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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE ELEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-EIGHTH MEETING 5 1962

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 13 July 1962, at 10.30 a.m.

President:

Mr. BINGHAM

(United States of America)

1. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea [3d, 5b]
(continued)

2. Examination of petitions concerning the Trust Territory of
New Guinea [4] (continued)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e. the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.1198 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEMS 3d AND 5b

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA:

- (a) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (T/1591; T/L.1044)
- (b) REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA, 1962 (T/1597 and Add.1) (continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. McCarthy, special representative for New Guinea under Australian administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

General Debate (continued)

The PRESIDENT: The representative of China has asked to make a supplementary statement to that which he made yesterday.

Mr. KIANG (China): I ask for the floor to make one observation which I was supposed to do in the general debate yesterday in regard to the statement of Minister Hasluck on 28 June concerning certain recommendations of the Visiting Mission to New Guinea. Yesterday I was not able to do it because I was then not in possession of the official text of Minister Hasluck's statement. Now I want to thank the Australian Delegation for having provided us with the statement on which I am about to comment.

First of all, we are happy to note from Minister Hasluck's statement that the Visiting Mission's proposal for an economic survey by the International Bank is "receiving close attention" on the part of the Administering Authority and the problems related to land use and land tenure are being given "a high priority".

With regard to the Visiting Mission's recommendation for a full representative parliament, let me first quote from Minister Hasluck's statement the following:

"His own thinking was that a Legislative Council for the Territory on which there were already both elected and nominated native members should be the agency through which constitutional progress should be made. Perhaps there was a fundamental difference in an approach by the Government and the Visiting Mission. The Visiting Mission appeared to

(Mr. Kiang, China)

think that the Australian Government should draw up plans for constitutional reform and impose them on the Territory."

Here, I am going to read the key sentence of the whole paragraph:

"The Government considered that the people of the Territory should express themselves regarding what changes they wanted and when they wanted them. The Government would certainly not hang back from making changes but in its view the wishes of the people as well as the wishes of the United Nations had to be respected."

We are not yet in the position to comment on whatever definitive position the Australian Government may take in regard to the Visiting Mission's recommendation. It would not be appropriate for us to take the present statement of Minister Hasluck as their final attitude.

But we feel obliged to say a word about the implications of a key-sentence in Minister Hasluck's statement wherein lies the crux of the matter concerning the political advancement of the people of New Guinea. The key sentence is that "the people of the Territory should express themselves regarding what changes they wanted and when they wanted them". My delegation would be the last one to disagree that the Council should not impose anything on the people of New Guinea against their wishes. In so far as I know, the only thing which this Council had ever insisted upon in the case of New Guinea is the local government council system. It is on the Council's initiative. I believe the Administering Authority appreciated that initiative from the Trusteeship Council.

Now, the point at issue is how, where and when the people could best and freely express their wishes. Here, I imagine, is the real difference in our views. In our view, unless the Legislative Council at Port Moresby is so constituted as to offer effective participation by the people in the conduct of their own affairs, the limited indigenous representation on the Legislative Council can hardly speak effectively for the people of the Territory even if the people have their wishes. I believe the Administering Authority does not want us to take seriously everything that the people of New Guinea had demanded at the public meetings during the visits of the Visiting Missions. We look more to the Local Government Councils for their considered opinions.

(Mr. Kiang, China)

When the Administering Authority made it known to this Council at its twenty-seventh session that after one full term of the Legislative Council, about three years, the Administering Authority intends to review the composition of the Council and to consider the possibility of establishing a common electoral roll and the introduction of universal adult suffrage. It is obvious that the Administering Authority did not deem it necessary to have prior consultation with the people of the Territory on such good intentions and such changes under contemplation even though the people might not have expressed themselves on the matter at all. I am sure, when the Administering Authority decides to introduce such constitutional reforms as it has contemplated, no one in this Council will think that the Administering Authority is imposing changes on the people. Instead, we will welcome them; the people will certainly welcome the changes. I think we might have confused ourselves when we said the people should express themselves regarding what changes they wanted and when they wanted them. We actually mean the ultimate goal of self-government or independence, in regard to which the Charter requires the final ascertainment of the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned. But, before that, the people must be provided with an institution where they can express themselves freely and effectively.

