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President: Mr. Rafik ASHA (Syria).

Present:

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, Burma, China, France, Guatemala, India, Haiti, Italy, New Zealand, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

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

Tribute to the memory of Mr. van Heuven Goedhart, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. The PRESIDENT said that it was with deep and sincere grief that he had to announce the sudden death of Mr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhart, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The sincerity and devotion with which Mr. van Heuven Goedhart had served the cause of the refugees were well known to the Council. Before being appointed High Commissioner he had served the Netherlands with great distinction as Minister of Justice, Senator, and representative to the United Nations. He would also be remembered for the courageous part he had played in the resistance movement during the Second World War. His death was a great loss to the Netherlands as well as to the United Nations. On behalf of the Council the President offered sincere condolences to Mr. van Heuven Goedhart's family.

2. Miss COHN (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) thanked the President for his kind words. Mr. van Heuven Goedhart's death had been a great shock to all those who had been working with him for many years and who knew his deep devotion to the cause of the refugees.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea (continued):

(i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1955 (T/1249, T/1262);

(ii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1956 (T/1260)

[Agenda items 4 (b) and 7]

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

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY AND REPLIES OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE (*continued*)

Economic advancement (concluded)

3. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) gave certain supplementary information in reply to questions asked at the previous meeting.

4. The land at Bulolo, about which the Guatemalan representative had asked a question, had been acquired outright. The area in question was very mountainous and had never been used by the indigenous people. They had had some claim to hunting rights over part of it and it was mainly for that reason that ownership had been recognized and payment made for the land.

5. In reply to the Chinese representative's question on the stabilization of the copra industry, he said the Board provided for under the relevant ordinance had not yet been established, although the machinery for its establishment was present in the ordinance.

6. The Indian representative had asked a question concerning the £2 payable to the Stabilization Fund from the export duty on copra and had mentioned the sum of £7 1s. 6d. That sum represented the customs duty plus the £2 per ton which was being paid into the Fund, so that the figure of £1,428,463 appearing as customs revenue on page 136 of the annual report¹ did not include the £2 paid into the Stabilization Fund.

7. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that at the previous meeting the special representative had promised that particulars of the expenditure on the salaries and other expenses of European officials in the Administration would be provided at the Council's 1957 session. He hoped that those particulars would be included in the annual report itself.

8. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority would take note of the suggestion.

9. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) said that he was not very clear about the specific benefits the Territory derived from the operations of Commonwealth-New Guinea Timbers Ltd. The United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1956, said in its report (T/1260) that the most tangible benefit was the payment of a royalty of £5 per tree on the timber cut. Was that royalty paid to the indigenous owners or to the Administration?

¹ Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of New Guinea from 1st July, 1954 to 30th June, 1955, Canberra, A. J. Arthur, Commonwealth Government Printer. (Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by the Secretary-General under cover of document T/1249).

10. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that it was paid to the Administration. Since the area had been purchased outright from the indigenous owners no payments were made direct to them.

11. In reply to further questions by Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that to the best of his recollection the acreage of land exploited by the company was about 24,700 acres. He regretted that he had no information on the price paid to the indigenous owners for the land. He would try to obtain further information on that point.

12. It was the Administering Authority's policy to acquire forest land whenever it could do so without taking land which was required by the indigenous inhabitants. In some areas the Administration acquired forestry rights only, the land itself remaining in the possession of the indigenous owners for use in the future. That policy assisted the indigenous people because, apart from the payment they received for the afforested area, the land was cleared and rendered fit for agricultural development. Furthermore, the timber companies were required to provide suitable roads into the area. In other areas, particularly mountainous areas like Bulolo, where the land had never been used by the indigenous inhabitants and would never be required by them, the land was secured outright by the Administration with the idea of building up a forestry reserve which would ensure timber supplies in perpetuity for the inhabitants. The profits from the royalties were used for the reforestation of such areas. As the land was purchased by the Administration, which retained the freehold, it would always be available to the indigenous people or to the Government, when the Territory became self-governing. There was no question of disposing of the land rights to anyone outside the Administration.

