

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL

T/PV.998
2 July 1959

ENGLISH

Twenty-fourth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 2 July 1959, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Mr. DORSINVILLE

(Haiti)

1. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands [3e, 4, 6] (continued)
2. Statement by the representative of France

dissem. 46
health 2, 17, 21, 36
housing 43
social sec. 11
Sp. Ag 36

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.998 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEMS 5c, 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.

and Educational advancement (continued)

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): Just before lunch the special representative kindly answered two questions which I addressed to him concerning the training of medical practitioners, and the supervision of medical practitioners. It seems to me that perhaps the point of view of WHO, as shown in the paper which they had submitted to the Council, and that of the Administering Authority, may not be very far removed. From what I understand of the special representative's answers -- and I should like him to confirm this -- the policy of the Administering Authority is to keep certain fully-qualified doctors in positions of responsibility where they can exercise control and supervision, and to keep the overseas doctors in those positions until such time as they can be replaced by fully-qualified Micronesian doctors.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): That is correct. We intend to continue with our Director and Assistant Director of Health as qualified overseas doctors to maintain supervision and to give direction, and to be available in emergencies to our medical practitioners or medical officers.

✓
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): If I might turn to another point raised in the WHO paper, mention is made of training programmes for health aides, and for sanitarians. The World Health Organization suggests it would be of interest to have some information about the type of training that is given, and the scope of their duties. I wonder whether the special representative could give us very briefly some indication along those lines?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Sanitation Department is under the direction of a qualified United States sanitarian who is constantly conducting training programme within the Territory. We also bring Micronesians into Guam, and have sent Micronesians elsewhere to study public health and sanitation work. Our number two man in the sanitation field is a young Micronesian whom we are now training to eventually take over the director's position. I think this may be accomplished within two years. Each year we have special training sessions for the sanitarians throughout the Territory. Health aides are constantly being brought into the hospitals for refresher courses for from one month to three months and even as long as one year for training in hospitals, and then they are returned to their posts in the outer islands. This training programme is a constant one, and is applied to the specific needs of the individual Micronesian health aide.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): Turning now to the field of education, I refer to paragraph 163 of the report of the Visiting Mission where it is stated:

"The Mission considers that the conspicuous absence of standardized texts at the levels of elementary and secondary education and an inadequacy of funds to develop and produce them are in some measure responsible for the lack of uniformity in the achievement and knowledge of the students in the different districts concerning which it heard numerous comments both at the Pacific Islands Central School and in Hawaii." (T/1447, para. 163, page 82)

educ.
S. H. K.
It goes on to talk about other phases of the educational system in which it thinks there is need for greater improvement, and mentions among other matters the question of teachers' salaries. I should like to ask the special representative, if he would, to give us some comments on this specific observation, of the Administering Authority, and on the general question of the uniformity in the educational system and the progress which is being made to achieve it.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Mission's comments with respect to the lack of uniformity in connexion with text books and other standards is well taken, and is in large measure correct. To achieve standardization one finds difficulty when operating in an area where societies differ so greatly from area to area. Standards if originally applied across the Territory, would meet with different degrees of success in direct ratio to the differing groups of people to which they are applied. This has been one of our problems. We are acquiring a standard of education in our elementary schools. It is slow and it has varied in the past. As we are able to print and develop more text books applicable to the particular District, pointed to the end result of common information throughout the Districts, we will achieve standardization. For the past two years we have been emphasizing the need for additional standardization throughout our intermediate schools so that the students from all over the Territory, coming from each of the nine cultural units and languages, going to our PICS school have a common educational level which will permit them better to work together in PICS. It is a problem. It is lessening, and I think within two years, three years, four years, we will have made very noble strides in overcoming this lack of uniformity of standardization now existing in Micronesia.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): In the course of my rather over-lengthy question, I also mentioned the point about uniformity of teachers' salaries. I wonder if the special representative could perhaps tell us something about this.

teachers' salaries

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The teachers' salaries within districts are fairly standard and uniform. There is a variation between districts. It is not a great variation, but it does exist to the point that the statement that our salaries throughout the Territory are not uniform is correct.

Teachers' salaries in the elementary schools are paid by the Micronesians in the community through their own taxing and their own payment process. We have judged it to be proper and right to agree with the Micronesians in the salaries that they establish within their communities, providing those salaries are commensurate with the normal living standards and requirements of the community or district. Again, salaries are getting closer together from district to district and, in time, through the Micronesians own efforts, I do not think there will be much disparity between districts with respect to this particular problem.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): From reading the annual report and the other documents before us, it is clear that the Administration is extending itself considerably at the moment to train its teachers to a high level. Apparently there are teacher-training institutes established in three districts and there is a variety of courses in on-the-spot training. But I am not quite clear exactly as to how long the initial course of teacher-training is after which the students or whatever they are become teachers. I wonder whether the special representative could tell me about this.

teacher training

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Originally, we had very few Micronesians with any academic background to call upon for teachers within Micronesia. However, as of the past five years, we have been drawing our teachers in the main from the graduates of our Pacific Island Central School or from high school graduates, the equivalent of the Pacific Island Central School.

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

So that the minimum background can be said to be a high school education or its equivalent. From that point on we give the special training-in-service programmes as mentioned in the report, and they take place each year, depending on the particular area, the particular condition and the particular problem. They will vary from six weeks to three months per year per district.

Textbooks
exper course
Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand): My final question is in two parts. I think both of them will need only very short replies. Can the special representative confirm my understanding that the textbooks of various sorts for the schools have to be in fact produced in the nine indigenous languages of the Territory as well as in English? Secondly can he give us any more information about the results of the experimental course devoted to speed reading to improve the English of students, which is mentioned on page 87 of the Visiting Mission's report.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): It is true that the textbooks for the elementary schools must be produced in the local languages, and that there are nine different, distinct languages. This also applies in great measure to the textbooks at the intermediate school level. At that level, we do start using English in our textbooks to a much greater degree. At the Pacific Island school, the teaching and the textbooks are both in English at all levels.

So far as the question with respect to speed reading is concerned, I have seen no report on the results of this experiment. I have heard good reports orally from the teachers, but I have nothing concrete to offer. The course was begun in 1958 with the approval of a subsidy from the Trust Territory, about which, of course, you know. But at the time of the Mission's visit it was still too early to assess the result of the experiment. I have received nothing in writing since.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Our questions in the social field will begin with one that has already been put to the special representative or which is designed, rather, to clarify one of his replies. I should like to raise once again a point which was dealt with by the representative of New Zealand. On page 89 of the annual report we read:

for
Le e,

"No formal programme of social security is needed in the Territory since the close and complex family and clan relationships of the Micronesian society ..."

However, a page earlier the Administering Authority points out that workers or employees of the Administration receive compensation through an insurance company if they incur injury or suffer death in the performance of their duties. Does this coverage extend as well to people who are employed not in the administration of a territory but in other fields of work, such as trade, transportation, or any other means of employment?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): This insurance does not go beyond the coverage of those employees working for the Government. It is a form of insurance which covers income loss based on accidents and injuries or illnesses occasioned by their work for the Government.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with this point, I have another question. What explanation could the special representative offer regarding the very high increase in injuries incurred in the performance of various duties that occurred in 1958? If you compare the figures you will see -- and I do not know whether this is due to inaccurate statistics -- that in 1957 it was pointed out that there were 238 such cases, whereas in 1958 this figure increased to 589 or nearly two and a half times as great. Could the special representative tell us what the reasons were for such a sharp increase in the number of injuries or accidents?

