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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER. REPORT OF
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Southern African Territories

BASUTOLAND^{1/}

^{1/} In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1332 (XIII) this summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

NOTE: The following symbols are used:

Three dots (...)	data not available
Dash (-)	magnitude nil or negligible
Slash 1948/1949	crop or financial year
Hyphen 1948-1949	annual average

GENERAL INFORMATION

Basutoland is an enclave within the Union of South Africa. It comprises an area of 11,716 square miles (30,344 kilometres), of which three-quarters are highlands rising to a height of 11,000 feet. Basutoland is one of the three Territories administered by a Resident Commissioner under a High Commissioner for all three Territories. The capital city is Maseru.

Population

	1946 (census)	1956 (census)
Africans	561,289	638,857
Europeans	1,689	1,926
Eurafricans	602	644
Asians	<u>274</u>	<u>247</u>
Total	563,854	641,674

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Since there are neither industries nor any known mineral wealth in the Territory, the economy rests largely on the development of agriculture and livestock. The main exports are wool and mohair, followed by wheat, sorghum and cattle.

Fluctuations in prices for wool and mohair greatly affect the economy. In 1947, exports of 4,900 tons of wool amounted to about £0.4 million,^{2/} compared with 3,585 tons, valued at £1.7 million, in 1951, while in 1957, 3,500 tons were valued at £1.2 million, including export duties in both cases.

The value of imports usually exceeds the value of exports, but the adverse balance is offset by the export of labour to the mines, industries and farms in the Union of South Africa, resulting in a flow of income to Basutoland in the form of remittances to relatives.

The ordinary revenue increased from about £827,000 in 1946/1947 to £1.5 million in 1956/1957, and Colonial Development and Welfare grants increased from about £30,000 to £260,000.

Since 1946 the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund has spent more than £1.4 million to finance agricultural development schemes.

^{2/} The currency unit of Basutoland is the South African pound (£SA) which is equal to the pound sterling or US\$2.80.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The principal crops in the Territory are maize, wheat and sorghum; peas, beans, barley and oats are also grown.

The successful development of the Territory's agricultural resources is the main aim of the agricultural policy. The primary task over the ten-year period has therefore been to improve and extend anti-soil erosion measures. A soil conservation campaign has been underway since 1936. In 1946, a grant of £282,000 was made from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund for anti-erosion measures. This amount was later supplemented by a further £122,000.

An agricultural survey, undertaken in 1949 as Basutoland's contribution to the World Census of Agriculture, has been of value in planning the further development of agriculture.

The expenditure on agricultural and veterinary services increased from about £63,000 in 1946/1947 to some £87,000 in 1956/1957. An agricultural training school for extension officers was started in 1956.

Principal exported crops

	<u>Quantity</u> (thousand short tons)			<u>Value</u> (thousand South African pounds)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Beans and peas	3.1	2.6	4.7	70.0	87.2	119.6
Wheat and wheatmeal	11.4	3.6	10.1	36.8	84.4	107.6
Sorghum	8.1	5.8	1.0	149.4	101.6	19.7

Livestock

The major export from the Territory is wool, and many Basuto derive a considerable income from this source. The Government has followed a policy of wool improvement since 1936, resulting in a steady increase in quality.

The mohair industry has made slow progress, but, with the introduction in 1953 of new grading and packing legislation, exports have increased.

The reduction in livestock is mainly the result of a deliberate policy, as the Territory was heavily overstocked. Measures are also being taken to improve the quality of stock.

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Livestock population
(census)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Sheep	1,702,977	1,303,325	1,220,769
Goats	647,013	556,612	535,286
Cattle	429,158	406,454	381,770
Horses	108,284	92,884	81,661
Donkeys	51,920	53,543	48,616
Mules	1,946	3,550	3,599

Export of domestic livestock products

	<u>Quantity</u> (thousand short tons)			<u>Value</u> (thousand South African pounds)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Wool	4.9	3.7	3.5	422.9	1,489.1	1,204.1
Mohair	0.6	0.6	0.5	80.3	350.8	348.1
Hides and skins	0.2	0.4	0.3	21.8	59.5	35.8

POWER

The only electricity supply is at Maseru, where the installed capacity is 300 kw for about 1,800 consumers. Since 1948, it has been operated by the Government through a Public Utility Board.

A Colonial Development Welfare scheme involving expenditure of £32,761 for a hydrological and topographical survey was approved in October 1956. The Report on the Regional Development of the Water Resources of Basutoland, published the same year, described three possible complementary hydroelectric schemes, with a total power of about 200,000 kilowatts.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

In 1957, there were about 560 miles of roads and 1,600 miles of bridle paths in the Territory. For many years, a road construction programme was carried out and paid for from local revenue, but from 1949, £5,000 per annum was made available from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for a period of seven years.

