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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73e OF THE CHARTER

First Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York,
on Tuesday, 12 September 1950 at 3 p.m.

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| <u>Chairman:</u> | Mr. Shiva RAO | India |
| <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> | Mr. GONZALEZ | Venezuela |
| <u>Rapporteur:</u> | Mr. SPITS | Netherlands |
| <u>Members:</u> | Mr. PEACHEY | Australia |
| | Mr. WENDELEN) | Belgium |
| | Mr. HOUARD) | |
| | Mr. JOBIM | Brazil |
| | Mr. LANNUNG | Denmark |
| | Mr. FARRAG | Egypt |
| | Mr. LAURENTIE) | France |
| | Mr. GARREAU) | |
| | Mr. de ARAOZ | Mexico |
| | Mr. CRAW | New Zealand |

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Members:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Mr. LOPEZ | Philippines |
| Mr. WOLLIN | Sweden |
| Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland |
| Mr. GERIG | United States of America |

Representatives of specialized agencies:

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mr. EVANS | International Labour Organisation (ILO) |
| Mr. DESTOMBES | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) |

Secretariat:

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mr. HOO | Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories |
| Mr. BENSON | Secretary of the Committee |

DRAFT REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE (A/AC.35/L.27)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Committee to examine the draft report (A/AC.35/L.27) paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraph 12

2. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) felt that the text of paragraph 12 did not reproduce the exact meaning of his original statement; he read the text of certain amendments which his delegation proposed, in order to clarify and amplify the wording of the first part of the paragraph.

3. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) suggested that the second sentence on page 5 of the English text should read "...the view expressed in the past by certain non-administering Members..."

Paragraph 17

4. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) pointed out that the third sentence of paragraph 17 omitted mention of a specific point made by his delegation in the course of the debate. He suggested that the words "and the United States" should be deleted, and that the latter part of the sentence should be altered to read, "...for use by the Secretary-General under the terms of paragraph 3 of resolution 218 (III), which was wider than and replaced paragraph 6 of resolution 143 (II)." He also proposed that the word "supplementary", in the next sentence, should be replaced by the word "comparable", since "supplementary information" was understood to be information transmitted by Administering Members.
5. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) concurred in the opinion of the United Kingdom representative.

Paragraph 20

6. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) suggested that the last sentence of paragraph 20 should read, "...as well as the Administering Members..." since the sentence as it stood implied that the peoples of the metropolitan countries would benefit from the three types of comparison.
7. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) recalled a remark made by the Chairman in the course of the debate, to the effect that the Administering Members should be encouraged to furnish a greater quantity of photographs and other illustrative material in connexion with their reports. He suggested that a brief paragraph to that effect might be inserted following paragraph 20.
8. The CHAIRMAN supported the proposal of the Philippine representative, and pointed out that the text of the new paragraph should include a mention of the illustrative material already submitted by the Governments of Belgium and Australia.

It was so decided.

Paragraph 27

9. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) proposed that the text of the second sentence of paragraph 27 should be expanded to include, after the words "...to approve the special report on education..." the words, "as a brief but considered indication of the importance of educational advancement and the problems still to be faced in the Non-Self-Governing Territories", in order to conform with the wording of the resolution adopted by the Committee on the subject.

/Paragraph 38

Paragraph 38

10. Mr. FLETCHER-COOK (United Kingdom) objected to the wording of paragraph 38, as giving the impression that no concrete action was being taken by the Government itself. He asked for the addition, at the end of the paragraph, of the words, "...and many territories now had separate departments of social welfare."

Paragraph 43

11. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the paragraph should include a reference to the films exhibited by the United States representative in connexion with agricultural extension work. It could be left to the Secretariat to prepare the additional text.

It was so decided.

Paragraph 65

12. Mr. JOBIM (Brazil) asked for the insertion, after the words "providing the necessary funds", on page 27, of the following text: "The representative of Brazil recalled that the total furnished or promised to the Territories under the administration of the United Kingdom by the British Treasury between January 1944 and July 1949 had amounted to 160 million pounds. Of that sum, 120 million had been made available through the Colonial Development Act."

Paragraph 67

13. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) thought that the text of paragraph 67 was too brief and general; there were certain points made by the delegation which he wished to have stated specifically. He therefore read the text of two sentences, stating his delegation's position, which he hoped would be inserted after paragraph 67.

14. Mr. HOUARD (Belgium) also read a short text explaining his delegation's attitude, and asked that it should be inserted immediately after the United Kingdom text.

Paragraph 85

15. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) asked for the addition to paragraph 85 of the following sentence: "He suggested that information on the observance of human rights in the Non-Self-Governing Territories be treated as part of information on social, rather than political conditions".

/Paragraph 87

Paragraph 87

16. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) asked that the phrase "within the categories specified in Article 73 e" should be added after the word "information" in the third sentence, and again after the last word of the paragraph.

Paragraph 89

17. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) asked for revision of the phrase "explained a certain passage relating to Puerto Rico", to read, "alluded to new legislation inviting Puerto Rico to draft its own constitution."

18. Mr. CRAW (New Zealand) pointed out that, as stated in paragraph 84, information had been voluntarily supplied by other Governments as well as the United States; he therefore saw no need for the specific expression of appreciation given in the first two lines of paragraph 89.

19. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) agreed with the representative of New Zealand; he suggested that the first two lines of the paragraph should be deleted, and that the Secretariat should prepare a brief text expressing general appreciation of all information voluntarily transmitted, a text which could be included in paragraph 84.

Paragraph 90

20. Mr. EVANS (International Labour Organisation) asked for the insertion, immediately before the last sentence of the paragraph, of the following words: "The information supplied by the ILO was contained in its general annual report to the United Nations."