1

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Administration has for several years past had a very active accident prevention and safety programme which it has carried to all the workers throughout Micronesia. The great majority of increased accidents occasioned by injuries to hands and feet represent essentially a willingness on the part of the Micronesians to report their minor injuries, which in years past they did not report, and represent a desire based on knowledge gained through this educational programme to have minor injuries treated. These injuries become statistics. To me they reflect a bettering of our entire programme with respect to accident prevention and safety measures at work.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am sorry but I do not quite understand the use for such statistics. The special representative told us that those workers and employees who are not employed by the Administration directly do not receive any insurance or compensation if they suffer injuries on the job. Could the special representative tell us why they do not receive such insurance or any compensation?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We seem to be mixing two problems here. I should like to delineate those problems. Statistics are given on Government employees with respect to accidents occurring to Micronesians working for the Government. The question asked a moment ago about insurance was pointed towards whether or not employees other than those working for the Government had insurance. The answer was intended to reflect that the Government does not insure employees other than those working for the Government. Private employers do have their own programmes for caring for employees injured and hurt while engaged in private employment, but they do not, being privately employed Micronesians, come under the Government insurance programme, nor are they included in the accident frequency statistics given in our annual report.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Does this mean that the figure of 589 cases does not include the workers employed elsewhere than in an administrative job? If that is so, I should like to put the following question. On the same page in sub-paragraph G we read that in the Territory "there were no labour or medical inspections as such". Would not the Administration think that such inspections might be of use to the population?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have no laws in the Trust Territory which would implement or enforce such inspections with respect to private employees or employees working for private firms. It must be remembered that within the Trust Territory there are no large employers of Micronesians. There are trading companies; there was a scrap collection company which is no longer operative; there are one or two Government agencies, such as the weather bureau, employing Micronesians. The total number would be quite small and the data of the operation of each of those trading companies and other agencies are well known to the Administration, and there is constant contact and knowledge of the treatment of the employees. I can assure the members of this Council that employees working for private firms are treated as well as those working for the Government with respect to working conditions. It is not a major problem occasioned by a lot of employees working for a number of firms.

labor

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative give us an approximate figure as to the number of workers who are employed by private employers, non-governmental employees?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The employment figure will vary throughout the season and by reason of the number of companies, but seldom is it less than 350 employees and seldom would it be more than 500 total employees for private firms.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation would like to know from the special representative whether there is a minimum wage rate in the Territory and what this minimum hourly wage is. I am asking this question bearing in mind the reply of the special representative to another representative. I do not remember who it was, but I think he said that there was no such law that lays down a minimum wage. Is there is a minimum wage, if not by law then in practice?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The Micronesian Title and Pay Plan has a minimum wage at which the Government hires any employee at fifteen cents an hour. I know of no instance in the Trust Territory where this minimum wage is not at least the beginning wage for any private employer hiring a Micronesian. Therefore, in practice we do have the minimum wage.

✓ Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Would the special representative say that an inhabitant of the island could subsist on such a pay of fifteen cents an hour? I am talking of a single worker without family responsibilities and also without any other means of subsistence such as a plot of land or a vegetable garden or something of that sort.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): On the basis that the employee had no other access to subsistence farming or food or home, he would have one difficult time living on fifteen cents an hour. The life in Micronesia is based around the home and based against the plentiful supply of natural food in the area. So that those people -- and they are very few in number -- who work for fifteen cents an hour, are supplementing rather than depending upon the fifteen cents as their income. I would like to stress that there are very few Micronesians working for this minimum wage of fifteen cents an hour.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The special representative will probably agree with us when we say that such a worker would have to do some additional overtime in his vegetable garden or perhaps at some other job in order to make ends meet. I would like to put a hypothetical question to the special representative. It seems to me that the representative of Haiti already put this question, but I have scanned through the record and I do not find a reply to it.

If a Micronesian, Mr. X, took out American citizenship and continued to work at a job in which he was employed in an administrative position, if he was working with the Administration, would his salary automatically be increased if he became an American citizen?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): This is a hypothetical question of the first order because a Micronesian in Micronesia, working for the Administration, could not become an American citizen. Therefore, the problem has not been a factual problem.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Perhaps I should rephrase this question. The Administering Authority tells us that there has been a replacement of public health directors in the Territory, that Americans are being replaced by Micronesians in this job. Could the special representative tell us the yearly pay of the Americans when they held those posts and what is the pay of the Micronesians, for instance, who are replacing them in those jobs?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The American salary for a doctor, including the post differential, as we refer to it, runs approximately around \$10,000 a year. The salary for the Micronesian doctor replacing that American doctor is, as I recall, \$2,050 or \$2,100 a year.

✓ Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation welcomes the appointment of Micronesians to such responsible posts in the field of public health. We also welcome the saving which will result from such appointments. The sum of \$7,500 a year in the budget of the Territory is, of course, quite a large sum. However, it seems to us that such a great difference in pay, even bearing in mind the fact that American citizens who live in the Trust Territory have to expatriate themselves and live far away from home, is from the point of view of the Micronesians -- and we have information to that effect -- not quite fair. We must bear in mind also the fact that the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory are receiving in any case a very low wage. We hope that there will be some improvements in this connexion in the future.

(Mr. Zhukov, USSR)

Pres

I shall pass on to another field. The Administering Authority, pointing out the difficulties it has to contend with in the Trust Territory, mentioned the fairly wide-spread scope of local interest as compared to over-all territorial awareness. Could the special representative tell us whether the Administering Authority has considered the possibility of publishing a daily or weekly or bi-weekly paper in the Territory which would serve as a link between the various islands of the Territory and which would thus promote the spirit of mutual understanding and territorial awareness, which is of course a very important thing for the Territory?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Each district at the present time has at least one or more local newspaper or periodicals, whatever one would want to term them. These district papers carry information from districts other than the one in which they are printed. There is a free exchange of information between districts.

Additionally, there is The Micronesian Reporter which covers news of each of the districts and which is published once every two months. We find that, by reason of the exchange of local news aids and the exchange based on radio communication, there is a reasonably good dissemination of territory-wide news throughout each of the districts.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In regard to the problems of public health in the Territory, I should like to put the following question to the special representative.

health

The Visiting Mission points out that in some parts of the Territory, and specifically in the Marshall Islands, the rebuilding of hospitals and their re-equipping was stopped because of lack of funds. Have there been any changes to date since the Visiting Mission was in the Territory?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have started on a programme of rebuilding hospitals, which will, in a few years, result in our having, I think, a completely new hospital plant throughout the Trust Territory, a hospital plant properly equipped throughout the Trust Territory. At the present time we are actually working on the building of a new hospital in Palau. We have just finished rehabilitation of the hospital in Yap. About three years ago we finished -- but it is not big enough -- a hospital in Truk, and we have plans to enlarge that hospital in the very near future. In Ponape there will be a complete renovation of the Ponape hospital which today is one of our better ones. Within the next three years and in this next year we plan on building a new hospital in the Marshalls. We have completed a hospital in Kusaie. We have completed a hospital in Ebeye, and I think our hospital rebuilding and equipping programme is adequate to our needs and is being carried out vigorously.

school Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Regarding the rebuilding of these public buildings, we should also like to speak about the replacement on Palau, Truk, Ponape and the Marshall Islands of temporary school buildings by more permanent structures. This is also something which the Visiting Mission commented upon. It said that these buildings had become completely unusable. We know from other sources that in many Territories the school buildings consist of former warehouses or buildings which were originally built for another purpose. In other words, the classes have been held virtually in the open air. The shortage of school buildings is very acute. Has the Administering Authority done anything about this problem? What has it done?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We certainly have done something about this problem. I have mentioned the opening of the new Pacific Island Central School to take place this September. This is a \$400,000 to \$500,000 plant. Immediately the students from PICS in the Truk district moved to Ponape, we are starting the building, and in fact have already started this building, of a new intermediate school in Truk on the site of the old Pacific Island School. This work has started. In the Marshalls we have started the building of

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

a new intermediate school to replace the very old and run-down school in the Marshalls. We have plans for starting the rehabilitation and addition of structures to the Ponape intermediate school. The Yap intermediate school is now in reasonably good condition, reasonably new. We only have plans there for adding one or two classrooms. We are starting to work, next month or the following month, I think, the beginning phase of renewing the intermediate school at Palau. We are planning on doing work in Rota on that intermediate school.

