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President: Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

Present:

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of New Guinea for the year ended 30 June 1951 (T/958) (continued)

[Agenda item 3(c)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Halligan, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, took a place at the Council table.

1. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative whether the consent of the indigenous inhabitants was required for the alienation of land in New Guinea and, if so, how their consent was obtained. He noted that over 24,000 acres had been alienated during the year under review and he would like to know the reasons for the alienation of such a large area.

2. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the 24,000 acres in question had been purchased from the indigenous inhabitants for the sake of its timber, which was to be used in the manufacture of plywood.

3. The procedure for such purchases was prescribed in the Land Ordinance of the Territory. Any person desiring to acquire land in the Territory, having inspected the area he considered suitable for his purpose, would first seek out the indigenous owner and find out whether he was willing to sell the land. If the owner was unwilling to sell, the matter went no further. If he was willing to sell, the prospective purchaser submitted an application to the district officer, who would visit the area in question, establish its own-

ership and decide whether or not the land was essential for the use of the indigenous inhabitants. If his conclusion was that it would not be in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants to sell the land, he would make a recommendation to that effect. If, however, he decided that the sale could proceed without detriment to the indigenous inhabitants, he would submit a report to the Secretary for Lands, Surveys and Mines, giving all the details and stating what he would consider a suitable price for the land. The application then came up for discussion before the Land Board of the Territory, which conducted its hearings in public, so that anyone interested in the case could make any representations he wished. If, after having considered the application and the report, the Land Board concluded that the land could be sold, it submitted a recommendation to that effect to the Administrator for his approval. That having been obtained, the district officer was informed of the Land Board's decision, whereupon he proceeded to the area and informed the indigenous owner of the sum the Administration was willing to pay for the land. If at that stage the owner decided not to sell after all, he could still withdraw. If, however, he accepted the price and was still willing to sell, a special form for the transfer of land, prescribed in the Land Ordinance, was read to him and signed by him in the presence of the district officer, with a European officer and one indigenous inhabitant as witnesses. The owner then received a copy of the form.

4. There were no Native documents establishing land ownership, which was largely a matter of custom and was indicated by physical features; a certain formula by which land was defined had been established in some cases and there did exist in certain cases what might be termed an equivalent of title deeds.

5. Replying to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that the figure of 82,500 acres appearing on page 45 of the annual report¹ represented the total acreage of land and timber rights purchased during the year under review. The area of land purchased outright from the indigenous inhabitants was 24,000 acres, the balance being the purchase of timber rights,

¹ See Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of the New Guinea from 1st July, 1950, to 30th June, 1951, Commonwealth of Australia, 1951.

in which case the indigenous inhabitants continued to own the land but sold the rights to fell timber on it.

6. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether there were any organ composed of indigenous inhabitants with enough education to understand the processes in the alienation of land and to have some voice in the matter, since it was obvious that the average indigenous inhabitant of such a backward territory as New Guinea could not be expected to understand the complicated procedure the special representative had described. In the absence of such organ, was there any European organ which systematically reviewed acts of alienation, and had there been any unfortunate occurrences or abuses in that connexion in the course of the history of the Trust Territory?

7. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that there was no indigenous organ concerned with land alienation and that the Land Board to which he had referred was composed of Europeans.

8. The indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory were indeed very backward people and the Administering Authority clearly recognized its duty to ensure their advancement. In the matter of the sale of land, the Administration was careful to protect the interests of the indigenous inhabitants by decreeing that they could not sell land to anyone who cared to purchase it but that land could be sold only to the Administration. Thus the interests of the indigenous inhabitants were safeguarded and they were protected against themselves should they think of disposing of land the loss of which would be detrimental to them.

9. With regard to the question of abuses, it was the duty of the Administration officers to keep the land situation throughout the Territory in constant review. Indeed, the Administration, having noted that in certain areas too much land had been bought previously from the indigenous inhabitants and leased to Europeans, had purchased areas totalling some 26,611 acres back from the people who had acquired them and had reserved them, under the trusteeship of the Director of District Services and Native Affairs, for the use of the indigenous inhabitants.

10. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the special representative could submit to the Council specimen documents showing the whole process of land alienation, together with all the documents concerning the alienation of land during the year under review, giving all details such as the number of indigenous inhabitants involved, whether their consent was given orally or in writing etc.

11. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that he could not produce the documents in question at once but that he hoped it would be possible to supply something of that nature in the next report.

12. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the statement on page 30 of the annual report to the effect that government policy was to encourage development of private enterprise, in so far as the rights and interests of the indigenous inhabitants were respected and safeguarded, asked who established those rights and interests and how they

were protected. With regard to gold mining, for instance, he would like to know who owned the land where gold was at present being mined, how that land had been obtained from the indigenous inhabitants, what percentage of the profits from gold mining went to the indigenous inhabitants who owned or had owned the land, and what benefit the Trust Territory as a whole received.

13. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stressed that the land, like all the land in the Territory, belonged to the indigenous inhabitants. It had been purchased from them by the Administration, and, in the case of mining land, made available under the provisions of the Mining Ordinance. Once they had sold the land, the indigenous inhabitants received no further profit from it. The Administration of the Territory benefited from the mining industry through both indirect taxation and the royalty paid on the gold exported from the Territory.

14. With regard to the establishment and protection of the rights and interests of the indigenous inhabitants, that was the responsibility of the territorial Administration. In examining any project for development in the Territory, the Administration invariably considered whether or not it would be more in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants to work for themselves before it granted the required authority.

15. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether there was any organ composed of indigenous inhabitants to control the sale of land upon which gold was mined or the distribution of profits among the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory.

16. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that there was no such body, although, as he had pointed out earlier, the consent of the indigenous owners was required before land of any description was purchased.

17. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) supplemented the special representative's reply by pointing out that the very reason for New Guinea's being a Trust Territory was that the indigenous inhabitants were not yet sufficiently advanced to handle such matters as land alienation and the distribution of profits. The United Nations had conferred upon Australia the right and responsibility to perform those functions as the trustee in the interests of all the inhabitants of the Territory.

18. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) retorted that, in accepting the administration of the Trust Territory, Australia had assumed the obligation to promote the advancement of the indigenous inhabitants and had not been instructed to keep them permanently in their backward condition. Yet during the five years of its trusteeship, Australia had not trained a single indigenous inhabitant to participate in the economic affairs of the Territory. The Australian representative's argument was not in any way convincing.

19. Continuing his questions, he asked whether any indigenous inhabitants had seats upon the Production Control Board, which dealt with the marketing of New Guinea's most important product, copra, or whether they had any part whatsoever in the work of the Board.

20. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the indigenous inhabitants were not directly represented on the Board but the government officials on the Board were their indirect representatives.
21. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the indigenous inhabitants who were copra producers had any voice in the establishment of the price paid for copra.
22. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that the price of copra was determined by negotiation between the Commonwealth Government and the United Kingdom Ministry of Food. Under the nine-year agreement entered into in 1949, the f.o.b. price of copra at Territory ports was established. The price paid to the producer, which consisted of that price less handling costs and other charges, was determined by the Minister for Territories in consultation with the Production Control Board.
23. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what was the relation between the price paid to the producers and the world price of copra. He was in possession of a somewhat authoritative statement to the effect that the price of copra in New Guinea was some £20 to £30 lower than prices paid on the world market.
24. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that for some time there had been no such thing as a world price, since prices had varied according to different countries and conditions of sale. Generally speaking, prices paid had been somewhat in advance of the New Guinea price during 1949, 1950 and 1951, but the latter had been rising each year and was now in advance of the general price, which had dropped considerably during the past few months. The advantage of the fact that New Guinea copra was sold under contract was that it afforded stability over a long period.
25. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what assistance the Administering Authority was giving the indigenous inhabitants in agriculture.
26. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the Administration was assisting and encouraging the development by the indigenous inhabitants of crops other than the subsistence crops which they had been cultivating for centuries. With the assistance of the Administration, they were now growing copra, cocoa and coffee, and there was yet another new enterprise in the Central Highlands, where the inhabitants were growing European vegetables to be flown to such places as Port Moresby, Madang and Lae, where they had a ready market.
27. Upon Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asking how many indigenous inhabitants were engaged in the production of those crops, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that he would endeavour to obtain the figures. If he could not produce them at the present session, he would ask to have that information included in the next report.
28. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how much and what type of agricultural machinery had been introduced into the Territory in the year under review, how much had been for the indigenous inhabitants and how much for the Europeans.
29. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that the total figure of agricultural machinery imported during the year would appear in the table of imports in appendix VI to the report. He had no detailed list, nor could he say how it had been distributed; he could only state that some small portion of it would undoubtedly have gone to the indigenous inhabitants.
30. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what kind of agricultural implements were used by the indigenous inhabitants, and what draught animals they used.
31. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the indigenous inhabitants used a certain amount of agricultural machinery of various kinds. They also used horses and mules to a small extent in agriculture. Their own primitive implements were wooden digging-sticks—large straight sticks shaped somewhat like an oar—but even those who possessed no machinery had now advanced to the stage of using metal spades, hoes, machetes and picks.
32. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how much land belonged to European gold-mining companies, how many such companies there were, and what were their names and the amount of their capital and profits.
33. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) was unable to furnish the information immediately but would ask that it should be included in the following year's report.
34. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) hoped that it would be possible to obtain those data during the current session.
35. He referred to the statement on page 47 of the report that "Generally, mining by native people is done on a co-operative system", and asked for details on the subject of the co-operatives.
36. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that although the indigenous inhabitants worked the gold in communities, they had not set up formal and registered co-operative societies.
37. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Exclusive Prospecting Licences referred to on page 47 of the report had undoubtedly been granted to Europeans, although he was unable to give their names.
38. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) recalled that the previous year's report² had stated that efforts were being made to establish an adequate rural credit system in New Guinea—a statement which had been warmly welcomed by the Trusteeship Council—and asked what progress had been made in that respect.
39. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the question of establishing