Let me conclude by saying that between what the Administering Authority had intended and contemplated for a common electoral roll and universal adult suffrage, at one end, and what the Visiting Mission has recommended for a full representative Parliament at the other end, the distance is not too far apart and there is not too wide a gap. It takes only imagination and determination to bridge over this artificial distance and this unreal gap. We certainly look forward to the early disappearance of that distance and that gap.

I am quite confident that the admirable spirit and pioneering enterprise of Australia will be maintained with all its vigor as the Administering Authority presses forward in its great effort to guide the people of New Guinea through their destiny of national unity and self-government.

Mr. NOYES (United States of America): I would like at the outset to pay tribute to the distinguished members of the Visiting Mission. They are to be congratulated for a well-written and constructive report, and we thank them. I would also like to thank the Administering Authority for the complete and fully-documented annual report which they have submitted and which has proved most useful to us. May I also express my appreciation to the Special Representative of Australia for the excellent presentation which he has made to the Council and for the forthright answers which he has given to the questions put to him. We also appreciate the help given to the Council by the Special Representative's advisers, Mr. Sigob and Dr. Mulas.

The report of the Visiting Mission clearly indicates that considerable progress has taken place in the three years since the previous Visiting Mission took a trip to the Territory. The Administering Authority's report and the replies of the Special Representative indicate the exceptionally fine relationships existing between the peoples of New Guinea and Australia. The Visiting Mission's report, on page 44, in the first item of paragraph 106, states:

"The people of the Territory are grateful for what Australia has done; they want continued Australian assistance to help them along the road to self-government". (T/1597)

This is a true tribute to the manner in which the Administering Authority, over the years, has discharged its responsibilities in this Trust Territory.

Paragraph 107 on page 34 of the Visiting Mission's report states:

"We were greatly impressed by the leaders' ability to express themselves. We were even more impressed by the nature of their requests. It was evident that they had given profound thought to their problems. They expressed appreciation of past treatment by the Administering Authority; they discussed present conditions in terms of what is needed to better their condition in the future; they recognized their shortcomings and asked for help to overcome them; they expressed a willingness to work for and to participate in the attainment of these aims".

This is a true tribute to the character of the people of New Guinea. It is also evidence of their desire for working towards a better way of life.

(Mr. Noyes, United States)

My delegation was very favourably impressed with the three main propositions set forth in the Visiting Mission's report. I would like to comment briefly on each of them.

The Visiting Mission recommended that the World Bank be invited to carry out a full economic survey with the least possible delay and that that survey be directed to the preparation and execution of a full and concerted development plan for the Territory. This Council has been told that the Administering Authority is currently discussing this problem with officials of the World Bank. My delegation, believing that such a survey would be of very real help to the economic development of the Territory, strongly supports this recommendation and urges the Administering Authority to implement it at the earliest possible date. Probably the most serious problems impeding economic advance are the questions of land use and land tenure. The Administration is to be congratulated on the fact that the alienation of land for expatriate agricultural development has already virtually ceased. The very difficult and complex problem of converting the traditional system of land tenure into a more modern system of landholding which will encourage development remains. The Administration aims in this field are ambitious, but a great deal remains to be done. The Visiting Mission, impressed by the magnitude and urgency of the task, recommends that this be the first subject for the recommended economic survey and that the United Nations do everything possible to assist the Administration in carrying out the purposes which it has declared, namely the introduction "throughout the Territory of a single system of landholding providing for secure individual registered titles". We support the Visiting Mission's conclusions in this respect.