Within two to three years we will have practically a new school plant beginning with the intermediate school through the high school level. Work is constantly going on by the Micronesians in the building of new schools and the repairing of their present elementary school buildings. I am proud of what we are doing in this field.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): We welcome the attempts of the Administering Authority to rectify this unsatisfactory situation. In this connexion, the Soviet delegation would like to know approximately how many years will be required by the Administering Authority to correct this situation, bearing in mind the present rate of construction.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I would say a minimum of two years and a maximum of three years will be required to renovate completely our school facilities.

✓ Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The special representative mentioned, in passing, the building of primary schools in the Territory. In this connexion, I should like to know from the special representative how the Administering Authority regards in principle the recommendations by the Visiting Mission relating to assistance by the Administration in financing primary education on the spot.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We are aiding the municipalities in financing school plants on the spot. This aid is given through our grant-in-aid programme. We have made, in addition, material and supplies available for the areas in the typhoon-stricken islands. We additionally aid in the supplying of school supplies and other services so that the local community can devote its energy and time to the developing of the school facility itself through and with the help of the Government.

se school
Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In its annual report the Administering Authority tells us that where the means are adequate and where teachers are available the primary school course is six years. It would follow from this statement that elsewhere -- where the means, that is, the local funds, are not adequate and where training personnel are also insufficient -- the children are not in a position to go through the six-year primary school course. For its part, the Visiting Mission notes, in paragraph 165, that the poor school training in such areas prevents the pupils from continuing their education in district centres. Thus children in different parts of the Territory find themselves in different conditions. In some areas, where funds are available and teachers are available, the pupils are able to complete their primary education. Where funds are lacking and teachers are lacking, the children are handicapped. It would seem to follow that assistance to the municipalities becomes imperative in such cases -- that is, assistance by the Administration -- in order to prevent this inequality among school children. What does the special representative have to say regarding this point?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): My first comment is that I do not read, out of the Mission's report, the dire picture painted by the representative of the Soviet Union. It is true that in our outer islands there may be less concentration of teaching skills and abilities than in the district centres. This is a problem which has been discussed before the Council, and the Council has been told that we are attempting to reach these outer islands through the training of more Micronesian teachers so that they can teach in the vernacular at the outer island schools. This requires time. We are constantly working on the problem and we have no desire in this Administration to minimize or skip over education on the outer islands. We have practical problems to face, and I think we are facing them, meeting them and, I believe, overcoming them. But it must be understood that education on the outer islands cannot be at the same degree and at the same level as in the district centres at this time in the administration of the Territories.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We do not propose to comment at this point on that statement but we hope we shall be able to do so during the general debate. As regards the statement of the Visiting Mission, I was mistaken; it was not paragraph 165 but paragraph 166.

Still on the problem of education, I should like to know whether the Administering Authority went into the matter of establishing in the Territory schools where Micronesians might be given special or technical training: for instance, agricultural colleges or teacher training schools or colleges or something to that effect.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): Special training is given in agriculture, in industrial arts or vocational training, at the intermediate and at the Pacific Island school level. We do not have any colleges in the Trust Territories. Our students are sent from the Trust Territory to colleges outside the Trust Territory. But special training is given at the intermediate and Pacific Island school level.

school-attendance -

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell the Council how many children of school-going age do not attend school for various reasons? I am referring, for instance, to children between eight and fourteen years of age.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): There would be very few children not going to school. Those few would be on extremely isolated islands and very few in number. When one considers that out of a population of 70,000 people we have over 13,000 students, one can realize there cannot be many left over not going to school.

↓
Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I do not know. Perhaps again statistics are at fault here, but on page 219 we have a table. Of course, this is an estimated number; it is not a census; but it says that there are approximately 10,218 children between eight and fourteen years of age. I do not know how it is possible to state such an accurate figure for those up to eighteen, nineteen or twenty. But the table, which gives the number of children between eight and fourteen who are attending school, indicates that they number 9,335. Therefore we can assume that nearly 1,000 children, or in other words approximately 10 per cent, do not attend school. Are these figures accurate, and is our conclusion fair?

Mr. NUCKER (Special Representative): I believe the figures to be reasonably accurate in regard to the estimated population, but I think the figures for children of eight to fourteen years of age are slightly on the high side. There are more children in school than the 9,335 shown, because this represents the attendance at school of children between the ages of eight to fourteen and we certainly have a large number attending our intermediate school who are much older than fourteen. I would hazard a guess that there might be 400 or 500 children not attending school, but I have no way of supporting that estimate.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I apologize to the special representative for constantly referring to these tables, but they are sometimes very helpful and that is why my next question will also be based on a table, the one on page 233. In that table are given the numbers of students in the institutions of higher education in Guam and abroad for the year 1958. A footnote to the table states that these are not really students in institutions of higher education but students who are attending all schools above the intermediate level. The total number is 476. *higher*
Could the special representative tell us how many of those students are in fact attending institutions of higher education or institutions on a university level?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The students shown as attending schools in Hawaii, the Philippines and in the places described in the table as "other" will all be attending schools beyond the high school level. The students shown as attending schools in the Trust Territory can, of necessity, only include those who are attending schools of high school or equivalent level, since we have no school beyond high school in the Trust Territory. The figure for such students is 241. Of the 148 shown as attending school in Guam, there would be about eight or ten who were attending the junior college there; that is beyond the high school level. On the basis of this table, I would say that approximately 100 students were attending schools beyond the high school level in 1958.

↓
Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am sorry if I continue a little further on this point, but what I was interested to know was not the number of students attending high school but the number of those attending schools or colleges of university level. In other words, students who would be able to complete a university course and fill the ranks of those who have finished a university education -- ranks which for the time being consist of a single individual. How many are there of those?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): At the present time there will be approximately 100 Micronesians attending school beyond the high school level -- the number may be eighty-five or 105, but it will be within that area.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I still do not know whether this is perhaps a confusion due to translation or whether it is due to the differences between educational systems, but so far as I understand the position, even in the United States a student who has completed high school can go to college and yet that does not involve a university education. I am not referring to under-graduate students, but to graduate students. How many are there of those?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): To attempt to clarify the matter further, is the question "how many students do we anticipate will finally acquire a degree" or is it "how many students, having gone to school, now have a degree"?

↓
Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republic) (interpretation from Russian): How many Micronesian students are attending a university, after which, having completed the course, they will no doubt have a degree? How many are there who are now working for a degree?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): At the present time we have about forty students, who, if they complete college, will be able to receive a degree, but some of them will only go to college or university for two years before returning to the Trust Territory, and thus they will not get a degree. At the present time I think we probably have fifteen or twenty students working towards a degree in a given area of learning.

Mr. ZHUKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I wish to thank the special representative for the answers he was good enough to give our delegation.

health
Mr. RASGOTRA (India): It is not my intention to tax the patience of the Council or the special representative too much this afternoon. In the field of health many questions have been asked, and I think the field has been very well exhausted. Therefore, I do not propose to put any questions in the health field. But I would say that the paper which the World Health Organization has placed before the Council is, in our view, very useful. We should be contented if the Administering Authority would, in its time, give careful attention to the observations of WHO.

elementary
It seems to me that the Administering Authority has set up a commendable system of elementary education in the Trust Territory. Attendance is high even though education is not compulsory, and a certain number of children of school-going age are not yet enrolled. I observe from the report that it is not the policy of the Administering Authority to compel children of that age group to attend school. I hope that the persuasive charms of the High Commissioner will be exercised in that direction and that all pupils in that age group will go to school, and the enrolment will soon be 100 per cent.

