees.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

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Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 31st Meeting (AM)

Press Release TR/1514
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

The Trusteeship Council this morning continued the questioning of the United States special representative for the Pacific Islands, Delmas H. Nucker, concerning economic conditions in that trust territory.

VALENTIN I. OBEREMKO (USSR) said that, according to the visiting mission, the most important factor in the territory's slow economic development was the failure of the administration to provide adequate funds. He asked for the special representative's views on this matter.

Mr. NUCKER said the administration could step up its program by spending more money. But this, in his view, would not be for the benefit of Micronesians. The rate of spending, he said, should depend on the ability of the territory to absorb the benefits. For example, the amount spent for capital improvements was being limited to \$900,000 - \$1,000,000 a year, in the belief that this rate of spending would best use Micronesian skills.

The administration, he continued, had not reduced the scope of the programs for education, public health and agriculture. Through education and training, it had been possible to use more Micronesians in these programs thus reducing costs.

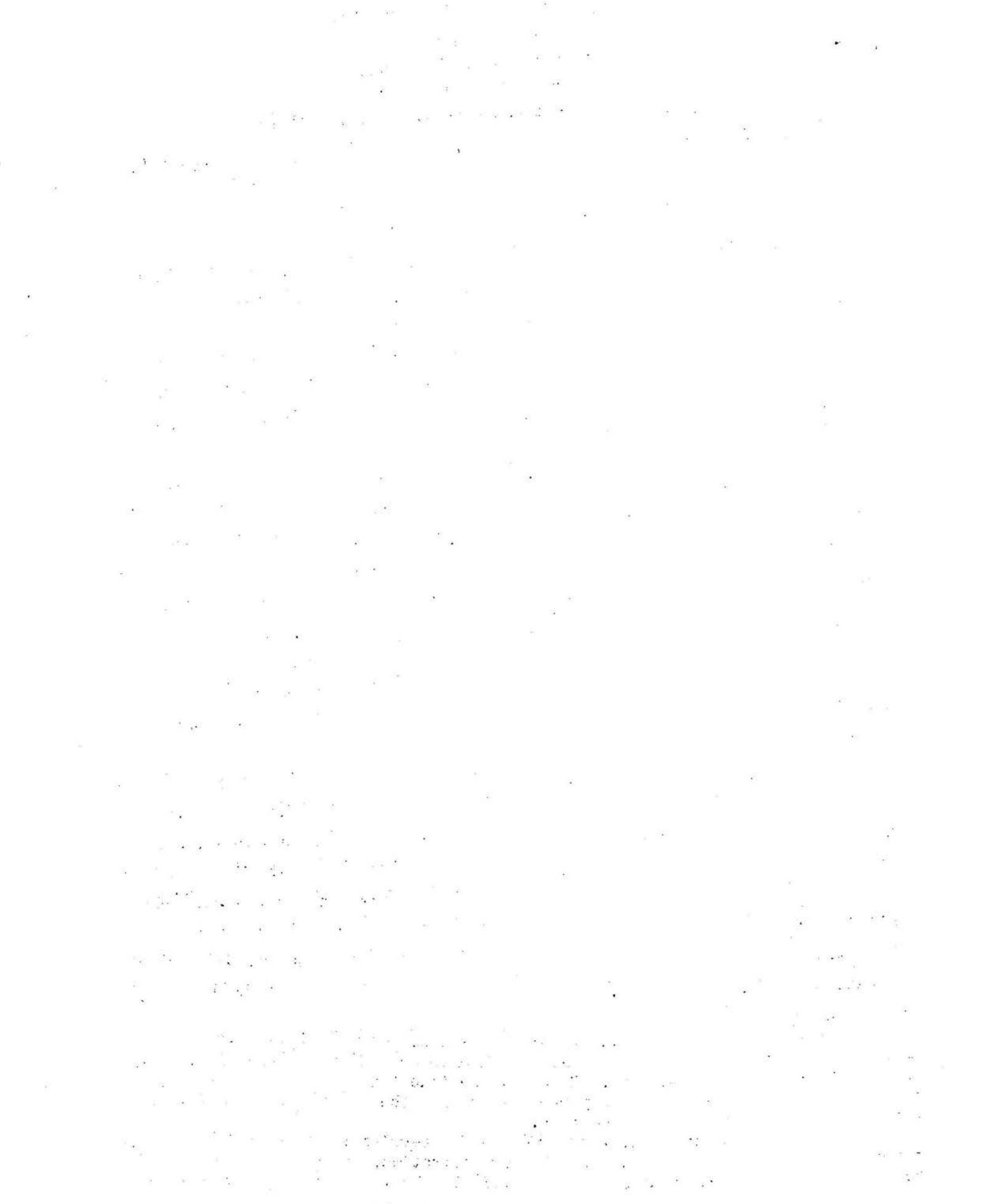
Copra production, Mr. NUCKER said, had increased over the past four or five years, and this had produced more income for Micronesians. In turn, Micronesians were themselves investing more and more in the educational and health programs. However, such figures were not reflected in the US subsidies.

