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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 the Pacific Island for the year ended 30 June 1951 (T/950) (continued)**

[Agenda item 3(d)]

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Thomas, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, took a place at the Council table.*

1. The PRESIDENT proposed that the representatives of Belgium, Iraq, New Zealand and the Dominican Republic should be appointed members of the drafting committee to prepare the Council's report on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

*The proposal was adopted without opposition.*

2. The PRESIDENT invited Council members to continue their questions to the special representative on that part of the annual report<sup>1</sup> which concerned economic advancement.

3. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired if the Administering Authority was planning to discontinue the head tax and establish a tax based on the ability of the indigenous inhabitants to pay.

4. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the

head tax had been established by the indigenous inhabitants themselves, who liked that type of taxation. The proceeds were used solely for their benefit. An income tax would not appear to be suited to a Territory which had no money economy. However, the Marshallese Congress had recently recommended the consideration of a 1 per cent income tax.

5. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that the head tax was inequitable and asked what action the Administering Authority proposed to take on the recommendation by the Marshallese Congress.

6. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the Administering Authority was considering the question.

7. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the Administering Authority to keep the Council informed on that particular question.

8. He then asked how the profits of the Island Trading Company were used for the Territory's economic development.

9. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) explained that the Island Trading Company had allocated a total sum of \$250,000 to the economic development of the Territory, \$150,000 of which was reserved for shipping and the rest for the development of agricultural production and public works. Allotments and expenditures in addition to the sum for shipping were \$50,000 for cacao development; \$7,000 for poultry-raising; \$5,750 for coffee production; \$3,000 for a marine railway at Truk; \$3,000 for a fishing sampan at Tinian; \$1,500 for coir fibre production; \$1,000 for ramie production; \$200 for bee-keeping; \$4,500 for copra-drying at Ponape and \$15,000 for rehabilitation of typhoon damage.

10. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how the inhabitants shared in the distribution of the sums set aside for the Economic Development Fund.

11. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the inhabitants made their wishes known to the district officials. There were no indigenous members of the board administering the fund, but its management had not given rise to any complaints.

<sup>1</sup> See Report on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the period July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1951, transmitted by the United States to the United Nations, pursuant to Article 88 of the Charter of the United Nations, Department of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 1951 (OPNAV P22-100-M).

12. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the funds for administrative expenses figured in the budget of the Department of the Navy.

13. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) explained that the money was now administered from the Department of the Interior.

14. He then replied to several questions asked at previous meetings. He corrected a reply he had made to the representative of the Dominican Republic (403rd meeting), explaining that indigenous inhabitants could be members of the District Court and the Court of Appeals and that an indigenous assessor usually sat with each court in an advisory capacity on matters of local law and custom. The reason that no indigenous inhabitant had been appointed to the District Court or the Court of Appeals was undoubtedly that there was no one sufficiently qualified in law to discharge such responsibilities at the present time.

15. In reply to a question asked by the representative of Thailand at the 403rd meeting, he said that each district administrator had under him several indigenous inhabitants as assistants. There were about sixty such employees in the Territory. They received salaries ranging from \$37.50 to well over \$100 a month; they were additional to indigenous educational superintendents and other professionally trained people and were being trained for more responsible jobs with the central administration or the local governments.

16. Lastly, in reply to a question from the representative of the Soviet Union (404th meeting), he gave detailed figures for the number of indigenous pupils who had attended secondary and higher schools inside and outside the Territory between 1948 and 1951. The total number had risen from 107 in 1948 to 197 in 1951, excluding the thirty nurses graduated from the nurses' training school at Guam.

17. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) asked whether there were many roads in the Territory like those which had been seen in the film shown to the Council.

18. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that paved roads had been constructed at only a few places in the Territory. Owing to the climate, road maintenance was difficult.

19. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) requested that future annual reports should contain information on the extent of the road network.

20. The PRESIDENT invited Council members to ask the special representative questions relating to social advancement in the Territory.

21. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) wondered whether the Administering Authority envisaged the mass return of the former Japanese residents of the Territory.

22. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that in order to protect the indigenous inhabitants against the loss of their lands and their natural resources and to promote their advancement in accordance with the objectives of the Trusteeship System, the Administering Authority's policy did not contemplate any large-scale immigration from any source into the Territory.

23. In reply to a further question by Mr. RYCKMANS, Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) explained that the Administration procured labour through the chiefs, who were the most readily available and efficient medium for communicating with the people. No use of coercion had come to his attention.

24. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked whether there were any medical practitioners in the Territory not employed by the Administration, who might perhaps form the nucleus of a profession.

25. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the inhabitants were too poor to consult private doctors, but he called attention to one practising physician in the Territory. He also referred to the plan for training medical personnel and said he thought the Administration was taking care of the medical needs of the population very well.

26. In reply to Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand), Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the Japanese Government had not expressed any opinion concerning the immigration of Japanese nationals into the Territory, that no island had been set aside for that purpose and that the question of Japanese immigration had not been studied by the Administering Authority. The passage taken from page 49 of the report related to a petition in one particular case; the Japanese at Angaur were labourers employed under contract and would not stay there permanently.

27. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) said the report mentioned trading companies formed with indigenous capital; he asked whether the Administering Authority was considering the formation of genuine co-operatives.

28. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that there had only been some discussion of co-operative ideas. The companies in question were wholly indigenous and very small but they were not true co-operatives; rather, they were joint-stock co-operative organizations.

29. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) wished to know what the results of the nutritional survey had been.

30. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the samples which had been taken were being studied in the laboratory and that the results would probably be known in the forthcoming year.

31. In reply to a further question by Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand), Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that it was his opinion that filariasis did not appear to be so serious in the Territory as in neighbouring regions. The greatest trouble was tuberculosis. Leprosy was being treated with the most modern methods.

32. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what were the modern scientific facilities referred to on page 47 of the report.

33. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the

Administration included highly qualified anthropologists, lawyers, doctors and dentists.

34. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that facilities of that kind did not justify the use of the general terms employed in the report.

35. He then asked for further particulars about what had become of the inhabitants evacuated from Bikini and Eniwetok.

36. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the 150-odd indigenous inhabitants who had been transferred from Eniwetok were satisfied with their environment. Out of 200 Bikini islanders evacuated to Kili, 174 were left; they missed their former island.

37. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked, first, what had become of the twenty-six persons evacuated from Bikini who were not now on Kili, and, secondly, what the Administering Authority was doing to help the inhabitants of Kili.

38. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) answered that a number of persons had emigrated of their own accord; the Administering Authority could account for them all. It was doing everything possible to assist the inhabitants of Kili and hoped ultimately to solve that problem to the satisfaction of the people.

39. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he would refer to the matter again when the Council's report was being drafted. He asked how it was that expenditure on public health had decreased by \$16,417 between 1949 and 1951, according to the table on page 89 of the report.

40. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) explained that in 1949 the hospital ship USS *Whidbey* had been equipped with X-ray material and the Tinian hospital built.

41. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that, according to statements on page 57 of the report, the USS *Whidbey* had begun its medical survey in the Territory in 1947, not 1949.

42. He asked what measures the Administering Authority intended to take to improve the standard of health in the Territory.

43. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) stated that the Administering Authority was at present making arrangements to install X-ray equipment and other scientific instruments in another ship.

44. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired what the Administering Authority intended to do to lower the high mortality rate due to tuberculosis and other diseases, and how many leprosaria and dispensaries there were in the Territory.

45. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that there was a tuberculosis hospital in each of the six districts, but that some patients were transferred to the hospital at Guam. The Administering Authority had engaged a Chinese doctor who was an eminent specialist in tuberculosis. There was an adequate leprosarium in the Territory.

46. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what steps the Administering Authority had taken to provide medical training for the indigenous inhabitants.

47. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) stated that one indigenous inhabitant had completed his medical training after having studied on Guam and the Fiji Central Training School. In addition, approximately fifty were at present taking medical and dental courses at the school at Fiji.

*Mr. Khalidy (Iraq), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

48. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) stated that there were 105 lepers in the Territory, who were either isolated and cared for in the hospital or had been sent home because their disease was considered arrested.

49. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) requested further information on the application of conventions of the International Labour Organisation in the Territory.

50. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the Administering Authority took note of such conventions, the texts of which were transmitted to it, but that for the moment there did not seem to be any which would have application in the Territory.

51. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) pointed out that much valuable information must have been collected during the USS *Whidbey's* medical survey, and asked the special representative whether the results would be published and be available to administrations of other South Pacific territories.

*Sir Alan Burns (United Kingdom) resumed the Chair.*

52. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that when the reports were completed they would surely be made accessible to the world at large.

53. In reply to a further question by Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) concerning the current survey of filariasis in the Truk district, Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that the information was being co-ordinated with the Pacific Science Board and would be published. Various groups were contributing to the investigation and the results would not be ready for publication for some time.

54. The PRESIDENT invited Council members to ask the special representative questions on the part of the annual report dealing with educational advancement in the Territory.

55. Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand) referred to pages 68 and 69 of the report and noted with satisfaction the progress made in the training of doctors, dentists and male nurses; he wished to know whether any indigenous inhabitants were studying law or business outside the Territory.

56. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that as yet no indigenous inhabitants were taking courses

in law or business. In general, moreover, indigenous inhabitants studying outside the Territory had to make a great effort to adjust themselves; accordingly the Administering Authority was proceeding carefully in that respect.

57. Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand) thought that for a long time yet indigenous inhabitants would have to pursue their further and higher studies outside the Territory. Accordingly, perhaps the Administering Authority might consider the possibility of granting a number of scholarships annually and training students for certain professions which they could exercise later in the Territory, on completion of their studies. His own Government had begun by granting two scholarships annually, and hundreds of Thai students now completed their studies abroad. Such training was in fact an essential prerequisite for the sound operation of a modern administration.

58. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that, very soon after taking up his duties as High Commissioner in the Territory, he had established a fund for the provision of scholarships; to date, about \$2,000 had been expended in that way and the fund now stood at about \$400. In addition, the Island Trading Company had established one scholarship, but so far there had been no student suitably equipped to receive it.

59. A number of indigenous students were taking courses at Hawaii and showed great zeal and enthusiasm. Another student, in spite of great adjustment difficulties, was doing his best to follow a course in engineering, undertaken in the United States at his own expense.

60. As soon as indigenous inhabitants acquired the necessary standard of education they would certainly be able to study medicine or law in institutions of higher education. The Administering Authority, moreover, was trying to lay a foundation for higher education outside the Territory.

61. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) referred to page 67 of the annual report and noted that 90 per cent of the children of school age attended school. He was surprised, however, at the discrepancy between the number of boys and girls registered as attending, and asked how many children of school age there were in each age group.

62. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said he would endeavour to give the Council that information.

63. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) noted from page 70 of the report that the non-indigenous teaching staff included a number of women teachers attached to the Navy; he asked whether they had been replaced since the Department of the Interior had assumed administrative responsibility.

64. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that, in general, those teachers had been replaced but that a number had remained under the new administration. The plan for replacing United States teaching staff had not yet been worked out.

65. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), referring to page 72 of the report, noted that the establishment of

private schools was not prohibited but that they must conform to certain attendance requirements and educational standards. He wished to know whether schools which did not conform were allowed to continue.

66. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that it was certainly not the intention of the Administering Authority to close any school. The main purpose of the requirements in question was to ensure a satisfactory educational standard in private schools; accordingly, a private school did not receive a certificate of credit unless those standards were attained. The system was, moreover, identical to that in force in the United States.

67. Answering Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand), who asked at what age children entered school, Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that some children went to school before the age of eight; on the other hand, many adults continued to attend the intermediate schools. Generally speaking, the indigenous inhabitants were very keen to learn.

68. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) asked whether the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School, mentioned on page 64 of the report, was still a teacher-training school in the strict sense of the word or whether, as the special representative had implied, was more exactly a secondary school, now called the Pacific Islands Central School.

69. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said it was not a secondary school in the sense in which the term was employed in the United States, but more correctly something between a secondary and a teacher-training school; among other work, it trained police constables for the Territory and students preparing to take courses on Fiji and Guam. It was also the only establishment where students from all parts of the Territory could be brought together.

70. Mr. PIGNON (France), noting that elementary school teachers were paid by the indigenous communities, suggested that perhaps the Administering Authority might play a greater part in the selection of teachers and help to raise the standard of their qualifications, for instance, by increasing the grants to villages.

71. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said that hitherto all available teachers had been used, regardless of the standard of their qualifications; it would still take a few years before a higher standard could be demanded of teachers.

72. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked if the indigenous inhabitants took part in the selection of scholarship students and whether pupils of mission schools could win scholarships.

73. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that the scholarships for the intermediary schools were generally awarded by the teachers and inspectors of those schools, who were practically all indigenous inhabitants.

74. Mr. PIGNON (France) inquired if any indigenous inhabitants were collaborating with the United

States scientists in the archaeological, ethnological and other research work referred to on page 74 of the annual report.

75. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) did not think that any indigenous inhabitants had taken part in the research work; he doubted whether they would have any knowledge of those subjects.

76. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) asked whether each of the ninety-seven inhabited islands of the Territory had a school.

77. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) said he would endeavour to give the Council that information; he thought there was a school on each island.

78. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) noted, from page 67 of the annual report, that the school programme included the teaching of citizenship. In addition, the curricula of the various stages of education, as set forth on pages 62-66, seemed to indicate that it was the Administration's policy to teach citizenship but not to give special courses in administration. Apparently the Administering Authority took the view that courses in citizenship were a sufficient basis and that future officials could acquire experience in administration through practice.

79. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) confirmed that the Australian representative had gathered the correct impression. As an example he cited officials of the police and health services who had not taken courses in administration, but who, through carrying out their duties and coming into contact with other officials, were gradually acquiring administrative experience and developing a democratic attitude.

80. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why teaching in the vernacular stopped at the third grade, when the children reached the age of twelve. He had in mind the detailed curricula shown on pages 62 and 63 of the report.

81. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) explained that the vernacular was still taught after the third grade, but that the teaching of English began in that grade. After reaching secondary-school age, students were taught in English by English-speaking teachers because the different parts of the Territory had no common language and the vernacular was inadequate to teach advanced subjects.

82. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wanted to know whether there was a mistake in the annual report or whether the information to which he had drawn attention indicated a lack of consideration for the local languages.

83. Any linguistic difficulties in secondary or intermediate education could certainly be overcome, as there were only eight distinct dialects in the Territory. The culture of the Territory's population deserved as much consideration as that of any other people. He wished to know what the Administration's plans were with regard to teaching the vernacular.

84. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that

an expert was now studying the question; it was also planned to compile a dictionary arranged in a simple form.

85. In any case, the Administering Authority was very careful to respect indigenous customs and culture; that was the main reason why only indigenous teachers were employed in the primary schools.

86. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the Administering Authority had any intention of altering the curriculum in all grades in order to provide for the teaching of the vernacular.

87. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that the indigenous dialects had a limited vocabulary which was adequate in the lower grades, but was not sufficient later on.

88. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) regretted that the answer to his question had not been in the affirmative.

89. Turning to another subject, he noted that according to the annual report a large number of the Territory's population were literate. He wished to know precisely what the Administering Authority meant by the word "literate".

90. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that in his opinion it meant all those who could read and write any language whatsoever. The number of illiterates was decreasing rapidly and the younger generation was eager to learn English. Some indigenous inhabitants still knew a little German, Japanese and Spanish.

91. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for an explanation of the considerable difference between the salaries of American teachers and those of indigenous teachers.

92. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that the American teachers seconded to the Territory were paid in accordance with the United States civil service salary scale.

93. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether there were any foreign teachers in the Territory apart from the American teachers, and if so, whether they were paid on the same scale as the American teachers.

94. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) replied that one of the teachers in the Territory came from Guam and received the same salary as American teachers. There were teachers of other nationalities, in particular Germans and Spaniards, in private schools, but the Administering Authority did not know what their salaries were.