I am sure that the High Commissioner recalls that last year my delegation had made suggestions concerning the expansion of agricultural education, secondary education, and vocational education in the Territory. We are glad to note that in this school, the Pacific Islands Central School, agricultural courses are going to be introduced. That is a very happy development. We welcome it because we feel that this is a need which had to be provided. What I would like to know about this particular aspect of education in this school is how it is intended to impart agricultural education. Is agricultural education going to be theoretical or will there be a practical aspect? Or, is there, for example, a farm attached to the school in which students could be given a practical demonstration of methods of agriculture? That is my first question in the field of education.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I am pleased to reply in the affirmative. One of the primary reasons for picking the present site of the Pacific Islands Central School was the agricultural potential of the land on which the school is located. We definitely will have farming experiments and practical farming taught at that school.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): That is a very fine answer, and I am grateful to the special representative.

My next question relates to the salaries of teachers in the Territory. The Visiting Mission's report states that the salaries of teachers vary from District to District, depending upon the financial circumstances of the local government. In the view of the Council's recommendation that the resources of the municipalities should not be strained too much on this account, we wonder whether the Administration has considered the question of giving some direct subsidies to local bodies in order to achieve a certain amount of uniformity in this matter of pay scales of teachers in the Trust Territory.

Teachers' pay

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): We have given considerable thought to this subject. Pay scales within the Districts are reasonably uniform. It is when we compare District with District that we acquire our lack of uniformity. If Council members will recall, five or six years ago the major problem at that time was getting any pay for the teachers, and getting the school teachers paid. That is no longer a problem in the Trust Territory. School teachers are paid. I think there is a common belief throughout the world that school teachers in any country belong to the underpaid class. This, I believe, holds true in part in Micronesia. We have not had any strong representations from any municipality in the Trust Territory that they are unable to pay their school teachers. School teachers now are paid, as a rule, by reason of action of the District Congresses. Taxes are levied for the purpose of paying school teachers; and the Congresses ensure that school teachers are paid. I am not so worried about the uniformity of pay as I am about the ability over the years to get the school teachers higher pay.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): So long as the majority of teachers get adequate pay or high pay, and a certain number get half pay, we should be perfectly happy. The intention of the question was to find out the average pay of a person in this profession, whether he gets an adequate wage -- and that is the impression I have received. I am very glad to have that answer.

My last question in the field of education relates to secondary education.

sec
25
I have a rule of thumb, and that is that if the ratio of secondary school enrolment to primary school enrolment is 25, the conditions are good; if it is better, then, of course, all the better; but if it is below that, then it can only be classified as on the borderline. Now, I find that out of about 13,000 elementary and intermediate pupils in the Territory, there are only 273 secondary school pupils. Unless I have my figures wrong, this to my mind is a very low ratio. I think there is now a universally recognized standard in this connexion. I think UNESCO has commented on this, that this ratio should be 25 at the minimum. We would like to know whether the Administering Authority has any concerted plan of attack on this problem over the next five years to increase secondary school enrolment, to bring it up to this ratio of 25?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): May I ask, in the use of the term "secondary", so that we are thinking at the same level, does the representative of India have in mind the high school level or the level beyond high school?

higher ed.
Mr. RASGOTRA (India): What I have in mind is the high school level, but I would not mind including the higher schools -- schools in a higher category -- in that same figure.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): One other point of clarification. The representative of India has used the figure "25". This is a new figure to me. Do you mean one student should go into the secondary school for each twenty-five students in the elementary school?

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): No, I would say one in each four -- 25 per cent. That is what I had in mind.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): First I should like to thank the representative of India for his clarification. One in four would pose a problem of 4,000 students for the secondary level and beyond. It will be 4,000 and more. Quite frankly, I see no hope of attaining that goal within the next number of years. We now have operating in the Trust Territory our Pacific Islands Central School which will enrol 150 students this year. Last year it enrolled 120 and in years to come we hope to move up to 250. There are three private schools within the Trust Territory, and I think it is reasonable to expect that there will one or two more at the secondary level over the years. I would hazard a guess that within five years we might have as many as 1,000 students at this level, but I could say no more than that, in that period of time.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): My next question relates to general illiteracy in the Territory. From the report, we learn that during 1958 there was to be a territory-wide census in which a question would be asked as to whether the person concerned was literate or not and to what degree. Can the special representative tell us the results of this survey, if it has been completed? What roughly is now the percentage of literacy in the Territory? What, generally speaking, is the standard which is applied to define a person as literate? *lit.*

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The data acquired as a result of the recent census is now being analysed. I have not seen the results of that analysis. I may be able to give information in the concluding statement providing, on the basis of calls to the Bureau, the census the United States Government is now engaged in analysing has reached a point where they can give me this information. I shall try to obtain it.

Literacy is judged in our territory by the test of the ability to read and write in their own language, in Japanese or in the English language. Considering the area, I think we will find -- I am predicting now -- that we have a high literacy rate in the Trust Territory. In connexion with that high literacy rate, we must remember that we have applied three languages to develop it. I should be happy to provide further information as it is available.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I wish to thank the special representative for his answer. I shall be very happy to have whatever further information he may have to offer in this connexion.

about I now come to my one and only question in the field of labour. In fact, it is two or three short questions put into one. I notice that there is a labour force of about roughly 5,000 in the Territory. There is this Micronesian Title and Pay Plan which is in force in the Territory. I should like to know what happens if a private employer does not pay his employees the minimum wage that is prescribed under this pay plan. Is there any means of enforcing this minimum wage in the Territory? Do the labourers themselves have any means of receiving an adequate wage? I observe from the report that there is no trade union as such in the Territory. I was wondering whether the Administering Authority has taken any steps to promote the organization of trade unionism in the Territory.

The last part of this question is about the provision of housing for workers. There is a reference to a programme for workers' housing in the report. We do not have detailed information, and I am sure that the Council will appreciate whatever the special representative has to say on this subject.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): A breakdown of the table on page 209, which gives the number of employees within the Trust Territory, shows rather conclusively that 50 per cent or more of those employees work either for the Trust Territory Government or another agency of the United States Government. The number of employees working outside of Government then falls mostly into the category of trading companies, with one large bloc, private household, accounting for a number of female employees. There is the general pattern of paying the wages or better as set forth in our Title and Pay Plan. We have received no complaints from employees as to being underpaid. We have the regular forty-hour work week, which practice is followed by the trading companies and other large employers. We have no unions. We have no labour laws on our books to enforce minimum wages. We have not as yet had the problem to enforce them. I can assure the Mission that when and if this problem develops the Government will immediately take steps to correct any violation of good and reasonable employee practices.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): I wish to thank the High Commissioner for what he said and for his assurance. There was another part to the question -- unfortunately I lumped these together -- that related to this housing programme for workers who come from district centres other than those where they work. The report mentions that there is this housing programme. We are not aware of the details. Perhaps the special representative, if he has that information, would like to give it to the Council.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): The housing programme for off-island workers has been handled in the past and is being handled at present on a district by district basis. For instance, in the Marshalls, with its headquarters at Majuro, it has been necessary to bring the majority of workers from other islands by the very nature of the district. There, we have housing for employees. In a district such as Ponape or Palau where the majority of the workers live in the area, we have no regular housing programme. Quite often, islanders will come to the district centre and, with the help of their relatives, will build their own houses on land which is available either through their relatives or through acquisition. The problem is one which we recognize as a potential problem in the years to come if there is a continued movement towards the district centre for work with the Government. We now have under discussion potential attacks on the problem which we think may afford remedies. We have put nothing into effect. I hope this time next year to be able to outline any steps we may have taken to ease the situation at that time. At present, the problem is with us, but it is not a major one.

Issue Mr. RASGOTRA (India): My last question relates to the dissemination of information concerning United Nations activities in the Territory. We are particularly impressed with the work done by the Administering Authority in this field. We have perused carefully what the report has to say on this subject. I cannot help remarking that this Administering Authority, the United States of America, is probably the only one which gives ungrudging recognition to the United Nations paternal interest in the welfare of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory and to the United Nations position in the Trust Territory. We find from the report and other information that the United Nations flag, for example -- and this is a symbolic example I am quoting -- is flown almost everywhere in all public buildings of the Territory, which I think is a very healthy practice, and which is not the case in almost all other Territories.