The second major recommendation of the Visiting Mission calls for a new programme of university and higher education. The Visiting Mission is concerned that higher or university education is being neglected and it views the situation quite seriously. In its view, the existing system does not provide education at the university level, produce individuals capable of replacing Australians in positions other than unskilled or semiskilled ones, give a required level of knowledge for exercising responsibility in the fields of commerce or industry, make provision for senior administrative and professional staff, or adequately generate political confidence and leadership. Most New Guinean students who might

(Mr. Noyes, United States)

go on to higher education have unfortunately been attracted to government service or private employment in lower-ranking positions, to the detriment of their education. The Visiting Mission feels that the base of the educational pyramid has been well laid and that it is now time to move confidently into the development stage. The need for qualified personnel in all fields is seen as so great and so urgent that a new approach is essential. The Visiting Mission recommends that the Administration plan now to provide an annual turn-out of university graduates of the order of at least a hundred. Such planning should include the provision of special courses for selected students at both secondary and tertiary levels, the provision of inducements to make it possible for them to complete such courses, and the seeking of the co-operation of Australian or even other overseas universities. My delegation heartily concurs in the Visiting Mission's recommendations in the educational field. We have listened carefully to the Special Representative's comments on the efforts which are being made by the Administering Authority to provide further higher education to New Guinean students. We welcome particularly his statement that the Minister for Territories has already instructed that an annual quota of candidates for higher academic education should be selected and assisted through schools up to university levels by means of special monetary inducements for them to continue their formal school studies, and that final plans in this connexion are now being prepared. The Special Representative has also told us that the views of the Visiting Mission and the policy of his Government were generally in line in this matter. We hope that therefore the Administering Authority will be able to report progress in this field at our next session.

The third major recommendation of the Visiting Mission calls for immediate preparations for the creation of a representative parliament. The Visiting Mission believes that the preparations already made, together with the experience gained in the local councils, now make it possible to proceed to the next stage more rapidly than was contemplated when the new Legislative Council was inaugurated last year. They hold that the time has come for an imaginative advance which would create a truly representative parliament. Their reasons are, first, that all the people of the Territory should play their full part in shaping their future; second, that the people have leaders competent to represent them in a thoroughly

(Mr. Noyes, United States)

responsible way, as the Visiting Mission said, in their public discussions in every district in the Territory; third, that the establishment of a central representative parliament will, more than anything else, give to the Territory that national sentiment and that sense of political unity which has so far been noticeably lacking. The proposed parliament would consist of about one hundred members elected from single-member constituencies on a ballot-box system with full adult suffrage, with a voters' common roll and, initially, a few official members responsible for the presentation of draft legislation and financial proposals such as the annual budget.

(Mr. Noyes, United States)

The Visiting Mission thinks that a target should be set for creating such a parliament without delay, all preparations being put in hand at once and completed next year, so that the first general election on the new basis can take place not later than April 1964, when the term of office for the present Legislative Council expires.

In this connexion I should like to say that we sympathise with the difficulties of the position in which the Administering Authority has been placed by reason of the lack of time which it has had to consider the Visiting Mission's report prior to the session of this Council. It is unfortunate that more time has not been available between the submission of this report and the session of the Council. It is understandable that the Administering Authority is unable to comment on such important constitutional proposals as those of the Visiting Mission in such a short period of time. Being without the benefit of the Administering Authority's comments on these proposals, we are also in a difficult position. While my delegation is not prepared, in the circumstances, to express definitive views, we do feel that the Visiting Mission's case for an imaginative advance is a strong one and we urge the Australian Government to consider it seriously.

I should like in this connexion to welcome the step which the Administering Authority has already taken in response to the recommendations of the Visiting Mission to move forward in one aspect of this matter by instructing the Electoral Committee which has been set up in the Territory to proceed with this work as a matter of urgency.

The Administration has made an outstanding effort in the field of public health. Its excellent work in this field has been recognized by the Visiting Mission, which considers that progress in the field of public health has been admirable, and I believe that it deserves commendation.

We would also like to compliment the Administering Authority on its effective handling of the disturbances in Buka Island and on the successful outcome of this entire matter.

(Mr. Noyes, United States)

We are glad to note the statement of the Special Representative that all so-called discriminatory measures regarding the consumption of alcoholic liquor and regarding film censorship have now been eliminated, and we welcome the further efforts of the Administering Authority to eliminate the remaining causes of complaints.

The Visiting Mission, while paying tribute to the work done in creating the present Government Service, has indicated serious concern about the future. The greatest problem in this area is a lack of participation by indigenous civil servants, particularly in higher posts. The Mission has made a number of recommendations designed to encourage New Guineans increasingly and progressively to move up, as their education allows, to posts of leadership in that Service. We were glad to hear from the Special Representative that the Administering Authority is giving close attention to this matter and that a planned and accelerated programme and targets have been set. We feel that this is a matter of importance and we hope that further progress in this direction will be made as rapidly as possible.