13. He would try to ascertain the period for which Commonwealth-New Guinea Timbers Ltd. had been given the right to exploit the timber and exactly how many indigenous inhabitants were employed by the company. The total number of indigenous persons employed in the district was about 828, approximately two-thirds of them being employed at the mill. The positions in which New Guineans were employed were mostly semi-skilled and unskilled, predominantly the former, as the mill was very highly mechanized and very few unskilled workers were required.

14. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) asked whether the indigenous inhabitants were given any opportunity to acquire the training necessary to become skilled workers in the plywood industry.

15. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that there were no technical schools or special courses of training operated by the company. Nevertheless, the indigenous inhabitants working at the mill were given every opportunity to familiarize themselves with the various occupations. The Department of Forests ran training courses for forest rangers and foremen and the two sawmills operated by the Administration were used as training schools for sawyers, mechanics, saw-sharpeners, tractor operators and so forth. The Bulolo plywood mill, in particular, was giving the indigenous workers the opportunity and encouragement to become proficient at their work.

16. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) noted from the Visiting Mission's report that the cocoa produced by the Tolai was competing more than favourably with that from European plantations. It would be interesting

to know what percentage of the cocoa crop was produced by the indigenous inhabitants.

17. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the production for the year had been 805 tons, of which 280 tons had been produced by indigenous growers.

18. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) observed that the Visiting Mission had heard complaints in the New Britain district that goods in stores were priced higher for indigenous persons than for others (T/1260, para. 37). He would be glad to hear the special representative's comments.

19. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) had no personal knowledge of any difference in prices. So far as trading with the indigenous people was concerned, prices were required by ordinance to be clearly shown. In reply to a question by the New Zealand representative at the previous meeting, he had given details of the steps taken by the Administering Authority to ensure, as far as possible, that the indigenous inhabitants were not exploited, particularly with respect to price differences. He was quite sure that if the administrative officers in the area knew of any occurrence similar to that reported by the Visiting Mission, they would take definite action to stop it immediately and, if necessary, cancel the licence of the offender. The people in the New Britain district were well advanced, and he would be very surprised if anybody succeeded in charging them more than any other section of the community.

20. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) hoped that the special representative would draw the Administration's attention to the relevant passage in the Visiting Mission's report.

Social and educational advancement

21. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked, with reference to paragraph 63 of the Visiting Mission's report, when work on the new hospital at Nonga was likely to be started and when the hospital would be ready for occupation.

22. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that a tender for the erection of the hospital had been accepted and it was expected that work would begin within a reasonable time. Judging from the time it had taken to erect other hospitals of similar size, he did not anticipate that the hospital would be ready for occupation before eighteen months or even two years.

23. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether, in view of the delay that had occurred in the construction of the hospital and the urgent need to replace the existing buildings at Rabaul, the Administration could make a special effort to have the new hospital completed as early as possible.

24. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) recalled that in his opening statement (719th meeting) he had mentioned that the need to replace quite a number of existing hospitals was urgent and that the Government would give whatever priority was necessary to ensure that the most urgent work was dealt with as quickly as possible. The Administering Authority appreciated the need to replace some of the existing buildings just as much as the Visiting Mission.

25. Mr. CHACKO (India) pointed out that in the Visiting Mission's view the hospital at Rabaul needed particular attention.

26. He noted from paragraph 268 of the Visiting Mission's report that there was a new policy under which New Guinean and European hospitals would be

built in close proximity to each other and would share common services. He would welcome further information.

27. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that where it was considered advantageous and where there was a large mixed population, the regional hospitals would be composite hospitals. There would be separate sections for the various communities but common facilities such as X-ray equipment and operating theatres.

28. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether there was any possibility of one or more New Guineans being selected for training under the medical cadetship scheme and, if so, how soon.

29. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that no doubt when some of the indigenous inhabitants had reached a stage in their educational development at which they could undertake university training, they would be considered for cadetships.

30. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether it would be possible to arrange some programme under which a few students would be encouraged to select medical training.

31. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) saw no reason why that should not be done; the Indian representative's suggestion would be noted. At the moment the scholarship-holders in Australia were training for their intermediate and school-leaving certificates. The courses were general and were not specifically designed to enable them to go on to a medical course but he had no doubt that if any of them desired to take up medical studies they would be assisted to do so.

