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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE
AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

INTERNE PROGRAMMES

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

18 JUL 1950
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1. The Advisory Committee, in its second report of 1949, requested that a full report be submitted on the Interne Programmes.* These programmes, which commenced experimentally in 1947, have developed a pattern which appears to be producing satisfactory results for the United Nations, for the governmental and educational centres from whom the internes have been drawn, and for the individual internes themselves.
2. Experimental programmes for students were held in the summer of 1947 and the winter of 1948. From these, several facts emerged. First, at least among local student bodies, a tremendous interest was shown in a practical study of the Organization as contrasted with a theoretical study. Second, students could render valuable service to the Secretariat. Third, there were definite possibilities for the Bureau of Personnel in such programmes from two points of view, recruitment and training. It was felt that if internes from under-represented countries could be secured, they might well provide a few future staff members. It was further believed that the programmes might be a source of development for training techniques. A final and important consideration was that internes, on returning to their educational milieu, would be a focus of interest in activities involving the discussion of United Nations.

Since no United Nations funds were available at that time, and it was necessary to provide some living allowance for students from Member nations

* Document A/934, paragraph 142.

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during their stay at Lake Success, subsidies were secured from Rotary International and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace sufficient for an internationally-recruited programme in the summer of 1948. A Selection Board was set up consisting of senior members of the Secretariat, and forty-three students were chosen for the first international programme. To these were added eleven students subsidized by colleges in the United States and by Rotary International. An allowance of \$300 per student was made, and they were housed at Adelphi College. This programme met with great success. The additional advantage of community living, involving the exchange of ideas between young men and women from thirty-three different countries, with a common devotion to the ideals of United Nations, provided an effective stimulus. This group, although technically a student group, included eighteen members who were actually employed in the service of their governments or about to enter that employment.

3. It was felt that the interne idea should be extended as soon as possible to include younger members of the civil services of Member nations, and also officials of international organizations, particularly trade unions and other organizations within the non-governmental organization categories. As a step in this direction, Members were invited to send internes, at their own expense, to attend the 1948 General Assembly in Paris for four weeks. This programme demonstrated the keen interest of people of this category in the United Nations. It also showed, however, that there were significant disadvantages in having these persons as mere observers and not as active participants in the work of the Secretariat.

4. The 1949 budget allocated \$30,000 for interne programmes. Three such programmes were held. The first, in April, provided the opportunity for civil servants to study the working methods of the Secretariat. The second, in July, was for students, and the third allowed civil servants to study the working procedures of the General Assembly. The student programme was subsidized by Rotary International to the extent of \$6,000. There were also fourteen scholarship internes added to this programme. Due to the last-minute withdrawal of some candidates from the third programme, when substitute nominees were not available, the full budget allocation was not spent.

5. The 1950 budget again allocated \$30,000 for interne activities. Three programmes have been or will be conducted in 1950 with these changes:

/(a) The subsidy

(a) The subsidy from Rotary International is not now available, due to the extension of Rotary's own scholarships and its feeling that it should concentrate its resources on its own programmes.

(b) The student programme was divided into two sections, one at Lake Success and one at Geneva, with the general idea that students should be selected on the basis of their willingness to travel to the site of their duties. For the most part, the Geneva programme involves non-European students, while that at Lake Success does not include American students or non-American students studying in the United States, except where distance makes it unreasonable to expect students to travel to New York.

A statistical summary of the geographic composition of the interne groups which have been subsidized is appended.

6. The object of this general programme is to provide a practical knowledge of the working conditions under which United Nations affairs are conducted. It is designed to acquaint internes with the spirit of the Secretariat and to make them familiar with the everyday problems, technical, administrative and practical, and to familiarize them with the procedures of commissions, councils and the Assembly. To accomplish this purpose, the standard practice of assigning the internes to actual working posts for a period of eight weeks has been adopted.

7. The civil servant programmes have a particular value in that a large proportion of the internes nominated and selected come directly from the foreign offices and from that section of the foreign office which deals with United Nations matters; and it is a tremendous advantage to have a number of officials of junior officer rank as fully acquainted with United Nations procedures as senior officers. This seems to have special application to those whose duty it is to handle United Nations documents. The student programmes are also valuable. Over and above the very real contribution to public understanding of the United Nations in various parts of the world, a good proportion of the students are destined for careers in the service of their country, and many of them in the teaching of international relations.

8. While the numbers involved, scattered over the whole world, forbid anything more than a loose organization at the moment, the internes have formed an association with headquarters in Paris for the purpose of maintaining

/their connexion

their connexion with United Nations, of meeting to discuss its problems, and of keeping in contact with information centres in order to maintain their information on current developments. It is hoped that this association will eventually become an important subsidiary in the work of the Department of Public Information.

