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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

BECHUANALAND^{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 or non-existent
Slash 1948/1949	crop or financial year
Hyphen 1948-1949	annual coverage

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Bechuanaland Protectorate lies in the centre of the southern part of Africa, and comprises 275,000 square miles (712,200 square kilometres). Nearly one half of the Territory consists of the Kalahari desert.

Bechuanaland is one of three Territories administered by a Resident Commissioner under a High Commissioner for all three Territories. The capital city is Mafeking.

Population

	<u>1946</u> (census)	<u>1956</u> (census)
Africans	292,755	...
Europeans	2,379	3,177
Eurafricans	1,082	680
Asians	94	249

In 1956 the African population was estimated at 323,199.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The economy of the Territory is based almost entirely on the livestock, which provides about 75 per cent of the national income about 95 per cent of the population is engaged in rearing livestock.

The year 1947 saw an almost complete crop failure, causing larger imports of grain and meal than had ever been made into the Protectorate. An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease caused high mortality among livestock and severe restrictions in cattle exports, the most important source of revenue, on account of the restrictions imposed by neighbouring Governments on cattle imports. Further outbreaks of the disease occurred in 1948, but in 1949 it was gradually brought under control and there was a progressive relaxation of restrictions on the export of cattle. By 1950, the cattle industry had returned to normal, and in 1952 the value of exported livestock and livestock products amounted to about £2 million,^{2/} an increase of nearly £0.4 million or 28 per cent over corresponding figure for 1950.

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

The establishment in 1954 of an abattoir by the Colonial Development Corporation was of great importance to the economy and especially to the livestock industry, as it encouraged the rearing of cattle for slaughter and led to an increase in the exports of carcasses, with a corresponding decrease in live cattle exports. Another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease occurred in 1957; 57,875 carcasses were exported in that year, a reduction of 10,840 from the quantity exported in 1956. Import and export figures reflect a favourable trade balance from 1950 to 1955, excluding 1953. Maize imports fell during 1954 and in 1955, whereas exports of beans, pulses and sorghum rose sharply. Favourable weather conditions in 1953 caused a marked reduction in grain imports, particularly maize, and an increase in exports of butter, sorghum, beans and pulses.

Internal revenue rose from £466,757 in 1946/1947 to £1,132,825 in 1956/1957.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The major crop is sorghum; maize, millet, beans and ground-nuts are also grown. As a result of arrangements made with the Union of South Africa in 1954 for the processing, storage, exchange and distribution of locally grown maize, the Territory had become almost self-supporting in the production of this crop.

There is continued research and testing of crops, fertilizers and planting methods. A programme of teaching African farmers simple methods of improved agriculture was begun in 1948. With the aid of Colonial Department and Welfare funds it has been possible to increase extension work among the farmers.

Principal exported crops

	<u>Quantity</u> (thousand bags)			<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>
Sorghum	-	28.2	67.0	-	40.9	122.3
Beans and pulses	1.6	28.2	36.1	3.3	51.2	64.1

Livestock

Approval was given in 1948 for a scheme financed by the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund for the planned development of the surface water resources of the Territory over an eight-year period, at an estimated cost of £300,000. An additional sum of £730,000 was allocated to continue the work during 1955-1960.

Territory-wide inoculation campaigns are carried out annually against anthrax and in 1957, free inoculations were given against blackquarter and contagious abortion.

In view of the importance of the cattle industry to the economy of the Territory, a hydro-geological branch was added to the Geological Survey Department in 1955 for the development of the ground water resources, particularly in the grazing areas of the tribal reserves.

During 1957, a veterinary school was established to train Africans in the rudiments of veterinary service, including animal husbandry.

Livestock population
(census)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u> (thousand head)	<u>1956</u>
Cattle	966.9	1,097.7	1,235.7
Sheep	187.7	227.9	125.3
Goats	426.7	497.7	361.6
Horses	3.4	6.7	8.1
Poultry	84.8	156.0	177.3

Exports of domestic livestock

	Quantity (thousand head)			Value (thousand South African pounds)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Cattle	54.0	71.1	1.8	661.2	1,507.8	...
Sheep and goats	16.1	28.0	...	28.2	71.5	...

Exports of domestic livestock products

	Quantity (short tons)			Value (thousand South African pounds)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Cattle carcasses	-	-	14,586.8	-	-	1,371.3
Hides	414.4	748.3	...	41.7	102.9	...
Butter	17.3	239.2	157.1	4.0	74.4	49.1
Butter fat	19.4	92.7	129.0	4.4	26.4	38.4

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MINING, POWER AND INDUSTRY

The Geological Survey Department is responsible for the geological mapping of the Territory. Gold, silver and kyanite are produced in the Tati Concession, the mineral rights of which are owned by the Tati Company. Asbestos is produced by a mining company on a royalty basis. There was no asbestos production in 1947, but the production of 1,582 short tons in 1957 was valued at £112,344. Gold production valued at £63,623 in 1947, had decreased to £2,338 by 1957. Silver production likewise decreased in value from £194 in 1947 to £11 in 1957.