In closing, I should like to express the appreciation of my delegation for the progress which the Administering Authority is making in the Trust Territory of New Guinea in the face of very formidable difficulties. The Visiting Mission has paid tribute throughout its report to this progress and to the excellent foundations which have been laid in many fields for further progress. It is the very fact of these well-laid foundations which permits the Visiting Mission and the Council members to have confidence that further bold and imaginative steps can now be taken in a number of important respects. The Australian people have reason to be proud of the results of their efforts in helping the New Guinean and Papuan people to attain the objectives of the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship System.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The present session of the Trusteeship Council is dealing with the report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of New Guinea for the period 1960-1961 and the report of the Visiting Mission which went to the Territory in 1962.

My delegation has carefully studied these and other documents and, on the basis of this study, we have come to the conclusion that the present session of the Council must take all possible measures to compel the Administering Authority finally to discharge its duties under the Trusteeship Agreement and the Declaration of the General Assembly on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples (resolution 1514 (XV)). It is symptomatic that neither in the report of the Administering Authority nor in any other document is a single word said regarding the Declaration of the General Assembly. Nothing is said about the manner and the time in which the Administering Authority intends to grant independence to New Guinea. We note that the Administering Authority continues to adhere to its former policy in New Guinea, which does not at all provide for the granting of independence and limits itself to nebulous statements on the necessity of creating a united nation, etc.

Examination of the factual situation in New Guinea and the practical measures taken by the Administering Authority clearly show that the latter pursues a policy which is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the General Assembly Declaration. Let us examine the situation in the political field.

The so-called Legislative Council of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea is still anti-democratic and non-representative. It is a caricature of a representative organ, as a matter of fact. Out of thirty-seven seats, the indigenous population of Papua and New Guinea have only eleven, including the elected and the nominated; and in the Trust Territory that so-called Legislative Council has only four elected members; all the other seats are occupied by representatives of the European population. This is, of course, a false representation, or rather, it is an absence of any true representation of the

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

indigenous population of the Trust Territory, and we should like to stress the fact that some members of the Visiting Mission who went to that Territory are quite justified in adhering to such a view. Thus, the overwhelming majority in the Legislative Council belongs to the Europeans, to representatives of the Administration, who decide the fate of the indigenous population.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

It seems that in the language of the colonizers this is called representative democracy, equitable representation, etc. However, any impartial observer will find it impossible to agree. Speaking of the situation in the political field in New Guinea we are compelled to recall the situation in Southern Rhodesia which was discussed at the recently concluded session of the General Assembly. The overwhelming majority of the members of the General Assembly expressed very clear-cut views that go completely against the opinions and the theses held by the Administering Authority. But even such an anti-representative and undemocratic council still does not have any real powers; it cannot take any decision that would be compulsory for the Australian Administration. It is an organ which is still completely dependent upon the colonial administration. It would suffice to say that not a single draft bill can be promulgated before it is accepted by the Administrator. The Administering Authority reserves unto itself many other rights, for instance, if the council were to take a decision unpalatable to the Administering Authority, the latter could, without the slightest difficulty, abrogate such a decision.

We should like to quote some excerpts from a rather interesting editorial published in the South Pacific Post of 13 March 1962:

(Continued in English)

"Conclusion of the present session of the Territory's Legislative Council indicates again the enormous control which official members have over voting in the council.

"Despite the shift in the balance of voting power since the reconstitution of the council -- which on paper puts the Council at 15 official (including the Administrator) compared to 22 non-official -- the government has as much sway as it did before the political constitution of the Territory was reformed.

"Not only have official members managed to manipulate most of the non-official members but there is also the secure knowledge that should a significant defeat arise several safeguards can be applied to remove any success of the Opposition.

"These include:

"Reserve power of legislation possessed by Commonwealth Parliament.

"The powers of refuse assent by the Administrator or Governor-General.

"Even when the Administrator has assented to an Ordinance the Governor-General may, within six months, disallow it or any part of it.