² See *Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of New Guinea from 1st July, 1949, to 30th June, 1950*, Commonwealth of Australia.

a special rural credit system for the indigenous population had been the subject of a recent inquiry by an economist of the Department of Territories and an officer of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. They had recently returned from the Territory and their recommendations were not yet available. The credit facilities referred to in the second paragraph of section 15, on page 32 of the annual report, were available to all inhabitants of the Territory, indigenous and non-indigenous.

40. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) asked whether the Native Land Commission mentioned on page 37 of the report had yet been established.

41. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the legislation enabling the Land Commission to be set up had been passed by the Legislative Council at its session ended 26 February. Applications had then been invited for the post of Native Land Commissioner, and when he had been selected the Commission would be set up.

42. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) emphasized his delegation's earnest hope that the Native Land Commission would be established as early as possible.

43. He asked whether the Commission's sole function would be to establish the rights of the indigenous inhabitants to their lands, or whether it would also have the task of elucidating the question of the ownership of the land as between the indigenous inhabitants and the foreigners or Europeans residing in the Territory.

44. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the purpose of the Native Land Registration Ordinance, 1951, was to ascertain and cause to be registered information as to the indigenous ownership of land in the Territory. It would in no way modify the established principle, which he had already explained in reply to earlier questions, that all the land in the Territory belonged to the indigenous inhabitants, but it would rectify the existing situation in which there were no documents to identify land sold by indigenous inhabitants. Furthermore, it might be discovered that land which had no direct individual or communal owner was not being put to the best use. There was a procedure under the Ordinance for dealing with such land.

45. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) asked whether there would be any indigenous members on the Native Land Commission.

46. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that although the terms of the Ordinance did not preclude the appointment of an indigenous inhabitant, he felt certain that no indigenous inhabitant capable of acting as a member of the Commission would be available at the present time.

47. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked the special representative to amplify his remarks in his opening statement (394th meeting) with regard to the implementation of the Council's recommendation that corporal punishment should be abolished in the Trust Territories.

48. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that the relevant amendments to the Criminal Code consisted chiefly of the deletion

of the words "with or without a whipping" from various sections.

49. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) drew attention to the reference on page 58 of the report to the inauguration of a medical training course and the further reference in the following paragraph to "various medical schools". He asked what training was given in the existing medical schools.

50. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the training in those schools was less advanced than that to be given in the new course; it was a general training which fitted the students to become medical assistants. Besides the lectures there was practical training in the hospitals to which the schools were attached.

51. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked whether any investigation had been made into the causes of the depopulation in New Ireland referred to on page 63 of the report. The phenomenon had appeared in other parts of the world and a study of the subject might be valuable.

52. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that a joint inquiry was to be carried out under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission and the Administration of the Territory. Officers of the Territory were at present in the area making a preliminary survey. The inquiry would probably take two or three years.

53. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) asked whether the deletion of the words "with or without a whipping" from sections of the Criminal Code meant the complete and final abolition of corporal punishment in the Trust Territory.

54. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that whipping would be retained only as a punishment for offences by juveniles, sexual offences against females, certain offences of violence and prison offences. The abolition, however, applied to a very considerable number of offences.

55. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) hoped that in view of the desire of the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council that corporal punishment in the Trust Territories should be entirely abolished, the Administering Authority would give further consideration to the matter.

56. He asked whether the principle of equal pay for equal work was invariably put into practice. The table on page 126 of the report appeared to show that there was still some discrimination between the sexes.

57. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) pointed out that to prove that there was discrimination between the sexes it must be shown that the work they performed was identical.

58. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) asked for further information concerning the abolition of discriminatory laws and practices.

59. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the Administration of the Territory was reviewing the laws so as to be able to furnish the Council with observations with regard to

its recommendation on the subject of discriminatory laws and practices (A/1856, p. 255).

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and was resumed at 4.25 p.m.

60. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) asked what was the difference between the former indentured labour system, which the special representative had said had been abolished, and the new system of contracts in accordance with the Native Labour Ordinance, 1950.

61. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that under the former system sentences of imprisonment could be imposed for breaches of the Ordinance such as desertion, absence from work or failure to carry out duties properly. By the 1945 Ordinance penal sanctions had been abolished and replaced by money penalties. The 1950 Ordinance had abolished the contract, which had been replaced by a civil agreement to which the only penalty attached was the normal civil remedy for breach of contract.

62. In reply to Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) who asked what action the Administering Authority was taking or contemplated taking to meet the difficult health problem created by the opening of the Central Highlands District, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that there were two aspects to that problem: first, there was the health of the people in the area itself; where there had been epidemics of whooping cough, pneumonia and malaria. Such epidemics were dealt with through the hospitals and by the medical patrols. Secondly, there was the danger of tuberculosis to the indigenous inhabitants who left the Central Highlands to work in the coastal areas. Special measures such as B.C.G. vaccination had been taken to safeguard the indigenous inhabitants from tuberculosis and they were under special observation during the period they were away from the Central Highlands. Some of the indigenous inhabitants had completed their periods of engagement in other parts of the Territory and had returned to their own areas in the Central Highlands; they were kept under medical observation at Goroka hospital for some weeks after their return to see whether additional treatment was necessary. Generally speaking, the health of the workers returning to the Highlands had not been impaired by their service in other areas.

63. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) drew attention to the reduction in the number of medical officers and medical assistants, through resignation, mentioned on page 55 of the report. Had the reduction been made good and what steps were being taken to increase the number of medical officers?

64. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that since the report had been prepared a number of appointments had been made in accordance with the normal procedure for filling any vacancies in the classified service of the Territory; the approved number of medical officers and medical assistants was shown in appendix II to the report.

65. The resignations of medical officers could partly be explained by the fact that approximately 35 European displaced persons had been appointed as medical

officers about two years previously; they had now completed their term of office and it was quite possible that some of them did not wish to remain for a further term. New medical officers were being sought from the same source of supply.

66. The experiment of using European displaced persons in the medical service had been most effective. The medical officers in question were performing excellent service in many parts of the Territory and some of them were doing outstanding specialist work.

67. In reply to questions by Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq), Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that the immigration policy in New Guinea was set out in the Immigration Ordinance of the Territory. Persons wishing to enter the Territory must have an entry permit or other similar travel document.

68. He would try to ascertain the number of persons who had been refused entry during the past year, the grounds on which entry had been refused and the nationality of the persons involved.

69. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) recalled that, at its seventh session, the Trusteeship Council had learned that one of the grounds for refusing entry was failure to pass a dictation test in any language. He asked whether that provision was still in force and whether any applicant had been deliberately tested, as a means of keeping him out of the Trust Territory, with a language which he was certain not to know.

70. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the provision was still in force; any language could be used, but he knew of no case in which a dictation test had been applied during the year under review.

71. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) expressed surprise at the comparatively large number of breaches of the Native Labour Ordinance by employers compared to breaches by workers. He wondered how many of the employers were Europeans.

72. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that the Native labour inspectors made a close inspection to see that employers committed no breach of the regulations, no matter how small; all employers committing breaches were brought to court. The majority of the employers would be Europeans, but there would undoubtedly be some indigenous inhabitants among them.

73. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) drew attention to the large number of cases in which Europeans had been charged with breaches of the Native Labour Ordinance described as "inflicting corporal chastisement" (annual report, p. 101) and asked whether that indicated that employers were in the habit of beating or kicking their workmen.

74. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that he could say generally that they were not. Any case of corporal chastisement which was brought to light was immediately brought before the court and the proper punishment inflicted.

75. In reply to questions by M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand) for further information regarding the co-operative schools referred to on page 54 of the report, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representa-

tive for New Guinea) explained that there were two schools for the purpose of training indigenous inhabitants in co-operative procedure, one at Kavieng in New Ireland, and the other at Sohano in the Bougainville district. The schools were erected by the indigenous people themselves and trained 120 pupils each year. The students had received some education in the ordinary schools in the Territory and were given further advanced education to enable them to operate a co-operative society and keep the necessary books relating to all aspects of commercial trading. The teaching staff were trained co-operative officials. They were European officers of the Administration with experience in Native administration and specialized training in the co-operative movement. Two or three of them, accompanied by some indigenous inhabitants employed by the co-operatives, had toured co-operative societies in Queensland and New South Wales and some officers from the co-operative organization of New South Wales had assisted in laying the foundation of the co-operative movement in the Territory.

76. In reply to a question by Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand), Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that the broadcasting station at Port Moresby transmitted a regular broadcast in the various dialects and in Pidgin English. Receiving sets had been provided for certain people in the Territory, and particularly the schools. Furthermore, the Legislative Council had made provision in the budget for £10,000 for the purchase of radio sets by the Administration; some of those sets would be issued to community centres and schools, but most of them would be sold to the indigenous inhabitants for £22 or £23.

77. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) asked what measures the Administration was taking to train indigenous nurses, particularly female nurses.

78. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that a number of indigenous women—six at Rabaul, for example—received training and experience while working on the staff of the various hospitals in the Territory. He drew attention to page 61 of the report, which stated that the training of indigenous nurses was of a practical nature; the women learned very readily by observation and it took very little time to teach them personal hygiene, the setting of trays, the sterilization and use of dressings and the weighing of babies. At Rabaul a great deal of midwifery was carried out in the indigenous hospital—the first example of a midwifery hospital purely for indigenous people—and indigenous trainee nurses were helping the doctors and European nurses.

79. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would appreciate some information about the economic and social conditions of small, medium and large-sized families as revealed by the census referred to by the special representative for New Guinea at the eighth session (338th meeting) of the Trusteeship Council.

80. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) pointed out that the way of life of the indigenous inhabitants varied considerably from one part of the Territory to another, from a wholly primitive life in the Chimbu district, for example, to a

more advanced economic life round Rabaul, where the people had been in close touch with Europeans for years; the way of life did not vary much from one family to another within a given area.

81. When Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pressed for further information, for example the income of typical small, medium and large-sized families in the Rabaul area and the Chimbu district, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that a great deal more information about the families concerned would be needed before that question could be answered. A general indication of wages in the various industries was contained in appendix X to the report; it should be emphasized, however, that people in the Chimbu area, for example, had very little need of money, which therefore provided no criterion of their standard of living. No formal statistics about the standard of living of the indigenous inhabitants were collected, since there were no statistics comparable to the statistics from other countries where the standard of living could be expressed in monetary terms. On page 50 of the report, some classification of the indigenous inhabitants into categories of workers would be found and a further distinction could be drawn between certain areas using Western money, native shell money, or barter; further than that it was not possible to go. The census merely noted the number, age and status of the people.

82. In reply to a question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) stated that there was no complete register of births and deaths of the indigenous inhabitants, though the registration of births and deaths was compulsory for the European community. The census was a continuing one, taken by the patrol officers who recorded births and deaths in the villages they visited, as far as possible. Eventually, the task of recording births and deaths would be given to the village councils.

83. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) having requested an explanation of the statement on page 48 of the report that there were no restrictions on the movement of population generally within the Territory and the seemingly contradictory fact that a curfew was imposed on the indigenous population from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) drew attention to the use of the word "generally". Restrictions of the nature referred to by the USSR representative had existed, but they had been modified in an amending regulation of 28 September 1950. The towns and hours to which the curfew applied were to be determined by the Director of District Service and Native Affairs and published in the gazette; any town or part of a town could be excluded by notice in the gazette.

84. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), who considered that both the original and amended regulations were undesirable, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he would attempt to obtain from the gazette the names of any districts or towns excluded from the amended regulation.

85. In reply to a number of questions by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) relating to the exact financial significance of the footnote on page 126 of the report, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for the New Guinea) said that he estimated that the minimum cost to an employer of maintaining a worker would be approximately £100 a year; the maximum cost would be approximately £250 a year. Those figures, which, like all the figures in the report, were given in Australian pounds, included the employee's wages and the rations the employer was required to provide. If the wife and family of a worker accompanied him to his place of employment, the cost to the employer would naturally be higher, since the latter would then be required to provide rations and clothing for the wife and children, too.

86. When Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the report contained no data regarding the number of families who accompanied the workers, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the majority of workers lived without their families.

87. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) having asked for an explanation of the fact that there were separate hospitals in the Trust Territory for Europeans, Asians and indigenous inhabitants, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that that system had been found an effective way of dealing with conditions in the Territory to the satisfaction of all concerned, including the indigenous inhabitants.

88. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the records of the eighth session of the Council at which he had quoted a number of statements from the Australian Press referring to the very bad conditions in the hospitals for the indigenous inhabitants of Papua and New Guinea. The indigenous hospitals should be on the same level as the hospitals for Europeans.

89. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that, to the best of his recollection, the Press reports referred to by the USSR representative had related to a European hospital in the Territory.

90. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for information regarding the total number of beds provided for Europeans, Asians and indigenous inhabitants.

91. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he would endeavour to obtain that information.

92. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) having asked the reasons for the extremely high infant mortality rate shown on pages 63 to 65 of the report, Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the reasons for the high

infant mortality rate on Manus Island were stated in the report. A special survey of the Western Islands had been made and the Administering Authority was attempting to arrest depopulation in that area not only by medical but also by social and economic means. The reason for the depopulation could not be clearly stated. In New Ireland, too, the causes of the severe depopulation were not known, though there again it coincided with a heavy rate of infant mortality. In both cases special measures were being taken, the preliminary results of which were recorded on pages 63 to 65 of the report. Generally speaking, the physical condition of the people had improved; there had been increased activity in the control of mosquitoes and supervision of sanitary and hygiene conditions, and the people had shown themselves very ready to accept any advice on increased planting for nutrition and increased village sanitation.

93. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) considered that the special representative's reply was much too general.

94. Turning to the reduction in the number of medical officers in the Trust Territory, he stated that the Administration should have foreseen the resignations which had occurred and have taken measures to obtain replacements. In any case, the number of medical officers in the Territory was insufficient. The health situation in the Trust Territory was extremely bad, only 60 per cent of the indigenous inhabitants living long enough to reach maturity. What special measures had been taken to meet that situation and what had the Administering Authority done to train indigenous medical officers?

95. Mr. HALLIGAN (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the special surveys to which he had referred had been taken with a view to ascertaining the situation and taking special measures to remedy it. He did not see how anyone could foresee resignations. Approximately two years previously a number of qualified medical personnel from European countries had been appointed for a period of two years. That period had expired and some of the people concerned did not wish to be reappointed. Other people were being appointed to bring the number of medical officers in the Territory up to the number considered necessary to carry out the task.

96. The total number of indigenous inhabitants employed as medical assistants and medical orderlies was given on page 142 of the report. Special arrangements were made with the various hospitals for training such assistants while they worked. Additional training would be given in the central school to be organized as soon as a director was appointed. Apart from the assistants receiving training in the course of their work, eighty-eight trainees were receiving specialized, full-time training.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.