There is no administrative organization primarily responsible for the development and distribution of power. Small diesel electric sets, none of which exceed a capacity of 25 kilowatts, are used by the Government for hospitals. In two centres, small power stations supply electricity to the public.

The only industrial undertakings are the Colonial Development Corporation's abattoirs and a privately owned bonemeal factory, both opened in 1954, and a creamery and a small soap factory opened during 1957.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

In 1957 there were 1,025 miles of main roads, compared with 550 miles in 1947. The numbers of registered motor vehicles in use at the end of 1956 were 719 cars, 617 commercial vehicles, 102 tractors, twenty-nine trailers and seventeen motor-cycles, compared with 477 cars, 667 commercial vehicles, sixteen tractors, eleven trailers and five motor-cycles in 1953.

In 1948, a grant of £35,700 was approved from Colonial Development and Welfare funds to cover an eight-year period for road construction, and in 1956 an extensive reconstruction and improvement programme was started, also with the assistance of Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

The main railway line from Cape Town passes through the Territory for a distance of 394 miles. In 1957, 814,898 passengers were transported within the Territory; the total tonnage of goods transported was 1,271,988 metric tons.

Air services connect the Territory with neighbouring countries. In 1957, there were eight airfields, four landing grounds and six emergency airstrips, compared with four airfields and nine landing grounds in 1947.

Communications

Control of the telegraph and telephone services were taken over by the Government from the Union of South Africa and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland on 1 January 1957, and telecommunications are now being expanded.

The number of subscribers benefiting from inter-territorial telephone services in 1957 was 148. A restricted telephone service was available to thirty-six subscribers.

There were twelve post offices and twenty-four postal agencies in 1957, compared with six post offices and twenty-nine postal agencies in 1947.

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	466.8	772.1	1,132.8
Grants from Colonial Development and Welfare funds	-	179.7	421.7
Total	<u>466.8</u>	<u>951.8</u>	<u>1,554.5</u>
Expenditure			
Ordinary	404.8	765.3	1,230.7
Colonial Development and Welfare schemes	60.1	182.7	417.2
Total	<u>464.9</u>	<u>948.0</u>	<u>1,647.9</u>
Major heads of revenue			
Revenue from government property	...	25.8	29.8
Customs and excise	114.4	141.7	202.4
African tax	79.8	104.7	133.7
Income tax	136.3	141.9	145.9
Subvention from Rhodesia			
Railways	...	140.0	140.0
Cattle export tax	4.8	37.4	65.7
Major heads of expenditure			
Public Works (Department, recurrent, extraordinary)	84.7	141.2	274.7
Police	52.1	95.6	146.1
Medical	51.2	79.9	133.0
Education	19.1	38.9	65.5
Veterinary	42.5	63.2	130.7
Public debt	-	-	8.5

Development finance

The majority of development schemes are financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The total amount approved for development of the Territory in the period 1945 to 1956 was £1,193,111. In 1956, approval was received for Colonial Development and Welfare grants totalling £1.3 million between 1955 and 1960, on schemes such as soil conservation, geological survey and surface and underground water supplies.

BANKING AND CREDIT

Whereas there were no banks in 1947 other than those in the bordering towns of the Union of South Africa and the Rhodesias, four banks were operating in the Territory in 1957.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Imports and exports (thousand South African pounds)

		<u>Value</u>	
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
General imports	1,439.0	2,416.4	3,055.6
Domestic exports	889.9	2,168.2	2,887.6 ^{a/}
Principal imports			
Textiles	...	504.7	533.7
Vehicles and spares	67.1	85.6	380.7
Foodstuffs other than cereals	...	510.6	320.6
Wheat and wheat meal	54.3	62.5	76.6
Maize and maize meal	244.0	72.7	44.0
Principal domestic exports			
Cattle carcasses	-	-	1,555.4
Sorghum	-	40.9	271.0
Hides	41.7	102.9	217.7
Beans and pulses	3.3	51.2	145.7
Asbestos	-	61.9	129.7
Cattle	661.2	1,507.8	73.4

^{a/} Exports in 1956 were to Northern Rhodesia only.