Apart from that, we are told that teaching concerning the aims and work of the United Nations and the Trusteeship System is part of the school programme. I should like to know in what way this teaching forms a part of the school curriculum. Are there any books on the subject, or is this instruction imparted by word of mouth by the teachers to their pupils, or is there a more formal sort of education on this subject?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): In our entire schooling system beginning in the elementary grades there is the use of material which comes from the United Nations in the form of pamphlets, booklets, posters, and magazines. I believe the Visiting Mission will support the statement that when they walked into an intermediate school or a PICS school and noticed the material in the library or in the classrooms, they were always able to see United Nations material without searching.

In the intermediate schools and in the Pacific Islands Central School one of the subjects taught in varying forms is the relationship of Micronesia to the outside world and to the United Nations and the part the United Nations played in the development initially of this Territory into a Trusteeship area. They are fully cognizant and taught to be cognizant of the meaning of the Trusteeship Agreement, and in the Pacific Islands Central School the Trusteeship Agreement is a subject of study as such. I believe that very good distribution

(Mr. Nucker, Special representative)

of information is made throughout the Trust Territory on the aims and role of the United Nations in the Trust Territory.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): Could the special representative say in addition to that answer whether this Territory is served by any particular United Nations Information Centre nearby? Or is this work done by the Administering Authority itself and, of course, local authorities?

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I am a little skimpy as to the details of the mechanics of our receipt of information. I do know that at regular intervals into each district go packets of United Nations material, I think shipped from this office in New York. We also receive the same material at headquarters, but we authorized direct shipment sometime ago to the districts involved so that there would be the fastest dissemination on the most direct basis of information sent out by the United Nations. Off the record, if there is such a thing in this Council, I should like to say that from time to time I am faced with an inquiry from our American educators, "How do I turn some of this off?" because they are getting a wealth of material and they worry about how to use it.

Mr. RASGOTRA (India): That is a very heartening picture, as you know. My delegation has always been interested in the dissemination of information concerning the United Nations, the Trusteeship Council, and its activities in Trust Territories. We have good reason for satisfaction. I think the Visiting Mission in its own report has stated that information is being disseminated very effectively and on a very adequate scale. None of my remarks was therefore intended to cast any reflection on the work of the Administering Authority. All this came to my mind because the General Assembly at the last session adopted a resolution on the subject, and I was wondering whether there was any United Nations Information Centre which was actively serving this Territory, but perhaps it is not necessary to have such a service because the Administering Authority is promoting the free flow of United Nations material in the Territory. I presume that if the Administering Authority,

(Mr. Rasgotra, India)

the United Nations, or the Trusteeship Council felt at any stage that the establishment of a United Nations centre in the Territory would help matters in this field, the Administering Authority would have no objection to the establishment of a centre. Perhaps the special representative could confirm my presumption.

Mr. NUCKER (Special representative): I have not given this any thought. On the surface I would see no reason to have an objection other than that I could see no need for the United Nations to go to any additional expense to be able to distribute no more information than is now being distributed, in my opinion. In any event it would be a practical consideration, not one in principle, if I should raise any question about it.

Mr. RASCOTRA (India): That is a very satisfactory answer, like many others, and it only remains now for me to thank the special representative for the answers he has provided to my questions.

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) (interpretation from French): The Council will no doubt recall that at the beginning of our work, when we were considering a provisional programme of work -- an ideal and very tentative schedule -- I pointed out to members of the Council that as regards Togoland, there was no general debate, properly speaking, to anticipate since the future of Togoland was covered by a decision of the General Assembly. However, as a matter of courtesy vis-à-vis members of the Council and out of deference for our procedure, I would propose, on behalf of my Government, to make a statement before the Council, in particular so as to point to the definite date chosen for the accession of Togoland to independence.

I pointed out, moreover, that for the same reasons we were requesting the Government of Togoland to send a representative, Mr. Freitas, State Minister of the Government of Togoland, was appointed by that Government. Mr. Freitas is planning to reach New York at the end of next week. His duties as Minister of State in a Government which is already master of its own destiny and which is preparing for independence make it imperative for him to reduce his stay in New York to a few days only.

These being the circumstances, I would like to propose that the Trusteeship Council should hear him during his stay in New York. If agreeable to the Council, the date I had in mind for my statement on behalf of the French Government and for the statement of Mr. Freitas on behalf of the Togolese Government could be Monday morning, 13 July. I am putting this suggestion before the Council. If the Council were agreeable to it, then I would immediately communicate this decision to Mr. Freitas so that he can prepare to make this statement.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The members of the Council have no doubt listened closely to the statement just made by the representative of France. I hope that during the recess we can reflect on the matter further and see whether the Council can agree to accept the date proposed. We could then rearrange our programme of work accordingly.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): As regards the suggestion which was made before the recess, I hope that members of the Council have no objection to listening to the representative of the Republic of Togoland on 13 July. There seems to be no objection, and we will take up the question of Togoland on 13 July.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEMS 3e, 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.

General debate

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom): In our examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands we have had this year the advantage of reading a most comprehensive and carefully considered survey of the problems of the Territory and the policies of the Administration in dealing with them, which is being prepared by the Visiting Mission. It is a most impressive document, and I am sure that the Administering Authority will give the greatest weight to its conclusions, though this does not of course mean that it must necessarily accept them all.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

From a study of this report and of the report of the Administering Authority and the additional information which has been given to us by the High Commissioner, it seems clear that the Administration is very well aware of the central difficulty which confronts it in determining the general direction of its policies in the Trust Territory. The problem is an acute form of one which confronts all the Administering Authorities to a greater or less degree. It is the problem of providing assistance without destroying self-reliance, of building up with outside support, institutions which can survive once that support is taken away or substantially reduced. In one place in its report the Visiting Mission questions whether the financial assistance provided by the Administering Authority is adequate; the members of the Mission are thinking here in terms of services which could be provided for the islands here and now if more money were available. At the same time, and thinking perhaps more about the future and the long-term implications of outside aid, some members of the Council are very rightly concerned at the fact that the Administering Authority already provides as much as four-fifths of the revenue of the Territory from its own resources; looked at in the light of the aspiration of the islanders one day to stand on their own feet, this does seem much too high a proportion and from this point of view the object of the Administering Authority must be progressively to reduce it and not to increase it. And yet the immediate needs of the islands are so apparent -- and outstanding amongst them is the need for that most expensive of all economic amenities, better communications, a need dictated by the unique geography of the Territory -- that the temptations for the Administering Authority of an old-fashioned kind of paternalistic policy must be tremendous. My delegation has no doubt that a policy of this kind pursued by the United States would be a most generous form of paternalism. But it would be paternalism just the same, and the rich endowment which went with it would be no substitute for the opportunity of the people to dispose of their own revenue in their own way. The Administering Authority has rightly avoided the temptation of going too far in this direction, and this is not surprising. It is, after all, a familiar characteristic of American society, and one which we should expect to find reflected in the policies of the United States Government

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

towards the Trust Territory under its administration. A familiar and altogether commendable figure in American life and in American legend is the rich man's son who has to get up in the morning to deliver his newspapers in order to earn his pocket money. But this does not mean that he has to deliver his newspapers on an empty stomach and without shoes, nor does it mean that he has to pay for all his food and clothing out of his earnings from his newspaper route. As Mr. Nucker said, the people of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands could no doubt subsist if the American subsidies were withdrawn altogether. And I suppose that in that case they would have achieved the sort of economic independence which some members of the Council seem to think must have priority. But the people of the Trust Territory are more fortunate than that. They live in a Trust Territory, and in consequence they have a right to expect substantial help from their Administering Authority in improving their own standards of living and of maintaining them at a high level, but not building it up so high and so fast that their eventual self-government will mean an inevitable sudden decline. There will always be room for argument, legitimate and fruitful argument, about the exact point at which the level of assistance in any particular field at any particular time should be fixed so that it does the most good for the people of the Territory without destroying their incentive to do more good for themselves. As members of the Trusteeship Council, our concern must be to see that both these considerations are kept in mind, and that our observations are concerned with both these aspects of the well-being of the people of the Territory.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

But self-reliance of the people can be undermined not only by providing too lavish outside financial assistance but also by taking too many of the decisions of the people in other fields for them. In the field of political development, my delegation must express its great admiration of the policy of the Administering Authority in patiently and systematically building up, on the local level, democratic institutions for the making of political decisions. It is at this local level that the meaning of democratic forms of government can best be understood. I nearly said "building up from the grass roots", which is the usual cliche, but I imagine that this particularly well-worn metaphor is one which is botanically inappropriate in this particular Trust Territory.