32. In reply to further questions by Mr. CHACKO (India), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that so far only one New Guinean, an assistant medical practitioner, had returned to the Territory after training at the Central Medical School at Suva. Six students were taking the medical course at Suva and one was taking the dental course.

33. The assistant medical practitioner was attached to one of the Administration hospitals, where he worked under the direction of a fully qualified European medical practitioner. He was employed under the same conditions as a European medical assistant, and received the same salary and allowances.

34. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the person in question was considered a member of the Public Service.

35. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied in the negative. He would of course be eligible to join the Auxiliary Division, provided for by an amendment to the Public Service Ordinance, when the necessary enabling regulations had been finally approved.

36. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that his delegation attached some importance to the formation of the Auxiliary Division and to the position of the New Guinean members of the Administration. Were there any special reasons for not including a person such as the New Guinean assistant medical practitioner in the regular Public Service, when he received the same salary and allowances as a European officer?

37. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that there were certain qualifications for entrance to the Public Service; one of them was that the applicant must be a British subject. In addition, certain academic qualifications were required; although the assistant medical practitioner had passed the special course at Suva, he did not hold the particular certificate required

for entry into the Service. The new regulations being drafted to enable indigenous persons and others to enter the Public Service were designed to remove such obstacles.

38. Mr. CHACKO (India) said he still failed to understand what difficulties stood in the way of such persons being admitted to the regular Public Service. Any person employed in the Administration was part of the Public Service and, if he was qualified as an assistant medical practitioner and received a salary and allowances commensurate with his qualifications, there seemed no reason why he should be kept out.

39. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) repeated that the person in question lacked certain qualifications at present required for admission to the Public Service. The obstacles would be removed by the new regulations providing for admission into the Auxiliary Division. It should be made quite clear that the Auxiliary Division was part of the Public Service proper.

40. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked the special representative to comment on the Visiting Mission's observation that the cash wage was still extremely low and should be increased to meet the rising standards of living to which the people aspired.

41. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that in considering the cash wage, it should be remembered that the worker had to spend no money on his everyday needs: his fare was paid from his village to his place of employment and he received free housing, free food, free clothing, free medical attention and so forth. If his wife and children were living with him they received the same benefits. Hence the cash wage was used only to purchase extras and must be regarded as something over and above what the worker needed to live on. Furthermore, any increase in the cost of living was naturally covered, as the worker received free all the things which he needed for his everyday use.

42. The Visiting Mission had mentioned the minimum wage of £1 5s. 0d. a month. In fact, some skilled workers received as much as £15 to £20 a month. Any person who took advantage of the opportunities available to increase his skill could find a market for that skill at a much higher wage than the minimum.

43. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that the Visiting Mission had been quite aware of the considerations mentioned by the special representative. It had noted that the real wage amounted to £7 18s. 0d. per month for single men and £12 8s. 0d. for married men accompanied by their wives, and had considered those figures rather low. He wondered whether the Administration would agree.

44. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administration would not agree. New Native labour legislation was nearing completion and the entire matter of the working conditions of the indigenous inhabitants, including the question of wages, was under review. He had no doubt that the Visiting Mission's remarks would receive the fullest consideration.

45. Mr. CHACKO (India) drew attention to paragraphs 261 to 264 of the Visiting Mission's report, dealing with restrictions on movement in towns, and particularly to the Mission's view that there was no justification for the restrictive regulations, which should be immediately revoked. He would be grateful for the special representative's comments.

46. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that in paragraph 261 of its report the Visiting Mission had set forth very fully and accurately the Administering

Authority's views on the subject. He had nothing to add. The views expressed by the Visiting Mission in paragraph 264 would receive full consideration.

47. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that, while he understood that there was no restriction on the type of clothes to be worn by the indigenous people, it had come to the notice of the Visiting Mission that some New Guineans understood that certain foreigners did not look with much favour on the wearing of certain types of European clothes by the New Guineans. He believed that some years earlier the Administration had issued a circular letter concerning the indigenous people's freedom to wear whatever type of clothes they wished. Perhaps the Administration might re-circulate that letter. The Visiting Mission had discussed the matter informally with the Administrator at Port Moresby.

48. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he could not remember any circular on the question of clothing. He was sure, however, that if there was any misunderstanding at all on the matter, the Administration would issue a circular or definite instructions.

49. Mr. CHACKO (India) said he gathered that the Administration had decided to standardize the nomenclature of schools. The Visiting Mission had suggested that the syllabus should also be standardized. What steps had the Administration taken in respect of both nomenclature and syllabus, and would the standardization apply to mission schools as well as to Administration schools?

50. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the Administration had decided to standardize the classification of all schools and to prepare a more or less standard syllabus which would apply to all schools, whether mission or Administration, in the Territory. Steps were now being taken to give effect to that decision.

51. Mr. CHACKO (India) said he understood that the Administration had agreed that Melanesian pidgin would be discarded in due course and that English would become the common language of the Territory. He had been rather confused by the special representative's opening statement describing certain recent steps to put Melanesian pidgin on a standard basis. He would welcome further information on the Administration's objective in taking that action.

52. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that Melanesian pidgin would be used solely as a vehicle to help the people to become literate in English. The Administration believed that in the areas where Melanesian pidgin was spoken, and that included most areas, it could be used to very good advantage, provided that there was a standard orthography. Such an orthography had now been published. He added that Melanesian pidgin would not be taught as a language of its own; it would be used only as a medium of instruction and only where it was already spoken.

53. Mr. CHACKO (India) recalled that both the 1956 and the 1953 United Nations Visiting Missions to Trust Territories in the Pacific had very strongly recommended the discontinuance of the use of Melanesian pidgin as far as possible. From what little he knew of the language he doubted whether a child, having once been taught Melanesian pidgin, would ever be able to pick up correct English in later life. He was fully aware of the Administration's policy of using the language to the barest minimum but, since some influential people in the Territory still favoured the use of

Melanesian pidgin, he felt that the adoption of a standard form would stand in the way of the Administration's policy of eliminating pidgin at a later stage.

54. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administration did not share the Indian representative's doubts; if it did, it would certainly not use the language. Pidgin had been standardized solely in order to make it a more efficient medium of instruction for the introduction of the English language.

55. Mr. CHACKO (India) noted that the Visiting Mission had not found any general awareness amongst New Guineans of the United Nations or its significance in relation to the Trust Territory. He wondered when the pamphlet referred to in paragraph 301 of the Visiting Mission's report would be ready for distribution.

56. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) regretted that he could not say when it would be ready. He had previously described the steps taken by the Administering Authority to tell the indigenous people about the United Nations and its functions. He was sure that most of the children attending school had at least some idea of the United Nations and its agencies.

57. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that the Visiting Mission had found that even some of the teachers did not have much knowledge about the United Nations. A suitable pamphlet should be prepared as soon as possible and circulated widely both in the schools and outside.

58. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) agreed. On earlier visits to New York he had discussed the provision of suitable information with the United Nations Department of Public Information, and he intended to follow the matter up.

59. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) noted that in paragraph 274 of the Visiting Mission's report it was suggested that the shortage of medical staff was due to inadequate remuneration and lack of amenities. He inquired whether the Administration was considering the improvement of remuneration and other conditions in order to remedy that shortage of staff, and also whether it would be possible to recruit medical staff for short periods of, perhaps, two or three years, as he thought that doctors who might be reluctant to commit themselves to an indefinite future in New Guinea might be willing to serve for a short period to see whether the life appealed to them.

60. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the salaries paid to medical officers were in line with those paid in Australia, plus various allowances, and he thought that a ceiling had just about been reached. There had been difficulty in providing married accommodations, and some of the stations contained sub-standard accommodations, but the building of houses was to be stepped up throughout the Territory and it was hoped that there would be a big improvement within the next year.

61. He thought that some steps to recruit doctors particularly specialists, for short periods of service had been taken over the years. The policy was to build up a permanent staff of medical officers, and each year during the long vacation invitations were sent to the universities for medical students to spend their holidays in the Territory. He understood that their fares were paid and that they received a certain salary during the period spent in the Territory. The idea was that they could have a look at the Territory and might, if they liked it, apply for positions there on graduating.