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Direction of trade

The bulk of the trade is with the Union of South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The alienation of land and the recruitment of local labour are regulated by law. In almost all respects, the status of women is the same as that of men; however, they do not usually attend meetings at which tribal affairs are discussed and decided. In some Native courts it is the custom for female litigants to be represented by their husband or father. There are no co-operative societies in the Territories.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

As 95 per cent of the population is engaged in stock-raising, the number of persons in paid employment is extremely small. There is no immigrant labour but a number of Bechuanaland Africans leave the Territory annually for work in the mines of the Union of South Africa. In 1957 there were 22,000 migrant labourers, compared with 9,300 in 1947. Recruitment is regulated by legislation enacted in 1931. There is no labour department, nor is there an employer's organization. The only existing labour union, with a membership of about 200, was formed in 1949 but it is not very active. Membership is open to all except government and railway employees. The only legislation of importance passed since 1947 was the Wages Board Proclamation of 1947 providing for the establishment of wages boards to regulate terms and conditions for the employment of workers.

Number of African wage-earners and their wages

	<u>Average numbers</u>			<u>Average monthly wages</u> (South African pounds)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Agriculture	2,700	3,000	3,000	2	3	3
Government service	1,420	1,500	1,500	2 to 20	5 to 56	5 to 57
Building	175	300	300	5	6	6
Trade and Industry	1,030	1,800	2,000	4	6	6
Domestic Service	1,410	2,000	2,000	2.6s.	2.15s.	3

Vocational training

There is little demand for industrial training. The Public Works Department trains a few mechanics and artisans and some agricultural courses are given in the schools.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

Since 1947, the Government has undertaken to construct housing for African and European officials but no town-planning scheme is in operation. In 1956, a loan of £34,630 was raised for African government housing; a loan for European housing amounting to £115,370 was also raised. It is planned to make a further loan of £160,000 in 1957 to 1958 for the housing of European and African officials.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

Although industrial accidents are almost unknown, there is a Workmen's Compensation Proclamation. Most social problems are solved according to long established tribal custom. The sense of communal obligation is very real, and orphans, the aged and the infirm are cared for by relatives. An annual government provision of £600 is available, if required, for the relief of destitution.

Social welfare schemes are designed to augment rather than to replace those operating within the tribal framework. Centres and clubs for Africans are established in the main towns where members may participate in a variety of cultural activities.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

A Court of Appeal was established on 15 April 1955 for all three High Commission Territories.

There are no special correctional institutions, nor are there arrangements for the after-care of offenders. Juvenile delinquency is no problem in the Territory.

Crime statistics

	<u>Cases reported to the police</u>			<u>Persons convicted</u>		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Offences against the person	227	539	585	179	483	505
Offences against property	531	826	1,005	351	581	711
Other offences	<u>1,468</u>	<u>3,494</u>	<u>6,574</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>2,846</u>	<u>6,117</u>
Total	2,226	4,859	8,164	1,744	3,910	7,333

PUBLIC HEALTH

Among the main health problems of the Territory are: the control of venereal disease, tuberculosis, plague, bilharziasis and yellow fever, and the provision of safe water supplies.

A grant of £71,950 was given by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1948 for the development of health services over an eight-year period. Epidemics of poliomyelitis, diphtheria and smallpox occurred in 1948, and a total of about 30,000 prophylactic inoculations were given. Widespread outbreaks of smallpox and diphtheria took place in the years from 1950 to 1955. Tuberculosis has been giving reason for concern. In 1952, a mass X-ray unit from the Health Department of the Union of South Africa carried out a survey and it was found that the incidence of active pulmonary tuberculosis in the Protectorate was about 1.3 per cent of those examined. In 1954, the World Health Organization gave financial assistance to combat the disease and in 1956 a WHO tuberculosis team visited the Protectorate.

Following the 1953 WHO seminar on yellow fever a portion of the Territory was again included in the yellow fever endemic zone of Africa, and during the year more than 500 immunizations were given to the non-African population. A scheme for the investigation of venereal disease was carried out in 1954, sponsored jointly by the Government, WHO, the United Nations Children's Fund and the South African Institute for Medical Research. A combined campaign against diphtheria and pertussis with the aid of UNICEF and Colonial Development and Welfare funds was begun in September 1956, and by the end of the year 33,225 immunizations had been given.

The training of African nurses remains a three-year course in general medical and surgical nursing, followed by a one-year course in midwifery. The supervision of all nursing staff is assured by the High Commission Territories Nursing Council, established in 1947. African dispensers and sanitary inspectors are trained by the medical officers.

Expenditure
(thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1946/1947</u>	<u>1952/1953</u>	<u>1956/1957^{a/}</u>
Ordinary expenditure of Medical Department	51.2	90.6	133.0
Grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund	-	10.7	42.5

a/ Estimate.

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	14	...	10	8	15	7
Nurses (of senior training and certificated)	15	...	14	10	53	15
Partially trained nurses			27	45	39	49
Midwives (of senior training and certificated)	3	...	14	10	47	24
Sanitary inspectors	3	...	4	-	9	-

Institutions

	<u>1947</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>Number of beds</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
General hospitals	8	7	8	345	469	579
Cottage hospitals	...	4	6	...	52	101
Dispensaries	4	21	21		11	...
Mobile units	-	-	-	-	-	-

In 1957, there were twelve maternity and child welfare centres (two in 1947), eight tuberculosis hospitals, ten venereal disease hospitals and a mental institution.