9. The Secretary-General feels that the constant and increasing interest in interne programmes on the part of Governments of Members and their delegations is in itself a testimony to the value and success of the programmes. Up to the present, fifty nations have been represented in at least one programme. The Selection Board is always faced with a wide choice of candidates and the unfortunate necessity of turning down many desirable ones.

10. Copies of this year's announcements are appended to illustrate the qualifications required, methods of selection and a general outline of the programme.

INTERNES BY PROGRAMME AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Civil servants

	1949		1950	
	<u>First</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Total</u>
Australia	-	1	-	1
Belgium	-	1	2	3
Brazil	2	1	-	3
Canada	1	1	1	3
Chile	-	1	-	1
China	1	2	1	4
Costa Rica	-	1	-	1
Czechoslovakia	-	1	-	1
Denmark	-	2	2	4
Ecuador	-	1	1	2
Egypt	-	1	1	2
France	-	2	2	4
Haiti	-	1	2	3
Iceland	2	1	-	3
India	1	1	1	3
Iran	1	1	1	3
Israel	-	1	1	2
Liberia	1	-	-	1
Mexico	1	1	-	2
Netherlands	-	-	2	2
New Zealand	-	1	1	2
Nicaragua	-	-	1	1
Norway	-	1	1	2
Pakistan	-	1	1	2
Panama	-	1	-	1
Philippines	1	2	-	3
Turkey	-	-	1	1
United Kingdom	-	2	2	4
United States	7	5	4	16
Venezuela	-	1	-	1
Yugoslavia	-	1	1	2
<u>Total</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>83</u>

/Student programmes

Student programmes

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Total</u>
Australia	-	1	-	1
Belgium	1	2	1	4
Bolivia	1	1	-	2
Brazil	2	-	-	2
Burma	-	1	-	1
Canada	2	2	2	6
Chile	1	1	1	3
China	1	2	1	4
Colombia	1	-	-	1
Cuba	-	1	-	1
Czechoslovakia	1	-	-	1
Denmark	1	2	2	5
Dominican Republic	-	-	1	1
Ecuador	1	-	-	1
Egypt	1	-	-	1
Ethiopia	-	-	1	1
France	3	4	1	8
Greece	2	1	1	4
Haiti	-	1	-	1
Honduras	-	1	-	1
Iceland	1	1	1	3
India	3	3	2	8
Iran	1	2	1	4
Iraq	-	-	1	1
Israel	-	1	1	2
Lebanon	-	1	-	1
Liberia	-	-	1	1
Luxembourg	1	1	1	3
Mexico	1	-	1	2
Netherlands	1	2	1	4
New Zealand	1	-	2	3
Norway	1	1	1	3
Pakistan	1	-	1	2
Peru	1	-	-	1
Philippines	1	1	-	2
Poland	2	-	1	3
Saudi Arabia	-	-	1	1
Sweden	1	1	-	2
Syria	1	-	-	1
Union of South Africa	1	-	-	1
United Kingdom	1	2	2	5
United States	5	4	5	14
Uruguay	1	-	-	1
Yugoslavia	-	-	1	1
<u>Total</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>118</u>

/Scholarship internes

Scholarship internes

Scholarships were offered (and accepted) for internes by the following universities and organizations.

The majority of these scholarships are in respect of United States citizens. They include, however, internes from the following countries: Burma, Canada, Denmark, France, Mexico, United Kingdom and the United States.

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Total</u>
Alfred University	1	-	-	1
Brown University	-	1	2	3
Collegiate Council of the United Nations Association of America	-	1	-	1
Columbia University	4	4	2	10
University of Pennsylvania	2	2	2	6
Stanford University	1	1	2	4
Rotary International	3	5	0	8
<u>Total</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>33</u>

Total of student internes both internationally selected and on scholarship basis:

<u>54</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>151</u>
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Auditeurs libres

It has been customary to admit, under special circumstances, certain students to the interne programmes without assuming any financial responsibility for them. There have been seven such auditeurs libres: two in 1948, two in 1949, three in 1950, representing the following countries: Austria 2, Belgium 1, Canada 1, Netherlands 1, New Zealand 1, United States 1.

Library internes

Under a special arrangement, and by virtue of a grant by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, library students were accepted for work in the Library. They were entirely under the control of the Library Director, but attended lectures and social events with the student interne group. There have been three such internes: two in 1949, from India and Thailand, and one in 1950, from France.

<u>Summary</u>		
Civil servant internes	83	
Student internes	151	
Library internes	3	
Total <u>subsidized</u> internes		237
Unsubsidized internes		
Paris group	89	
Experimental groups	59	
<u>Auditeurs libres</u>	7	
		155
Total all internes		<u>392</u>