The Territory is linked with the railway system of the Union of South Africa. There are two airports for light aircraft and a number of landing strips.

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The Post Office administration although a separate service, is closely linked with that of the Union of South Africa. In 1957, there were sixty-five post offices and agencies, compared with sixty-two in 1953.

A telephone and telegraph system is at present confined to the lowlands.

PUBLIC FINANCE

The financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March.

Revenue and expenditure (thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1946/1947</u>	<u>1952/1953</u>	<u>1956/1957</u>
Revenue			
Ordinary	827.1	1,201.6	1,463.7
Colonial Development and Welfare grants	<u>36.2</u>	<u>167.2</u>	<u>259.5</u>
Total	863.3	1,368.8	1,723.2
Expenditure			
Ordinary	834.4	1,239.0	1,641.2
Colonial Development and Welfare schemes	<u>36.2</u>	<u>163.5</u>	<u>232.2</u>
Total	870.6	1,402.5	1,873.4
Major heads of revenue			
Customs and excise	340.4	416.5	638.7
Native tax	233.4	284.1	338.1
Income tax	59.5	189.4	87.1
Wool and mohair export duties	26.3	123.3	114.0
Major heads of expenditure			
Education	145.4	184.6	256.1
Public works (department, recurrent and extraordinary)	125.7	182.0	178.2
African administration	-	106.1	121.6
Police	88.1 ^{a/}	94.5	133.6
Medical	62.9	95.4	143.5
Agricultural and veterinary services	63.1	70.0	86.7
Public debt	-	2.3	6.3

^{a/} Including prisons.

Development finance

The expenditure on development schemes financed from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund to 31 March 1957 was £1,424,358. The ten-year scheme 1945 to 1955 for which funds were voted under the 1945 Act was completed in 1955 and a further

five-year scheme to 1960 has been embarked upon. The first instalment of an approved development loan of £500,000 was received during 1957 and an average expenditure of about £100,000 yearly will be undertaken over a five-year period. The schemes aim at development in agriculture and livestock, medical services, public works projects and communications.

BANKING AND CREDIT

There are no agricultural or co-operative banks in the Territory, but two banks in the Union of South Africa maintain offices or agencies in major centres. Eleven post offices transact business with a post office savings bank in the Union. Credit to Africans is controlled by law.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The bulk of the general trade in the Territory is carried on by Europeans. The value of imports usually exceeds the value of exports. The trade is to a large extent carried on through the Union of South Africa, and it is therefore not possible to give details of origin of imports and destinations of exports.

The estimated values in 1953 and 1957 in the following table relate to imports by traders, through whose hands most of the general trade passes, and by co-operative societies, and to imports of grains by individuals. Government imports, which are considerable, are not included, nor are capital nor most consumer goods imported by individuals. As far as exports are concerned, the table includes the value of the principal commodities exported by traders and co-operative societies, and of wool and mohair, and hides and skins by individuals. The figures for 1947 are not entirely comparable, as they do not include imports and exports by individuals.

Imports and exports
(thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>Value</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
General imports	1,628.5	2,591.1	3,013.0
General exports	887.8	2,278.6	2,038.3
Principal imports			
General merchandise ^{a/}	1,516.5	2,417.2	2,592.0
Livestock	39.8	2.6	1,929.0 ^{b/}
Grain	72.2	166.5	224.7
Principal exports			
Wool	422.9	1,489.1	1,204.1
Mohair	80.3	350.8	348.1
Livestock	57.4	62.2	168.7
Grain	302.8	186.9	131.7
Beans and peas	70.0	87.2	119.6

a/ No breakdown in available.

b/ Includes imports by individuals, other than traders, not registered in previous import statistics.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

With a homogeneous African population and only very small minorities of Europeans, Asians and Coloureds, Basutoland has no serious race problems. Women can serve as chiefs and headmen.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Aside from the building industry, there are no industrial undertakings, and labour policy is concerned mainly with the control and protection of migrant labour. There is no Labour Department. Legislation provides for registration of trade unions, settlement of trades disputes, regulation of wages, conditions of employment of women and children, recruitment and contracts for the employment of migrant labour, and workmen's compensation.

There were no labour unions in 1951. Four were in existence in 1957.

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Employment situation

The principal occupations are agriculture and stock-farming, but an increasing number of Africans are engaged in trade. Europeans and Indians are at present not granted licences to establish new trading stores. Apart from employment in government service or in trading stores, there is little work to be found. For this reason, many Basuto leave the Territory for work in the Union of South Africa.