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EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

The Education Department exercises professional control over all education. Tribal schools are tribally financed, and Mission schools receive government aid. Education is not compulsory but no child is refused admission to school. Tribal school committees usually charge school fees of a few shillings a year.

Until 1953, the Protectorate was dependent on the Union of South Africa for practically all secondary education and for all vocational and higher education. From 1954, the Union ceased to accept any new extra-territorial non-European secondary and vocational pupils, but its universities accepted until 1958 a quota of students from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and the High Commission Territories. Meanwhile, the Protectorate has extended facilities for secondary education and has arranged for the admission of students to vocational institutions in Basutoland. Thus, Moeng College became a Territorial institution in 1955, and the Territorial Government has assumed responsibility for all essential capital and recurrent expenditure.

A bursary system enables many Africans to attend secondary schools, vocational institutions and universities outside the Territory. A committee was established in 1956 to decide on these awards, and included in its membership the Deputy-Director of Education as chairman, a representative of the African Teacher's Association and an African Senior Supervisor of schools.

The European and coloured educational systems are at primary level only, but bursaries are available for post-primary and post-secondary education outside the Territory.

A centralized teacher-training service for Africans was established in 1947 at one teacher-training college. By 1956, a second training college had been completed with assistance from the Colonial Development and Welfare funds amounting to £40,000, and the annual intake of teacher-trainees had doubled.

During 1954 and 1955, the Education Department compiled a comprehensive survey of shortcomings of buildings, equipment and staff in primary education and started drafting schemes to meet these deficiencies. Progress in implementing the plans has been good, but the increase in enrolment in 1956 and 1957 has largely offset the increased facilities made available.

A grant of £83,000 from Colonial Development and Welfare funds was approved for the improvement of education and welfare over the eight-year period, 1948 to 1956.

Expenditure
(thousand South African pounds)

	<u>1946/1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1956</u>
Recurrent expenditure	46.0	87.1	65.5 ^{a/}
Capital expenditure	<u>4.0</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>59.0</u>
Total	50.0	100.8	124.5
From:			
Protectorate fund	19.1	46.5	64.8
Native Treasurer's fund	21.2	44.3	84.7
Colonial Development and Welfare funds	9.7	10.0	40.6
Allocation according to races:			
African	43.0	77.1	172.3
Coloured	0.7	1.0	1.3
European	6.4	22.7	25.5

a/ Not including mission contributions amounting to about £75,000.

Schools

	<u>Public</u>		<u>Independent (assisted and non-assisted)</u>		<u>Independent (assisted and non-assisted)</u>		<u>Independent (assisted and non-assisted)</u>		<u>Independent (assisted and non-assisted)</u>	
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>
	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Mixed</u>	<u>Mixed</u>
Primary	-	159 ^{a/}	-	149	-	173	...	3	3	3
Secondary	-	1	-	3	-	3	...	1	2	2
Vocational	1	-	-	-	1	-	...	-	-	-
Teacher training	-	1	-	1	-	2	...	-	-	-

a/ Including independent schools.

Pupils

	<u>1947^{a/}</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>
<u>African</u>						
Public schools						
Primary	16,912		6,706	11,140	9,018	14,393
Secondary	19		55	41	49	56
Vocational	-	37	-	9	-	30
Teacher training	22		22	23	27	26
Higher education:						
in the United Kingdom	...		1	-	2	-
elsewhere	...		2	-	5	1
Independent schools						
Primary	479		157	413	294	420
Secondary	38		37	19	153	67

European

Public						
Primary	94	81	134	114	291	304
Higher education in:						
the United Kingdom	-	-	-	-
elsewhere	6	2	5	1

a/ Sixty-three per cent of the total primary enrolment were girls.

Teachers^{a/}

	<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						
Primary			303(2)	256(12)	334	302
Secondary			8(1)	-	12	1
Vocational		457(89)	-	2(2)	-	2(2)
Teacher training			2	3	4	2
Independent schools						
Primary			4	13(1)	10(1)	16(3)
Secondary			5(1)	2(2)	1(1)	2(2)

a/ Figures in parenthesis indicate the number of non-indigenous teachers.

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CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS

There were four public libraries and twenty school libraries in 1957. In 1947, there were only six school libraries. There are no local newspapers and periodicals; however, newspapers from the Union of South Africa circulate in the Territory. There are no radio transmitters, but the government-owned radio transmitter at Makefing broadcasts musical programmes daily and relays South African news. There were 1,430 receiver sets in 1957, compared with about 350 in 1953. As there is no information service, monthly newsletters are published by the Government to the public. One government-owned film unit operates in the Territory.