Answering another question by the Soviet representative, Mr. NUCKER said that the fact that certain industries had existed in the territory when it was under Japanese rule prior to World War II did not mean that those same industries should exist today. The conditions under which those industries were established had changed.

Prior to World War II, the special representative said, Japan set up a sugar industry on some of the islands; it also promoted pineapple canning and had a sizable fishing industry. However, the industries were subsidized and were not Micronesian-owned. They were set up for the purpose of supplying Japan with sugar, pineapples and fish.

Today, he continued, industries in the territory would have to be able to compete with foreign products. The administration, he said, was currently trying to develop a fishing industry, solely in the interests of Micronesians, not of the administering authority.

(END OF TAKE 1)



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Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 31st Meeting (AM)

Press Release TR/1514
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

M. RASGOTRA (India) observed that the visiting mission had stated in its report that, although the United States had done a great deal for the territory's economic development, much remained to be done. He asked whether the administration had any integrated plan for economic development.

Mr. NUCKER, the administering authority's special representative, said the administration was endeavoring to increase the production of copra, trochus, vegetables and handicrafts. This constituted the major planning at present, he said, and was prompted by the desire to increase the production of what the administration and Micronesians knew how to handle.

Surveys, he said, had been made in the course of past years and they showed that mineral and power resources, were "extremely negative." The fishing survey, on the other hand, was positive.

The special representative said the administration had not had an integrated survey made in the past three or four years. He was mindful of the visiting mission's observations on this, and he would like to see a concerted survey made. It could help to review "our thinking." He added that he would seriously consider the idea and see whether they could get something done along that line in the next year or two.

Answering another question by the representative of India, Mr. NUCKER said that, as he had explained in reply to a question by the Soviet representative, the administration did not feel that pineapples were capable of commercial development in the territory. It was hopeful, however, of developing a coffee industry, he stated.

Mr. RASGOTRA recalled that, in reply to a question by the representative of the United Arab Republic yesterday, the United States representative had said that the claims of the people of the territory against the Japanese Government for losses suffered in World War II were still under negotiation between the US Government and the Japanese Government. He asked whether the special representative could give an indication of the nature and size of these claims.

(END OF TAKE 2)

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Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 31st Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1514
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 3

Mr. NUCKER, the special representative, replied that these were war claims and were for damage done to land, homes, personal property and individuals. Immediately after the war, he said, the claims were submitted to the United States Navy, then the administrative agency for the territory. Since then, the matter has been under discussion by the US State Department with the Japanese Government, he stated.

The special representative added that he personally had not participated in the matter and therefore had no knowledge of the claims.

Mr. RASGOTRA asked whether the US representative could add any information.

MASON SEARS (United States) said that, apart from what he had said yesterday to the effect that the matter was still under negotiation, he had nothing more to add.

Next, the Council turned to social and educational conditions in the trust territory.

RAFIK ASHA (United Arab Republic) asked for comments on various observations made by the World Health Organization (Doc. T/1470) on the islands' medical services.

Among other things, the special representative said that, according to the judgment of qualified doctors, the medical practitioners in the territory performed satisfactory work. The administration, he added, was now engaged in a program looking toward the acquisition of certificates for these practitioners.

Mr. ASHA, noting that the average per capita income in the Pacific Islands was \$60 a year, asked whether it would not be possible to abolish the fees for medical service.

The special representative said that those who could not pay received free treatment. It was the administration's policy that those who could, should pay for medical care, but, he added, the fees were small.

(more)

In reply to U TIN MAUNG (Burma), the special representative said that payan practices were gradually disappearing and that any ill effects of such practices would also eventually disappear.

Commenting on the status of women, he said that the membership of the women's club had increased to about 300 and that wives of chiefs, government workers, and of men who lived off the land, belonged to the club.

P.K. EDMONDS (New Zealand) asked whether any wage-fixing machinery for workers outside public service existed in the trust territory.

The special representative said there were no laws on minimum wages^{for} employees in commercial firms but that private employers usually followed the wage pattern set for government employees.

The Council will meet again at 2:30 p.m. today.

(END OF TAKE 3 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1514.)