Paragraph 92

21. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) asked for the inclusion of the following text, at the end of paragraph 92: "The representative of the United Kingdom explained that having regard to the large number of scholarship and fellowships offered by the United Kingdom Government itself for the peoples of its Non-Self-Governing Territories, for which suitable qualified persons were not always available, the United Kingdom Government had not

considered it appropriate to apply for too great a proportion of the fellowships and scholarships offered by the United Nations and the specialized agencies, as this would have been to the detriment of other under-developed countries less fortunately placed."

22. The CHAIRMAN read out several paragraphs to be added to the section dealing with the future work of the Special Committee. They concerned the list of topics agreed upon for discussion at the 1951 session, the time and place of that meeting and the financial implications of the work programme.

23. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) suggested the insertion of a sentence indicating that while he had not wished to comment on any of the detailed subjects included in the list of topics, he had found the list rather long.

24. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) proposed the addition of a new paragraph to be inserted after paragraph 20 which would recognize the problem of extracting from the mass of information submitted in general reports of the Administering Powers to the Secretary-General the additional data requested by various representatives. Attention should be drawn to that problem to correct the impression that information which had not been included in the Secretariat summaries had not been made available by the Administering Powers.

25. Mr. HOUARD (Belgium) introduced a short statement of his Government's views regarding revision of the Standard Form and requested its insertion after paragraph 87.

26. The CHAIRMAN proposed the addition of a paragraph at the end of the section containing preliminary statements, in which the Committee would note the initiative taken by the Government of Denmark in inviting two members of the Secretariat to visit Greenland and recalled the hope expressed by the Egyptian representative that similar invitations might be extended by other Administering Powers.

27. Mr. GARREAU (France) and Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) felt that there was no need to refer to the matter in a separate paragraph inasmuch as it did not directly affect the work of the Committee and no decision had been taken in respect of it. The United Kingdom representative thought that the facts might be included in a report of the remarks made by the Assistant Secretary-General at the opening meeting.

28. Mr. de ARAOZ (Mexico) raised the question of incorporating the report of the Sub-Committee on Education in the printed volume which was to contain the Special Committee's final report.

After a brief exchange of views in the course of which attention was drawn to the potential demand for copies of the education report on the part of individuals working in the field, it was decided to leave the solution of the question to the judgment of the Secretariat. The report of the Sub-Committee on Education would form Part II of the Special Committee's final report to the General Assembly.

The draft report, as a whole, was adopted as amended.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

29. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of all the members of the Committee, congratulated the Chairman upon his efficient conduct of the meetings and his important contribution to the deliberations. He also expressed appreciation of the valuable assistance given by the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat. The Committee had accomplished a well-balanced task in an atmosphere of harmony and cordiality. The change in its approach to the consideration of the problems of the Non-Self-Governing Territories had been reflected in the observations of representatives from both the Administering and non-Administering Powers. It was to be hoped that the spirit of co-operation which had characterized the session would become even more manifest in the future.

30. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that his task had been greatly facilitated by the generous co-operation and understanding of the Committee members and the remarkable efficiency with which the Secretariat had discharged its heavy burden. Those who had produced the report of the Sub-Committee on Education deserved special commendation.

/31. He urged

31. He urged the Committee to intensify its efforts to make of Article 73 of the Charter a provision of increasing significance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It could derive some satisfaction from the fact that, within the limits of its terms of reference, it had had a fruitful discussion of the economic and social conditions in those areas and had produced an important report on educational conditions, which would be dealt with at the conference of experts to be held under the auspices of UNESCO in 1951. That was a clear demonstration of the growing collaboration between the Administering Powers and the specialized agencies; every effort should be made to extend the area of that collaboration even further. Toward that end, India had drawn the attention of the Administering Powers to the facilities provided by the expanded technical assistance programme for the special benefit of Non-Self-Governing Territories. While final responsibility for improving conditions there rested with the Administering Powers, the specialized agencies had a definite and practical contribution to make which should not be underestimated.

32. In its work programme for 1951, the Committee would place special emphasis on economic conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. As was the case in dealing with educational matters, it would consider economic problems without prejudice to the entire scope of its programme as set out in the Standard Form. Basically, the Committee was not a study group; it reviewed conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the various functional fields with a view to ensuring the protection of the interests of the inhabitants and the promotion of international peace and security. As the Charter required, those two essential purposes should dominate the policies of the Administering Powers and should be realized in the Territories by practical constructive measures.

33. Moreover, Article 74 of the Charter provided that the policies of the Administering Powers in respect of the Non-Self-Governing Territories must be based on the general principle of good-neighbourliness, due account being taken of the interests and well-being of the rest of the world in social, economic and commercial matters. Accordingly, the members of the Special Committee who did not represent Administering Powers were fully empowered to offer criticism and suggestions regarding those policies.

34. Conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories had changed rapidly in the past five years and the hopes of the peoples of those areas had been roused to expect that they would come within the direct purview of the Charter. In the interests of international peace and security, it was imperative that timely and constructive measures should be adopted without delay to transfer to them the responsibility for their own development. To expedite that process, the Administering Powers should concentrate on preventive rather than curative methods. They should discover the root causes of discontent and adapt their action to meet changing situations.

35. Countries which, like India, had recently achieved full self-government, had a decisive role to play in assisting the Administering Powers to fulfil their obligations under the Charter towards the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. They could interpret the needs of those peoples on the basis of their own experience and thus contribute to the establishment of democratic institutions in those areas free from alien domination.

36. Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary-General), speaking on behalf of the Secretariat, thanked the Chairman and the members for the tribute paid to the Secretariat. He was gratified to note that the absence of any sharp division between the Administering and non-Administering Powers had made it easier for the Secretariat to discharge its duties as a neutral technical body.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.