*The meeting was suspended at 4.20 p.m. and was resumed at 4.45 p.m.*

95. Mr. S. S. LIU (China), referring to the observations of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (T/962) on educational advancement in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, asked how the special representative explained the

recession of enrolment in public schools and the corresponding growth of enrolment in mission schools.

96. Mr. THOMAS (Special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) thought the explanation lay in the steady increase in the number of missionaries, which had led to the expansion of mission schools.

97. The PRESIDENT opened the general debate on the annual report.

98. Mr. HENRIQUEZ UREÑA (Dominican Republic) noted, with reference to political advancement, that in the course of the past three years a steadily growing number of municipalities had chosen their officials by democratic elections; in fact, in the Marshall Islands all local officials had been so chosen. In other municipalities various methods had been used, but in most cases the officials had been elected.

99. He noted with satisfaction that the Administering Authority was using all the means at its command to do away with the hereditary system and to replace it by a democratic one. Thus, representative organs would be set up first in all municipalities, then on the regional scale, and finally on the national scale.

100. Of the regional representative organs, the Palau Congress, the Marshallese Congress and the Provisional Ponape Congress, set up in 1951, deserved special mention. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authority would continue to encourage the establishment of regional representative organs.

101. Furthermore, indigenous inhabitants played an important part in the judicial system; it was rather surprising, however, that no indigenous inhabitants served in the District Court or the Court of Appeals, save as assessors. The Council might recommend to the Administering Authority that it should permit indigenous judges to sit in those courts.

102. In the economic field, he warned against the danger of basing the Territory's economy on a single crop, copra, as monoculture was bound to offer drawbacks. Crops should be diversified as far as possible, and the cultivation of coffee, tobacco and sugar should be particularly encouraged in order to reduce the imports of those commodities. The Territory's economic advancement also called for the development of a merchant marine and in particular for the construction of small craft; efforts in that direction had already been made in the Marshall Islands.

103. In the social field, the problems were limited, because the Territory consisted of a large number of small islands and was sparsely populated. The Administering Authority had introduced a number of useful measures, but it was to be hoped that it would increase its efforts to check such diseases as tuberculosis, leprosy and filariasis.

104. Lastly, with regard to education, it was encouraging to learn that 90 per cent of the children of school age attended schools. He was also interested to note the establishment of intermediate and teacher-training schools as well as of a school of communications, and the introduction of general secondary education. He thought that graduates of the Pacific Islands Central School should be granted scholarships enabling them to attend a university outside the Territory.

105. In conclusion, he congratulated the Administering Authority on the political, economic, social and educational advancement achieved.

106. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said the Administering Authority was manifestly discharging its obligations in the best interests of the population and that considerable progress had been made in all fields, including the economic field, in which the possibilities were, however, very limited.

107. Speaking of political matters, he said that the government machinery did not seem to be in keeping with the Territory's economic and financial resources; the existing machinery would obviously be out of the question if the Territory had to depend on its own funds, and the fact was that the Administering Authority was generously contributing a sum covering about three-quarters of the Territory's expenditure.

108. He emphasized the economic advancement made and referred in particular to the establishment of the Economic Development Fund, the purpose of which was to diversify the Territory's economy. He thought, however—unless the special representative could offer some explanation—that the practice of exempting certain goods, on which a United States internal revenue tax had been paid, from the import duties payable on goods from other countries conflicted with the provisions of the Charter and of the Trusteeship Agreement.

109. He noted with satisfaction the progress of elementary education; for so small a population it was quite remarkable that 90 per cent of the children of school age attended school.

110. In conclusion, he said that the Administering Authority should be congratulated, for it was on the whole satisfactorily discharging the obligations it had assumed under the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement.

111. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) felt that the problems which arose in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands should be viewed in the light of historical, geographic, economic and ethnic considerations. First, the islands were situated in a strategic area. Secondly, if it was remembered that under Spanish, German and Japanese rule the Territory had been subject to an authoritarian régime and had, between 1942 and 1945, been devastated by the war, it would be realized that only since 1945 had its population had an opportunity to study democratic methods of government and thereby to prepare itself for self-government. In that connexion, he was inclined to think that the special representative had gone rather too far in saying that the population could not be regarded as politically primitive; while it was true that the principles of self-government were not totally unknown to the inhabitants of the Territory, as they were to those of New Guinea, it was equally true that they were less familiar with them than the population of Western Samoa, though, of course, the Administering Authority could not be blamed for that. Nevertheless, if the Territory was to attain local self-government in a quarter of a century, it would still have to establish a central government with authority over all the islands scattered over a large area. Thirdly, the Territory was economically weak, poor in natural resources—apart from

the phosphate deposits which were, however, being exhausted—and lacking in water-power. Finally, the effects of the war were still being felt. Consequently the Pacific Islands would continue, for a long time to come, to depend on the United States for their economic development and their defence, as well as for the conduct of their foreign relations.

112. In the light of those considerations, which the Council would have to take into account when drafting its recommendations, the New Zealand delegation felt that satisfactory progress had been made in the Territory during the period covered by the annual report.

113. In the field of political advancement, his delegation had noted with satisfaction that the Administration's long-range plans contemplated the establishment of a legislative body for the whole of the Territory. In that connexion, it should be noted that the High Commissioner's Council might become the nucleus of a central legislative body, even though for the moment it contained no indigenous members. No doubt, the Administering Authority would try to associate the indigenous population in the Council's work as speedily as possible. Similarly, it would certainly try to settle the question of the Administration's headquarters, which, he felt, should be transferred as soon as possible to a place within the Territory. The New Zealand delegation also recommended that the organic legislation for the Territory should be speedily enacted.

114. Encouraging advances seemed to have been made at the regional and district levels, and the various congresses enabled the indigenous population to assume local functions which, although consultative in nature, were none the less significant. He hoped that the following annual report would announce the establishment of similar institutions on the islands of Truk and Saipan. The most important reforms, however, had been introduced at the municipal level; the growing number of municipalities, especially municipalities which elected their local officials by secret ballot, should be considered a particularly encouraging feature.

115. So far as the Territory's judicial system was concerned, his delegation approved the Administration's policy of separation of powers. In view of the Territory's peculiar circumstances, it seemed advisable to appoint rather than elect judges, in order to secure competent persons for those offices.

116. Commenting on the training for administrative office, Mr. Munro noted that conferences should be organized for officials at which problems common to the districts would be discussed.

117. With regard to economic conditions, Mr. Munro said that his delegation was disturbed by the discrepancy between the Territory's total income and the expenditure for the past financial year. While the Administering Authority was, of course, to be commended for the generosity which it had consistently shown towards the Territory, it was clear that it was still too early to hope that the Territory could become self-sustaining. Since, however, the Territory could not attain self-government and independence, without a sound economy, the Administering Authority should continue to exert every effort to increase the Territory's resources, especially its electric power and the working of the phosphate deposits.

118. Social advancement had been satisfactory. The New Zealand delegation was gratified to note that the Administering Authority was giving careful study to the possibility of applying to the Territory the international agreements to which it was a party. He hoped that some of those international instruments, particularly the conventions of the International Labour Organisation, would be extended to the Territory. The Administering Authority should also be congratulated upon the excellent work done in the field of public health.

119. The total figure of the amounts spent on education bore witness to the Administration's interest in the problem of education. The higher figures of children of school age attending school, the school-building programme and the establishment of a secondary school were especially encouraging. Language difficulties and the shortage of teaching staff were inevitable problems for which the Administering Authority was in no way responsible.

120. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) first wished to thank the special representative, whose attitude toward the indigenous populations reflected his great administrative ability and deep human understanding.

121. Substantial progress had certainly been made in the Territory during the year under review, despite the many difficulties with which the Administration had had to cope, owing to the generous contributions of the United States Government. The first reform for the Council to note with satisfaction was the transfer of the administration to the Department of the Interior, and Mr. Khalidy felt that the Council should commend the Administering Authority for having carried out one of its earlier recommendations.