The programme for chartering municipalities has during the last year proceeded with great speed, and since 1 July 1958 twenty additional municipalities have been chartered. This is a most praiseworthy achievement, especially when we realize that this chartering process is much more than the issue of a piece of paper containing a lot of foreign constitutional mumbo-jumbo to an apathetic community anxious to please and anxious to be in the fashion. In some circumstances it could be no more than this, and my delegation makes no secret of the fact that we consider this kind of danger to be one of the disadvantages of attempting to fix target figures of so many charters a year for programmes of this kind which must depend for their real success upon the way in which they are adapted to local circumstances and the degree of local enthusiasm. But the Administering Authority has seen this danger and avoided it. It has honoured to the full its pledge, repeated on page 137 of its annual report, not to lose sight of the fact that the manner in which the goal is reached is as important, if not more so, as the mere attaining of target dates. In the field of municipal chartering, it has this year far exceeded its target where previously it fell below it. I have confidence that if, instead of an average of ten charters a year, it had fixed a target of eight or twelve, its actual achievement would have been no less and no more than it was desirable that it should be. It is quite clear, from what we have been told, that the granting of a charter is in fact the consummation of an intensive programme of political education adapted to the needs of the local communities concerned, and my delegation regards this process as a most important and valuable one,

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

and esteems greatly the determination of the Administering Authority, as explained by the special representative, not to grant charters until the process is satisfactorily completed.

At the next level up, the ~~district level~~, there have been three important political developments during the past year, all of which the Council must note with approval. In Ponape a district congress with all its members being elected is being established, and for the first time we have seen a genuine political campaign conducted there -- quite an achievement in this environment. In the Marshall Islands also a unicameral congress has been established, and we are pleased to note that, in order not to lose from public life the services of the traditional leaders of the community, special provision has been made in the constitution of this congress, as a transitional measure, for the seating of the minority of hereditary chieftain alongside the elected representatives. This is the kind of institutional technique which can ease the way to collaboration between the traditional leaders of the society and the new and younger elements in it. In this context, we shall watch with great interest the development of the plans for representation of the Yap out islands in the Yap Congress, and are encouraged to hear that even in these particularly conservative districts there are signs already of fruitful co-operation between the old order and the new.

Beyond the district level political development in the Trust Territory presents tremendous problems of a kind which are at present educational rather than institutional. The need is to develop a feeling of territorial consciousness, to make a real political unit out of what is necessarily, by the accidents of history and geography, at present an artificial one. The Administering Authority envisages the eventual development of the Inter-district Advisory Commission into an elected Territorial Advisory Council and eventually, no doubt, into a legislative body. But this ultimate development is a long way off. For the present the Committee exists as a place where representatives from different parts of the Territory can meet each other, can become aware of each other's problems -- though not as yet particularly concerned as to how to solve each other's problems-- and take some of this back with them to each of their communities. Any measure which gives continuity to such a body and creates additional interest in it is important, and the provision now made for hold-over membership is therefore a good one.

Another important way of building up a territorial consciousness is through the creation of a Territory-wide Micronesian Civil Service, with common standards and a readiness to serve anywhere in the Territory. This is being done, and it is a most hopeful sign. In general, the work being done by the Administering Authority in educating and training Micronesians to understudy and eventually to replace American civil servants in the Administration of the Territory is among the most important of all the steps which are being taken towards the political development of the Territory, and the additional progress which has been made this year should be noted by the Council.

The Territory is indeed fortunate that so many of its bright young men, of whom we have seen an outstanding example among us here in Mr. Bethwel Henry, are prepared to commit themselves to go back to the Territory and to work there for its Government. It is this that has made possible the planning for the future of the Micronesian Civil Service in considerable detail. I only hope that the Administering Authority will not be too disappointed if once in a while some Mr. X, to whom it has given a scholarship to go through law school, decides, when the year eventually comes in which it was planned that he should become, say, Attorney-General, that the managership of an island training company, combined with private practice, is a more attractive and lucrative proposition than the life of a civil servant.

In the past, the Council has dwelt upon what may be regarded as the anomaly of Guam being the capital of the Territory but being situated outside it. My delegation has never fully shared the concern of some of the members of the Council on this point. A capital is a headquarters of government, and it must be situated where the Government can do its work most effectively and serve the interests of the people of the Territory most effectively. Now, it is true that this principle must be qualified in a situation where the people of a Territory feel strongly that their capital must not be on foreign soil. But this is not the case here. Guam is Micronesian just as the Trust Territory is Micronesian. The distinction which exists in international law between the responsibilities of the United States Government concerning a Non-Self-Governing Territory and those concerning a Trust Territory are distinctions in its responsibility towards the international community. I am quite confident that the United States Government feels that its responsibility towards the people of

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

the Territories concerned is the same. To the Micronesians, indeed, the distinction must appear to be a most esoteric one, if they are aware of it at all.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

In any case, it may not necessarily prove to be a permanent one, and in this connexion my delegation has noted with considerable interest the remarks of the High Commissioner which are recorded in paragraph 61 of the Visiting Mission's report. There it is said that he does not rule out the possibility that in the future the Micronesians might lean towards Guam as a unifying point. My delegation fully shares the view of the High Commissioner that any headquarters move should be designed to benefit the people of Micronesia and should not be undertaken to serve any other purpose. In particular, it should not be undertaken to satisfy any feeling which we might have here, as members of the Trusteeship Council, that it is in some way untidy and inappropriate for the headquarters of a Trust Territory to be in a non-self-governing territory. The Pacific is not a tidy part of the world, and it has not had a tidy history. We must be ready here, as we expect the Administering Authority to be ready, to be flexible in our ideas of what is proper and what is not proper, and to relate this entirely to what is in the interests of the people of the Territory.

I have spent some time considering political questions because these are the ones which have customarily attracted the greatest interest in this Council. From the point of view of the immediately foreseeable needs of the Territory, however, it is economic development which is in the forefront of the minds of the people, and I noticed with interest the statement of the special representative in reply to a question from the representative of the United Arab Republic in which he listed the main subjects of interest discussed with him by the people of the various Districts of the Territory. In every case except one, as far as I remember, these concerned economic questions, and this is not at all surprising. For the same reason, no doubt, the Visiting Mission devoted a very large part of its report to an analysis of those problems, and I am sure that the Administering Authority will study that report closely. In general, the policies of the Administering Authority in the economic field are designed to add on to the existing subsistence economy of the Islands productive commercial economic enterprises which will increase their cash income. In doing so it is being extremely careful to see that these new enterprises remain in the hands of the Micronesian people themselves.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

Here again the balance to which I referred at the beginning of my statement must be struck. The long-term advantages for the Micronesian people of maintaining control of the trading companies, for instance, must be balanced against possible short-term advantages of accepting private capital investment from outside the Territory. In the particular circumstances of this Territory, the Administration is probably right in concentrating on the long-term view, especially as the Administering Authority itself has to a considerable extent been able to fill the gap with its programme of development loans, on which it is to be commended.