The number of passes issued to Basuto leaving the Territory for temporary employment in the Union of South Africa are given below:

		<u>Migrant labour</u>		
		<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Gold mines		19,304	25,504	33,030
Coal mines		3,176	5,398	7,344
Diamond mines		209	473	343
Other mines		<u>499</u>	<u>2,262</u>	<u>2,923</u>
Total		23,188	33,637	43,640
Agricultural		1,688	4,408	2,934
Miscellaneous		<u>10,262</u>	<u>23,605</u>	<u>7,830</u>
Total		35,138	61,650	54,404

Wages

For the few African wage earners who find employment in the Territory, wages in 1956 were practically the same as in 1947. In 1957, wages increased, and ranged from £1.10s to £5 a month for domestic servants, from £6 to £18 a month for foremen, from £15 to £26 a month for artisans and from 3s.7d. to 6s per day for labourers. Food and lodging are usually provided in addition.

Vocational training

Training in building, carpentry, joinery, leatherwork, motor-mechanics, tailoring and clerical work is given by two technical schools; three government-aided craft schools train girls in spinning and weaving.

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CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

A Registrar of Co-operative Societies was appointed in 1948, and the Government assumed responsibility for initiating and fostering co-operative development. Prior to that date, co-operation was virtually non-existent. The marketing of wool, mohair, hides, and skins remains the most important of co-operative trading activities. Producers' co-operatives have expanded their trade in agricultural requisites, and consumers' societies have expanded their business. Thrift societies have shown little progress. During 1957, the co-operative movement was re-organized to cover all types of produce marketing, supply of agricultural and domestic goods, and savings. A federal co-operative banking union was established to begin full operation in 1958.

	<u>Registered societies</u>								
	<u>1949</u>			<u>1953</u>			<u>1957</u>		
	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Member- ship</u>	<u>Turn- over</u> (thou- sand South African pounds)	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Member- ship</u>	<u>Turn- over</u> (thou- sand South African pounds)	<u>Num- ber</u>	<u>Member- ship</u>	<u>Turn- over</u> (thou- sand South African pounds)
Wool and mohair marketing	6	604	19.1	11	2,205	80.0	13	(	41.8
Consumers	14	852	0.03	12	1,373	6.7	(	4,992	...
Agricultu- rel	4	203	-	7	812	3.7	(	(	...
Mechanized farming	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	350	...
Other (trans- port)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	34	...
Total	24	1,659	19.13	30	4,390	90.4	39	5,376	64.6 ^{a/}

The reduced turnover figure in 1957 is due to the decline in prices for wool.

^{a/} Over-all total, figures on specific items not available.

STANDARD OF LIVING

A social survey, undertaken to provide information about the social and economic life of the Basuto people, began in 1956 with the taking of a population census as the first step. A training course was given for a team of investigators

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and a pilot social survey was conducted during 1956. The subjects included housing, systems of saving money, water supplies, agricultural production and methods of cultivation, social welfare. The cost of the social survey was borne by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds extending over a two-year period.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

As there are no towns or industrial undertakings with large concentrations of workers, problems of providing housing accommodation for labour have not arisen. Since 1947, government departments or commercial enterprises have built houses for their staff.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

The Basuto live for the most part in small scattered communities, and consequently no serious problems arise from urban conditions of living. No official system of social insurance or assistance exists, but Basuto law and custom provide remedies for many social problems, including the care of orphans, the aged and infirm which is normally undertaken by relatives. Where necessary, however, cases of indigence are assisted from government funds.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

A Court of Appeal was established on 15 April 1955 for the three High Commission Territories. There are no special correctional institutions, nor are there any arrangements for the after-care of offenders. Juvenile delinquency is no problem in the Territory. A new prison proclamation and rules were brought into force on 14 October 1957.

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Crime statistics

	<u>1947</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>Number of</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Number of</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Number of</u>	<u>Persons</u>
	<u>cases re-</u>	<u>convicted</u>	<u>cases re-</u>	<u>convicted</u>	<u>cases re-</u>	<u>convicted</u>
	<u>ported to</u>	<u>(High Court</u>	<u>ported to</u>	<u>(High Court</u>	<u>ported to</u>	<u>(High</u>
	<u>police</u>	<u>Sub-Ordinate</u>	<u>police</u>	<u>Sub-Ordinate</u>	<u>police</u>	<u>Court</u>
		<u>Courts) a/</u>		<u>Courts)</u>		<u>Sub-Ordi-</u>
						<u>nate</u>
						<u>Courts)</u>
Offences against lawful authority ...	...	...	( 90	(86	348	302
Offences against public morality ...	...	...	(	(	346	127
Offences against the person	1,035	551	3,141	408	4,036	546
Offences against property	657	420	2,422	1,222	3,314	1,169
Offences against local laws	(1,154	81	2,279	(2,102	988	762
Other offences	(	985	132	(	3,327	2,268
Total	2,846	2,037	8,064	3,818	12,359	5,174

a/ Cases in which convictions were obtained.