122. He was especially satisfied by the progress made in preparing the indigenous population for participation in the work of the Territory's administrative bodies. It was encouraging to know that the indigenous population, as yet politically undeveloped, was eager to acquaint itself with the methods of democratic government and the Administering Authority would surely take advantage of their keenness. In that connexion, the introduction of the electoral system at the municipal level was an important step towards the creation of democratic institutions and gave great hope for the future. Similarly, the plan to unify the municipalities of the Truk Atoll, which might help to develop a sense of unity and responsibility in the indigenous population, should continue to receive the Administering Authority's attention, and the Council might perhaps make a recommendation to that effect.

123. There were two questions in particular on which the Council should make very concrete recommendations. First, there was the draft organic law, pending in the United States Congress, which should be promulgated without delay because the indigenous inhabitants had no legal status so long as there was no organic law of the Territory. Secondly, the Administration's headquarters should be transferred as soon as possible to a place inside the Territory.

124. He had noted with satisfaction that two women were members of the Palau Congress and he hoped that women would participate more and more actively in the Territory's political life.

125. The Administering Authority should also be commended for organizing celebrations in honour of United Nations Day.

126. Economically, copra was the Territory's mainstay. The coconut-palm plantations had suffered considerably from the war and the ravages of the rhinoceros beetle. The Territory had considerable economic potentialities, however, and the Administering Authority should be requested to continue its efforts to develop them.

127. While the Territory could hardly be expected to become self-sufficient, it was to be hoped that it would, in future, have a sound economy enabling it to complete its political evolution. Moreover, with that goal in mind, the Administration was quite rightly attempting to develop certain crops, particularly cacao.

128. With regard to social advancement, conditions were most encouraging in the field of public health. The indigenous inhabitants should, so far as possible, be able to come to the United States to study, become acquainted with modern equipment and spend some time in the best clinics and hospitals in the country. He had been pleased to note that the United States and British authorities were helping to train medical students in the Fiji Islands; that was an example to be followed.

129. With regard to medical research, he suggested that the Administering Authority might consider the establishment of a special department for tropical diseases. He mentioned, as an example, the tropical diseases section of the hospital attached to the American University at Beirut, which had obtained remarkable results in research and in the training of medical staff specializing in tropical diseases. He had read with interest the section of the report dealing with the work of the hospital ship *USS Whidbey*. He agreed with the Australian representative that it would be useful to collect the information available and transmit it to the Trusteeship Council which, in co-operation with the Economic and Social Council, could take steps to transmit it to the various countries, in particular, to Administering Authorities. Such an initiative would be greatly to the credit of the United States and of the United Nations.

130. Definite progress had been made in the field of education. The Administering Authority could do

splendid work if it continued unstintingly to teach the indigenous population the principles of democracy. The particulars given by the special representative showed that the indigenous population was very eager to learn and that the Administering Authority was doing all in its power to satisfy that desire. Mr. Khalid added that he had been especially pleased to know that the Administering Authority was giving the most careful attention to the problems of teacher-training.

131. Mr. QUIROS (El Salvador) said that he, too, could gather from the annual report and the oral explanations of the special representative that the Administering Authority was making every effort to facilitate the Territory's political, economic, social and cultural advancement.

132. His delegation had noted with pleasure that, despite the difficulties due to the Territory's geographical situation, transport conditions had improved.

133. In the field of political advancement, he was particularly impressed by the progress made in the municipalities, where the election of officials by secret ballot was becoming more and more common. He had noted with satisfaction that the Administering Authority encouraged the participation of the indigenous inhabitants in the work of the five types of courts in the Territory and that in three of them, the majority were indigenous members. He was also glad to see that the women were enjoying civil and political rights equal to those of the men.

134. In the field of economic advancement, the Administering Authority was to be commended for having set up a school of agriculture and having intensified its production of foods such as cocoa, coffee and fruits.

135. Satisfactory progress had also been made in education. He was especially glad to see that women could take not only general study courses but also training courses as nurses. A recommendation should, however, be made for an increase in the number of scholarships, and particularly for instituting scholarships for legal and business training.

136. Mr. Quiros was convinced that the Administering Authority was genuinely desirous of carrying out its obligations in the best interests of the indigenous population.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.