The economy of this Territory must always remain primarily agricultural, however, and the struggle of the Administering Authority and the people of the Territory to diversify agricultural production there is a hard and up-hill one. We are therefore particularly encouraged to note the success during the past year in the development of cacao, and in particular we should like to congratulate the Administering Authority on the care with which it has combined the three necessary elements in the development of a new crop on any considerable scale. Research and technical assistance have gone side by side with direct subsidy for planting and with the training of Micronesian technical staff and extension workers to carry the programme through. Brains, money and men, in the right quantities and at the right time. This is an example of the kind of economic planning which this Trust Territory needs. It is important that schemes of this kind should not fail, and they must be carefully planned if they are not to fail. On the whole, therefore, my delegation would prefer to see the economic planning resources of the Administration devoted to operations of this kind rather than to fine global essays in general economic survey. The economic problems of the Territory, although intractable, are not particularly complicated, and we are confident that the High Commissioner's advisers are sufficiently well acquainted with them to be able to get down to the really difficult work on the ground.

We share the view of the Visiting Mission concerning the general importance of agricultural extension work and training, and note with considerable satisfaction the successes which have been achieved in the control of the many varieties of agricultural pest which beset the Pacific Islands. We are also very impressed with the progress so far achieved in the fishery project in Palau,

which will begin simple processing next month. Here too we see signs of the careful planning with which the Administering Authority undertakes development programmes. Here too technical advice has been combined with direct financial assistance for the building of the plant and with the training of local Micronesians both in the actual techniques involved and for supervisory functions. To quote the special representative, "By the time the fishery project is ready to move into the field of a pilot canning plant, we hope to have a Micronesian trained in food technology to supervise its development".

We are also glad to note the emphasis which the Administering Authority is placing upon the maintenance of quality in the products of agriculture, in the products of the processing industry and of handicrafts for export. The Visiting Mission also emphasized this and it is of the greatest importance that everyone concerned should realize the need if Micronesian products are to command any kind of market outside the area.

During the past year the homesteading programme of land settlement has made great progress, and this is a very important programme in a Territory where good land is such a scarce and valuable resource. We share the views of the Visiting Mission on the value of the programme and we also share its concern that possible social frictions resulting from the resettlement of population should be guarded against in advance.

It is perhaps in the field of education that most can be done by the Administering Authority to provide assistance to the Trust Territory from outside without the feeling that by so doing local self-reliance will in any way be adversely affected. Of all kinds of investment, investment in education is perhaps the most likely to bring any returns in terms of the enhanced enthusiasm of the local people for helping themselves and, just as important, enhanced ability to do so. We therefore share the concern of the Visiting Mission that great attention should be paid by the Administering Authority to the training of teachers and the building up of Territory-wide educational standards which, as far as possible, should achieve some kind of uniformity throughout the Territory.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

My delegation is encouraged by the development of the new Pacific Island Central School at Ponape and the emphasis which is now given in its curriculum to vocational and agricultural training, and we shall watch with great interest its development over the next few years.

The scholarship programme to study outside the Territory is also an ambitious one, and it is of the greatest importance that elementary and secondary education in the Territory should produce increasing numbers of Micronesians who will eventually be qualified to undertake higher education outside it. To this end, the Administering Authority should not hesitate to apply some stimulus from outside to the communities who are very rightly left largely to run their own elementary schools.

I have left till last the two matters which the Visiting Mission dealt with at the beginning of its report. The first is one in which the Trusteeship Council has naturally taken a special interest in the past, that of the displacement of some of the islanders as a result of nuclear and thermonuclear experiments. The concern of the Trusteeship Council now is with the welfare of these people; it is a very special concern, and it is a very natural one. It is, however, of no help to these people at all to use their position as a pretext for embarking upon very much wider issues concerning nuclear experiments, issues which are no concern of this Council, although they are very much the concern of the Governments who are represented on it. The Chairman of the Visiting Mission, in introducing its report -- I hope I remember his words correctly -- indulged in some interesting speculation on the question of whether the difficult psychological situation of the people of Rongelap might not in part be due to the very frequent inspection by medical and scientific teams which they have undergone, and, indeed to the lavish treatment which they have received and which has to some extent diminished their incentive to become again self-supporting. I cannot help feeling that the debates which have taken place in this Council on this subject during the past few years may have to some extent, directly or indirectly, made it more difficult for the Rongelapese to resume their normal life by concentrating far too much attention upon their special situation. The people of Rongelap are now well, and the Trusteeship Council, if it really wishes to serve their interests, should express its confidence that they are now capable of living a normal life.

The other question to which the Visiting Mission gave first place was the damage done by the ~~recent typhoons~~, and the rehabilitation programme which has followed. No one can read paragraphs 14 to 27 of the Visiting Mission's report without feeling a great admiration for the selfless and efficient manner in which the Administration of the Trust Territory responded to the sudden desperate needs of the people who were afflicted -- far more people and far more terribly afflicted than those displaced as a result of nuclear experiments. The Council should endorse the tribute paid in paragraph 27 of the Visiting Mission's report to the success of the initial phase of the rehabilitation programme, and express its encouragement and its support to the people and to the Administration for the difficult work that lies ahead in the areas which were devastated.

In considering the affairs of this Trust Territory year by year the Council is naturally concerned very largely with the problems of its future. It is our function, standing as we do a long way from the scene of action to take a long view. But we must never forget that the immediate welfare of the people of the Territory depends on what is being done right now to meet their needs and to help them solve the problems of living in an area as difficult as this. These people value their Administration mostly for the way in which it helps them deal with these problems, and from time to time this everyday work is dramatized by a catastrophe such as the recent typhoons. Without the United States Administration, these islands would have been defenceless, as no doubt they were defenceless when visited by similar natural disasters in the past. Many of the people would have died, as no doubt they died when these things happened in the past. In making our recommendations on matters concerning the administrative machinery of the Territory in matters, for example, such as the site of the administrative headquarters, we must, therefore, always bear in mind that one of our tasks, indeed, one of our duties, is not to make it more difficult for the Administration to equip itself to deal efficiently and effectively with the immediate needs of the people of the islands as those people want them dealt with.

The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is vast, and it is eclectic. Its people draw assistance and resources from all over the world; to give a few examples: a new fishing vessel from Japan, a coconut-drier from Ceylon, hose from Okinawa, pepper from Fiji, geese from Hawaii, and predatory wasps from Africa: It gets its administrators and its financial assistance from the United States. From us in the United Nations it can only get encouragement and advice -- and, perhaps, a flag. We owe it to the people to see that these things are constructive and realistic.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): There are no further speakers in the general debate this afternoon.

At our meeting tomorrow morning we will hear the final statements to be made by the Administering Authority and the special representative for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi. Then, we will resume the general debate and hear from the speakers who have put their names on the list for tomorrow morning. We have two speakers on the list who wish to speak in connexion with the Territory of the Pacific Islands.

I hope that other representatives will be prepared to speak, if not tomorrow morning, at least tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): I think you are a bit optimistic about having more speakers in the afternoon. I for one have not had the opportunity of digesting what was said -- even what I have said myself. It will probably take me a couple of days before I can do so. Therefore, with your permission, and if the Council agrees, we shall have no meeting tomorrow afternoon, in order to enable us to cope with our work in our offices, and to prepare statements which will be acceptable to everyone.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I think that my friend from the United Arab Republic, Mr. Asha, was accustomed to say that he was in the

(The President)

hands of the Council when he presided over the work of the Council. I can only repeat his words. The Council has heard the comments made and the suggestion advanced by the representative of the United Arab Republic regarding our meeting for tomorrow afternoon. I personally would like to press you to work, as best I could, for I felt that I was doing a service to the Council by allowing members of the Council to leave earlier. We have always heard some complaints regarding summer temperatures in New York. If anyone wishes to sit later than the scheduled date, then, of course, I will bow to this decision. We have a meeting scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. A suggestion was made that we cancel this meeting. If the Council has no objections, the President cannot but consider that the suggestion made by the representative of the United Arab Republic is accepted by the Council. But I would like to have the views of some of the other members. I would not want it to be said that the President made a ruling or took a decision on this point, for I am reluctant to take too many decisions. I am in the hands of the Council.