"It must be said in fairness, however, that none of these safeguards have been applied since the council has been reconstituted and that the government's success so far has been due to:

"A more adept political handling of matters before the council.

"An accurate choice of non-official members appointed to the council.

"This last point was an obviously well thought out manoeuvre to ensure the council followed closely in line with government policy.

"It is not good for the country or its politics that control of this kind continues without some semblance of democratic parliament, success or the possibility of success by the Opposition. The Legislative Council will never develop under such a system."

(Continued in Russian)

This rather eloquent statement is self-explanatory and proves that despite some small external changes power is still retained in the hands of the colonial administrators. The so-called Council of the Administrator is a purely advisory organ without any real powers and the Administrator does not have to listen to its views. One must take note that in this period, with the exception of the creation of a few rural councils there were no changes in the political sphere; powers are completely in the hands of the Australians despite the fact that the General Assembly in its Declaration requested all Administering Powers to take immediate measures to transfer powers to the peoples of the Trust Territories and of the Non-Self Governing Territories.

If we examine the economic situation in the Trust Territories we shall see that things are quite unsatisfactory there, too. It is well known that agriculture is the basis of the economy of that country. However, the major part of the plantations working for the export trade is in the hands of Australians. As the Visiting Mission points out in its report 80 per cent of all agricultural produce for export is produced by Australians. The indigenous inhabitants play only a very small role in this export trade. If we take into account the fact that the indigenous inhabitants still live in most primitive and obsolete conditions and receive very low wages, it will become clear that their standard of living is extremely low.

Describing the situation in the Trust Territory, the Deputy Administrator of Papua and New Guinea, Dr. Gunther, wrote that today a Papuan or a New Guinean is a man of small stature, whose average life expectancy amounts to about 34 years. The increase in population grows much faster than the increase in productivity and development. And Dr. Gunther presents facts showing that every year in Papua and New Guinea more children are born than the number of children going to school. Only 80 per cent of the indigenous population of the Territory, wrote Dr. Gunther, is in good health. Diseases and illnesses of the gastro-intestinal tract usually are rampant and people usually suffer from anaemia. Their food intake amounts to only about 80 per cent of their actual needs. These are the words of Dr. Gunther and this is the actual situation in the Trust Territory.

It is characteristic that whatever area the Visiting Mission went to, it always had to deal with complaints by the indigenous inhabitants. First of all, they complained about poor living standards, low wages, the sorry state of education and public health in the Territory.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

The Administering Authority usually endeavours to explain the fact that too few indigenous inhabitants participate in administration by stating that there is not sufficient trained personnel. The report of the Visiting Mission and the report of the Administering Authority do point out that, out of 4,600 people in administration, 4,000 are Australians. The highest posts which are occupied by indigenous inhabitants are those of patrol officer, junior medical officer, or technician.

While speaking of the lack of trained indigenous personnel, the Administering Authority at the same time does nothing to develop public education and a situation which artificially delays the training of such indigenous personnel has been created. They usually attend mission schools where they receive only an elementary education. According to the data compiled by the Administering Authority, there were slightly over 21,000 children in Administration schools at the beginning of 1961. It is thus obvious that this total figure remains practically unchanged.

The same thing is true of the number of teachers in Administration schools. It does not increase either. In 1961 there were 776 teachers; in 1962 there were 801. But the Administering Authority itself did point out that it is necessary to increase the number of teachers at least tenfold. It is apparent, however, that no measures whatever have been taken to develop education. During the period under review, there were only four secondary schools and only twenty-eight indigenous inhabitants were sent to Australia for secondary education. The percentage of illiteracy among the indigenous population remains unusually high.