Medicine murder is the most serious crime. Six cases were reported to the police in 1947, twenty in 1948, fourteen in 1952 and twelve in 1957.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Director of Medical Services is responsible to the Resident Commissioner for the organization and administration of the Medical Department. Since 1947 there has been progress in the Africanization of medical service. The principal diseases encountered are venereal diseases, chronic rheumatism, infection of the respiratory tract and diseases due to nutritional deficiency. Diphtheria, typhoid fever, measles and whooping cough are endemic. Basutoland is almost free from tropical and sub-tropical diseases. Two of the major health problems are tuberculosis and outbreaks of nutritional deficiency diseases such as pellagra and kwashiorkor.

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A serious outbreak of diphtheria occurred during 1950, involving practically the whole Territory. The endemic was checked by a mass immunization programme during which about 120,800 injections were given to children in the areas affected. Typhoid fever has also been successfully controlled through T.A.B. vaccinations, and encouraging results have been achieved with the use of sulphones in the treatment of leprosy.

During 1953 and 1954, flea and rodent surveys were carried out by the Health Departments of Basutoland and the Union of South Africa to trace reservoirs of zootic plague.

With the assistance of the United Nations Children's Fund and the technical advice of the World Health Organization, a mass diphtheria and whooping cough immunization campaign was started in June 1955 and was completed in 1958.

A two-year nutrition survey with a view to controlling nutritional deficiency diseases was started in January 1956 with the assistance of WHO.

A tuberculosis survey was carried out from March to July 1957 with the assistance of WHO. Control measures against the disease will be based on the findings of the survey and on the recommendations of WHO.

The smallpox vaccination campaign which was started in October 1955 among infants and adolescents was nearing completion at the end of 1957 with 138,833 vaccinations performed.

There is no medical school in the Territory but the new Maseru hospital will be the main centre for the training of African nurses, midwives and auxiliary staff.

Under the Ten-Year Development Plan, £108,825 was allocated to the medical and health services from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund.

Expenditure

(thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1946/1947</u>	<u>1953/1954</u>	<u>1956/1957</u>
Medical Department			
Recurrent expenditure	...	130.5	166.2
Capital expenditure	...	2.9	57.5
Expenditure other than			
Medical Department	...	<u>26.0</u>	<u>57.5</u>
Total	<u>91.0^{a/}</u>	159.4	281.2

a/ Recurrent and capital expenditure for Medical Department, Leper Settlement and sanitation.

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Financial assistance from the Metropolitan Government amounted to £52,648 in 1956/1957, compared with £22,968 in 1953/1954.

Medical and health staff

	<u>1947</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>Govt.</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Govt.</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Govt.</u>	<u>Private</u>
Registered physicians	15	...	16	11	17	12
Licensed physicians	...	...	-	-	1	2
Dentists	...	...	-	1	-	1
Nurses (of senior training and and certificated)	24	...	53	10	50	65
Partially trained nurses	62	...	14	8	22	10
Midwives (of senior training and certificated)	...	...	38	7	48	39
Partially trained midwives	...	...	4	-	5	-
Sanitary inspectors	1	...	1	-	1	-

Institutions

	<u>1947</u>	<u>Number</u>		<u>Number of beds</u>		
		<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
General hospitals (	10	13	13	429	547	761
Cottage hospitals (
Dispensaries	11	16	52	...	...	...
Mobile units	-	-	-	-	-	-

In 1957, there were twenty-eight maternity and child welfare centres, one tuberculosis and sixteen venereal disease centres, a leprosarium and a mental hospital.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

African education is largely in the hands of Missions under the direction of the Education Department. Grants-in-aid are paid by the Government to the Missions to cover teachers' salaries. Primary education is free, but not compulsory. In secondary and teacher-training schools, fees covering boarding costs are paid. Full secondary education facilities are available at three institutions; five other schools offer junior secondary facilities in a three-year course. In the lower and pre-primary schools the language of instruction is Sesuto; otherwise English is used.