Mr. de CAMARET (France)(interpretation from French): If we do not have any speakers, that solves the problem.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Perhaps some one will volunteer later this afternoon and state he has decided to speak. However, apparently this is not the case. There seem to be no speakers for tomorrow afternoon. Thus Mr. Asha has won the day. His wish is accepted by the Council and I can only conclude that there will be no meeting tomorrow afternoon. The meeting scheduled for tomorrow afternoon is therefore cancelled.

Mr. ASHA (United Arab Republic): Thank you very much for what you have said, Mr. President. I just want to recall to you and to the members of the Council that it is not my habit to propose the cancellation of meetings. I have served on the Fifth Committee and on the Advisory Committee for eleven or twelve years -- I cannot remember -- and it has always been my policy and the policy of my delegation to use every moment we have. Since we have no speakers, I suggested that the meeting be cancelled. It is on that ground and that ground alone that I did so.

Mr. VITELLI (Italy): I do not quite see the point of having a meeting tomorrow morning and not in the afternoon. We could dispense with the meeting tomorrow morning and meet in the afternoon. If anybody has to prepare his speech, he probably would be ready in the afternoon.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): In any case, I think we will have only one meeting tomorrow.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I hope it will be in the morning.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Yes, we will have a morning meeting. We have completed our agenda and the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 32nd Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1515
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

The Trusteeship Council this afternoon continued the questioning of the administering authority's special representative for the Pacific Islands, Delmas H. Nucker, on social and educational conditions in the trust territory.

P.K. EDMONDS (New Zealand) asked for comments on the United Nations visiting mission's observations concerning the "conspicuous absence" of standardized textbooks in the schools.

Mr. NUCKER said that efforts were being made to achieve more uniformity in all phases of the educational system. He also explained that textbooks for elementary schools had to be produced in the nine local languages.

VLADLEN I. ZHUKOV (USSR) asked why the number of accidents suffered by Micronesian employees in the government had increased to 589 in 1958, from the earlier figure of 238.

The special representative said that these statistics actually reflected an improvement in the situation. As a result of educational programs on accident prevention, minor injuries which would not have been reported in the past were now listed as accidents.

The Soviet representative asked whether workers in private employment were covered by insurance and received compensation.

Mr. NUCKER said there were no laws on this issue. However, no employers had large numbers of Micronesians in their employ; trading companies and one or two agencies employed between 350 and 500 persons. He assured the Council that these employees generally were treated as well as the government employees.

Also in reply to the Soviet representative, he said that the minimum wage was 15 cents an hour.

In answer to another query by Mr. ZHUKOV, he said that the salary of a US doctor in the trust territory, including post differential, was about \$10,000 a year. The salary for a Micronesian who replaced the US doctor in his post was \$2,100 a year.

Asked how long it would take for the administration to renovate completely the school buildings in the territory, Mr. NUCKER said this would take two to three years.

(END OF TAKE 1)



UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 32nd Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1515
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

Answering other questions by the Soviet representative, Mr. NUCKER, the special representative, said special training was given in agriculture, industrial arts and vocational subjects at the intermediate level and at the Pacific Island Central School (high school).

He said there were very few children who did not go to school, and these were chiefly from the "few extremely isolated" islands. Out of a total population of 70,000, there were more than 13,000 children attending schools, he said. That meant that there could not be many children who failed to attend school, he added.

Mr. ZHUKOV (USSR) asked how many students were studying at the college or university level.

Mr. NUCKER said that, in 1958, some 100 students were obtaining higher education at institutions outside the territory -- for example, in Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines and elsewhere. They had no schools above the high school level in the territory, he said.

M. RASGOTRA (India) observed that, according to the visiting mission, the salaries of teachers varied from district to district, depending on the financial resources of the local authorities. He asked whether the administering authority had considered giving a direct subsidy to the local authorities to ensure some uniformity in pay scales.

Mr. NUCKER said the pay scale within a particular district was "reasonably uniform;" it varied, however, when the scale in one district was compared to that in another.

The special representative said it was a common belief that teachers in any country belonged in the under paid category; the same was true in the Pacific Islands. As a rule, the teachers were paid by action of the District Congresses which levied taxes. He personally was not so worried about the problem of establishing uniformity in pay scales as in getting higher pay for the teachers.

M. RASGOTRA asked what the literacy rate was and what was the basis for determining literacy.

Mr. NUCKER said the data collected in a recent census was now being analyzed, but the results were not yet known. A high literacy rate was predicted, he said. Literacy, he added, was judged on the ability to read and write in their own language, in Japanese and in English.

(END OF TAKE 2)

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 32nd Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1515
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 3

Mr. RASGOTRA (India) referred to the administration's efforts in disseminating information about the United Nations and displaying the UN flag. "The United States is practically the only administering authority which gives ungrudging recognition to the United Nations' interest and position in a trust territory," he declared. He asked whether the administration would have any objection to the establishment of a UN Information Center in the trust territory?

Mr. NUCKER said that certainly there would be no objection in principle. But there would be no need for such an office because the maximum amount of UN information that could be absorbed by the population was already being disseminated.

The representative of India said that the Council had "good reason for satisfaction" in this regard.

Next, the Council began the general debate on conditions in the Pacific Islands and heard a statement by the representative of the United Kingdom.

GEOFFREY CASTON (United Kingdom) praised the manner in which the United States was helping the people of Micronesia in attaining a higher standard of living and in developing the territory without destroying their own sense of initiative and self-reliance.

He noted that, while the visiting mission had questioned whether the financial assistance now provided by the administering authority was adequate, some Council members were concerned that over four-fifths of the budget was met by the administering authority.

In his view, the administering authority had struck a correct balance in the way it was helping the development of the territory.

Mr. CASTON expressed "great admiration" for the policy of the administering authority in "patiently and systematically" building up democratic government at the local level where, he believed, it would be most effective. The Council, he continued, should also note with approval the important progress made at the district level.

(END OF TAKE 3)



UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Trusteeship Council
24th Session, 32nd Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1515
2 July 1959

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 4

Beyond the district level, continued Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom), political development presented great difficulties. Efforts must be centered, as they now were, on educating the people in acquiring a real sense of territorial unity.

Among steps aimed at fostering a territorial consciousness, he noted that the administering authority envisaged eventually turning the Inter-District Advisory Committee into an elected territorial legislature, a goal which he believed was still a long way off.

Mr. CASTON considered that, in general, the work being done by the administration in educating and training Micronesians to eventually replace existing American personnel in the various government services as one of the most important steps taken for political education in the territory.

The territory, he said, was indeed fortunate that so many of its "bright young men" were prepared, after studying outside the territory, to go back to work for the government.

His delegation, Mr. CASTON continued, never shared the concern of some Council members that the administrative headquarters of the trust territory was located in Guam, a non-self-governing territory. In his view, the location should be determined by where it could work most effectively in the interests of Micronesia, unless the population felt strongly about the matter. It should not be shifted only to satisfy some feeling Council members might have regarding its location in a non-self-governing territory.

The policies of the administering authority in the economic field, Mr. CASTON noted, were in general designed to increase the production of cash crops. The problem here, in his view, was to strike a balance between what would benefit the people from the long-range point of view and what was needed by the territory from the short-range point of view.

He believed the administering authority was right at this stage in leaning toward the long-term view.

(more)

Mr. CASTON believed that it was perhaps in the field of education that the administration could do the most good by providing generous outside assistance without fear of destroying the qualities of self-reliance.

Regarding the displacement of some islanders as a result of nuclear and thermonuclear tests held in past years in the territory, he pointed out that the question had been amply discussed. In his view, it was of no help to use the matter as a pretext for embarking on a discussion of the wider issues of nuclear tests.

Mr. CASTON concluded by expressing the view that the Council should endorse the words of praise by the visiting mission for the manner in which the administering authority had come to the aid of the victims of the typhoons in the territory.

The Council will meet again at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow when it will first hear the closing statements of the Belgian delegation in the debate on Ruanda-Urundi. It will then resume the general debate on the Pacific Islands.

(END OF TAKE 4 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1515)