All of this demonstrates that the Administering Authority, in fact, does nothing to develop public education in the Territory. As we have had occasion to state previously, the living conditions of the indigenous population are characterized by appalling poverty, bottomless needs, heavy work on foreign plantations for meagre pittance and an absence of any hope for improving their fate under the present colonial regime. Unfortunately, this is presently the fate of the indigenous inhabitants. Wages remain low. The overwhelming majority of the indigenous inhabitants receive the same wages now as they have in the past and, as before, these wages come to approximately 30/- to 35/- a month. It is truly difficult to comprehend how one can feed oneself, keep a family and educate one's children on such a miserly wage.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

Furthermore, taxes must be paid out of such incomes. It is thus quite understandable that the indigenous inhabitants strongly opposed the extremely heavy taxes imposed by the Administering Authority on the Trust Territory. The events that occurred on the island of Buka last February bear witness to the fact that the indigenous population decisively rejects the colonial system imposed upon them. Having refused to pay taxes, the inhabitants of some of the villages on the island created a society whose goals were to improve the standard of living of the population, assist the indigenous inhabitants in the copra and coffee plantations, improve the road systems, and so on. The population having refused to pay these excessive taxes, the Administration decided to resort to force against unarmed people and employed a police force of 500 men to arrest 461 indigenous inhabitants. Fines were levied against many of them; others were thrown into prisons for periods of up to six months. We cannot but condemn such oppressive activities on the part of the Administering Authority against the indigenous population. We completely disagree, of course, with the representative of the United States, who this morning congratulated the Administering Authority on the effective way in which it solved this problem and dealt with the population. We are compelled to say that such forcible repression of indigenous inhabitants who show their displeasure at the colonial order is certainly not an isolated case. This is confirmed by the fact that there is a constantly-growing opposition in the Territory against the policy of the Administering Authority. And the Visiting Mission cites many examples of instances in which the Australian Trusteeship is being strongly protested by the indigenous population, which requests a change in the Administration.

We should like at this point to say a few words regarding the recommendations of the Visiting Mission. The Visiting Mission recommends immediate steps for the fulfilment of the following three tasks: investigation in the economic sphere; development of education; and creation of a representative parliament. As is stated in paragraph 267 of the Visiting Mission's report:

"First, it is essential to be ahead and not behind the rapidly awakening and increasingly insistent desire of the people for material progress. Secondly, it is necessary to equip the people with higher education to take a leading share, and not merely a subordinate part, in the management of their own affairs. Thirdly, the whole Territory must be drawn together and given the means for free political expression by the creation of a representative Parliament." (T/1597 page 88)

(Mr. Cherenko, USSR)

Further, the Visiting Mission, in paragraphs 268 and 269 of its report, states:

"We are convinced that there should be no delay whatever in pressing on to achieve these three purposes. Then the way will be cleared for increasing the pace and the momentum of progress towards the declared object of national self-determination.

"That is why we propose that the target for implementation of the three plans which we have advocated should be set no later than 31 December 1963". (Ibid.)

The Soviet delegation wishes to state that these plans for these three main tasks are deserving of support. It is necessary to conduct a survey in the economic field. It is necessary to develop higher education, but it is also necessary to extend primary and secondary education. It is necessary to create a representative parliament. We are of the firm opinion that this last idea, particularly, should be developed and that a parliament should be created which would truly represent the indigenous population. From the very outset, the members of the parliament should represent the indigenous population and not the Australian Administration pretending to represent that population. Unfortunately, these three plans which are recommended by the Visiting Mission's report are encompassed in one package and the Visiting Mission considers that the accomplishment of these three tasks is a necessary preliminary for the implementation of the main task, that is to say, the granting of independence in conformity with the Declaration of the General Assembly.

In paragraph 267 of the Visiting Mission's report we read the following:

"Rapid and sound progress towards the accepted goal of self government or independence can be made only if three prerequisites are met."

(T/1597, para. 267)

This is something that we cannot agree to, since we consider that independence for New Guinea, the complete transfer of all powers to the population of New Guinea, must be accomplished without any delay. This is why we disagree with the proposal that this should be done by the end of 1963. We think it should be done much earlier. We consider that independence must be granted without any conditions or reservations, without any prerequisites, and I would like to say that the main defect of the Visiting Mission's recommendations in our opinion is that they do not provide for the most important thing, that is to say, the immediate transfer of powers to the indigenous population of New Guinea in conformity with the Declaration of the General Assembly. Unfortunately, this most important element, the transfer of all powers to the indigenous population and immediate steps for the implementation of the General Assembly's Declaration, is ignored in the Visiting Mission's report, and that is why we consider the Mission's recommendations to be defective.