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A plan worked out by a commission for the reorganization of education was begun in 1946, and machinery was set up for improving active co-operation among all parties interested in education. In 1947, advisory committees were formed in each district to make recommendations to the Director of Education on education needs. Survey teams were also set up to determine which schools would qualify for government financial aid. A Central Advisory Board of Education was also established with a majority of African members, including representatives from the Education Department, and the African Teachers' Association. A Basutoland National Teachers' Association, open to all, was established in 1946.

In accordance with recommendations of the commission, a new grant system for aid to Mission schools came into effect during 1947. Teachers' salaries were increased by 5 per cent and the standards of the profession were improved. By the end of the year, a new education ordinance was promulgated, based on similar legislation in other African Territories.

Primary education for European children is provided at centres where there are more than five children of school age. There is no post-primary education in the Territory. A Central Advisory Committee for European Education makes recommendations for the improvement of teachers' salaries and school buildings.

Early in 1951, the Government of the Union of South Africa announced that its previous restriction on non-Union Africans entering Union institutions and universities would be relaxed for three years. From 1954, all non-Union Africans attending universities and colleges in the Union of South Africa have had to pay the full unit cost of tuition and maintenance as well as a sum of £30 towards capital costs. The Union Government has stated that the University College at Fort Hare and the Durban Medical School will be open to non-Union students only until 1958. Basutoland must then look to the University College of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland to meet its needs, with some assistance from universities in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Considerable reorganization has taken place at the Lerotholi Technical School; masonry, carpentry and plumbing courses have been integrated into a building department in which all apprentices are given the same theoretical training. Expansion of accommodation facilities in 1952 doubled the capacity of the school which can now take 140 students.

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The Colonial Development and Welfare Fund provided £93,000 for the development of education over a ten-year period ending March 1956. Assistance for bursaries is also given by the Fund under a scholarship scheme.

During 1956, the Central Advisory Board made recommendations regarding teachers' salaries and terms of service, development of higher primary and secondary education, Colonial Development and Welfare expenditure, syllabuses and examinations.

Since 1947, Africans have taken an increasing share in the shaping of educational policy, which emphasizes a higher standard of education and improved teacher-training institutions.

Expenditure
(thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1947/1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Recurrent expenditure			
Education Department	21.8	17.1	18.4
Other charges	20.2	16.8	19.4
Grants-in-aid to mission schools	116.2	138.4	235.7
Metropolitan Government	5.9	4.1	-
Voluntary agencies	...	<u>25.4</u>	<u>27.5</u>
Total recurrent	...	201.8	301.0
Capital expenditure			
Metropolitan Government	8.0	9.0	33.9
Voluntary agencies	...	33.0	125.5
Other charges	...	<u>0.7</u>	<u>-</u>
Total capital	...	42.7	159.4
Grand total, capital plus recurrent	...	244.5	460.4

African Schools

	<u>1947</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>Public</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Independent</u>
Primary	8	802	-	921	-	976
Secondary	1	-	-	5	-	17
Vocational	1	2	1	1	1	23
Teacher training	-	6	-	7	-	7
Higher education	-	-	-	1	-	1

In 1957 there were seven small European primary schools, compared with six schools in 1947.

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African pupils

	<u>1947</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
Public schools:						
Vocational	82	-	83	-	109	8
Independent						
Primary	29,605	49,991	32,902	62,268	42,039	72,237
Secondary	306	88	665	345	842	484
Vocational	-	45	52	315	160	485
Teacher training	164	171	127	154	220	333
Higher education:						
In the Territory	19		6	2	79	11
In United Kingdom	(		2	-	12	2
In Union of South Africa	{ 13		14	3	7	2

In 1957, the European primary school enrolment was eighty-one boys and seventy-seven girls, compared with fifty-five boys and seventy-one girls in 1953 and fifty-one boys and sixty girls in 1947.

African teachers

	<u>1947</u>		<u>1953</u>		<u>1957</u>	
	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Public schools:						
Vocational	17	5	15(5) ^{a/}	-	16 (6)	-
Independent schools:						
Primary	585	209	1,219	735	1,263 (1)	1,013(37)
Secondary	22	20	17(8)	12(6)	40 (9)	18(10)
Vocational	...	...	6(3)	-	7 (3)	26(15)
Teacher training	...	...	18(10)	13(10)	11 (6)	19(12)
Higher education	...	...	9(6)	-	25 (22)	6(5)

^{a/} Figures in parentheses indicate the number of non-indigenous teachers.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS

In 1957, there were four vernacular and two English language newspapers in the Territory. There were one government and several commercial mobile film units, no radio transmitters, but about 700 radio receiver sets.