It is characteristic that even these insufficient recommendations of the Visiting Mission were met by the Administering Authority and its representatives with a negative response. We do not yet have any official reaction, but judging from newspaper articles, including one in the London Times of 30 June this year, one can guess that these proposals by the Visiting Mission, insufficient as they are, do not cause any excessive enthusiasm on the part of the Administering Authority. It seems that even the time table proposed by the Visiting Mission is considered by the Administering Authority as almost revolutionary and we see that in this connexion the position of the Colonial Powers is similar to what it was in connexion with various other Trust Territories.

We recall that in 1955 the United Nations Visiting Mission suggested that Tanganyika, which was then a Trust Territory, might become independent in twenty or twenty-five years. The then Administering Authority thought that this was too revolutionary but despite this opposition by the Administering Authority

Tankanyika did obtain its independence about five years aater and not twenty-five years later as suggested by the Visiting Mission. Yet the Administering Authority had not been prepared to agree even to that. We see that for many years the Administering Authority tries to convince world public opinion, the Trusteeship Council and other United Nations bodies that the economic and political state of the population makes it impossible to grant independence to the country.

We understand that the views of the Administering Authority are not quite in conformity with the Charter or the General Assembly's Declaration, and the views of the Australian colonial officials on the goals of the Trusteeship system and the rate of development do not correspond to the views that have been approved in the United Nations and reflected in well known decisions of the General Assembly, including the Declaration of 14 December 1960. It is clear that the Assembly's declaration is radically different from, for instance, the following statement made by the Minister for Territories, Mr. Hasluck: "I think that the slower the progress the sounder it is." Of course, if one is to be guided by such principles it is difficult even to hope that the Administering Authority will take effective measures to implement the Declaration of the General Assembly, and experience shcws that the Australian Administration, now as before, does not intend to carry out the decisions of the United Nations.

We should like to stress once again that the attitude of the Administering Authority is completely at variance with the provisions of the General Assembly's Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, in which it is laid down that political, economic or social backwardness cannot be used as a pretext for delaying complete independence for the colonies.

A presence of more than forty years in the Trust Territory of New Guinea shows the complete failure of the colonial policy of Australia in New Guinea, and we consider that the Trusteeship Council must take urgent measures to compel the Administering Authority to carry out immediately its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and under the General Assembly Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

The Soviet Union delegation considers that the General Assembly Declaration must not remain a dead letter in respect of the people of New Guinea. It is necessary to take decisive measures to ensure the immediate, complete and unconditional implementation of the Declaration in regard to the Trust Territory of New Guinea.

Sir Hugh FCOT (United Kingdom): I had not intended to take part in this debate, in deference to the tradition to which the representative of China invited our attention; but I trust that you will permit me to make some comment on the intervention to which we have just listened.

I was delighted that the representatives of New Guinea could be with us during our discussions of our report. For many reasons I was happy that they should come, and we were glad to hear them speak to us earlier in our proceedings. They have brought benefit to us, and I hope that they will benefit from their experience here. If they had come for no other purpose, I should have been delighted that they should come to listen to the speech we have just heard. They will be able to go back to their country and tell their countrymen what was said in this Council by the representative of the Soviet Union.

As to the representative of the Soviet Union, we recognize his great ability; we respect his skill, and sometimes his fierceness in debate. We sometimes see the sun of his personality shining through the clouds of his instructions; and we feel towards him a personal regard which I am glad to confirm; but we are sorry that such a skilled musician should have to play such a wretched tune. He is a sort of Pied Piper of the Kremlin who seeks to lead people from colonialism to chaos, and in so doing makes use of the tune of nationalism, a nationalism which we know his country, as it has repeatedly made clear, despises and fears. He has today, by playing this tune, and through the intervention which he has made, shown that he has respect neither for the interests of people nor for the facts. I will take two or three points from his speech, if I may, to show that what he has said to us is a travesty of the facts of the situation in New Guinea.

The representative of the Soviet Union referred to the present Legislative Council; and in that respect I would agree with him that I think the existing Legislative Council is only an interim measure. But he failed to recognize the fact that, for the first time, the Legislative Council -- this Legislative Council which was established only a year or so ago -- contains an unofficial majority, and, for the first time, contains elected members of the New Guinean