62. Mr. KIANG (China) asked for some information concerning the influence of women in the Territory. Noting the statement on page 70 of the annual report, to the effect that the status of women varied with the particular social group and that their influence depended largely on whether the wife resided after marriage in her husband's village or in her own village with her own group, he asked what kind of influence was referred to and whether the wife's influence was greater or less according as to whether she resided in her husband's village or in her own. He also inquired whether the wife chose to reside in her husband's village in most cases, and whether the husband followed his wife if she chose to reside in her own village.
63. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that residence was decided by custom, according to whether the society was matrilinear or patrilinear. In the first case, the wife usually remained in her own village, and in the second moved to her husband's. That was the general principle, although many such customs were disappearing in areas which had been under the influence of the Administration for many years. In a matrilinear society, where land inheritance was through the mother, women perhaps had more influence in the village than they would if they married into, or were members of, a patrilinear society, as land played a very important role in the lives of the indigenous inhabitants. From his own experience he would say that in both types of society women had considerable influence in their homes, particularly with regard to the home itself and the children, while the men's influence lay chiefly in the spheres of hunting, gardens and any outside activity. The numbers of cases where wives chose to reside in their husbands' village and *vice versa* were probably about even and the choice depended on the wishes of the people themselves. The couples usually resided where they or the nearest relatives had land rights. He would not venture to speculate what the result would be if the wife, against the Native custom, refused to follow her husband, but he could say that usually both husband and wife followed the custom prevailing in their particular area.
64. Mr. KIANG (China) asked whether the Administering Authority had considered the desirability of setting up a medical school in New Guinea.
65. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administration's long-range plan provided for the establishment in the Territory of a school similar to the Central Medical School at Suva, to which some of the Territory's students were at present sent.
66. Mr. KIANG (China) noted that, according to the Visiting Mission's report, the mission schools attended by a large majority of the school children in the Territory were inferior to the Administration schools. The Visiting Mission had recommended inspection and supervision of such schools, and he hoped that the Administration would find means to provide personnel for that purpose. He thought that, as the mission schools taught vernacular languages, there was every reason why the Administration should carry out more systematic inspection and supervision. Perhaps the special representative would comment on the Visiting Mission's recommendation.
67. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority was in full agreement with the Visiting Mission's remarks concerning the inspection of schools and intended, if it had not already done so, to appoint two additional inspectors to assist the area education officers in that work. In his earlier statement concerning grants-in-aid (719th meeting), he had said that the whole system had been altered and grants-in-aid would now be directed to schools which had competent English teachers and conformed to the standard syllabus eventually to be published by the Administration for the guidance of all schools.
68. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) asked the special representative if he could see any solution to the problem of the migrant workers from the Sepik district, mentioned in paragraph 135 of the Visiting Mission's report, who spent their wages so unwisely that they were unable to assist their people when they returned home.
69. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority was considering the problem and it was to be provided for in the new labour legislation. Occasionally, part of the migrant workers' wages had been withheld and paid out in their home district to ensure that they returned home with some portion of their cash wages. But if payment in the home district were made compulsory, they would lose the opportunity of purchasing from the large stores, which existed only in Wewak itself, many articles which they might wish to take home with them.
70. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) asked whether the increase in the number of schools and the size of the teaching staff, mentioned by the special representative in his opening remarks, had been the result of a special effort on the part of the Administering Authority. He asked for particulars.
71. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the increases were the result of a programme which had been built up over the past few years and was now showing good results. He hoped for further increases during the coming year as a result of the training of indigenous teachers.
72. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand), referring to the observations (T/1262) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on educational programmes in the Territory, asked whether the special representative would agree with UNESCO's estimate of the number of children of school age, and the school enrolment figures for the Territory. He also inquired whether the special representative could explain the drop in secondary school enrolment, which UNESCO had noted as disappointing.
73. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he would require further time to study the figures in the annual report of the Administering Authority before he could answer the first question. He could give no reasons for the drop in the number of secondary school students.
74. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) referred to the statement in paragraph 267 of the Visiting Mission's report that it would take another ten years at least to complete the programme of hospital construction throughout the Territory and that even if funds were immediately available the potential for hospital construction would not permit the Administration to proceed any faster than it was now doing. He inquired whether the allusion was to the lack of staff for hospitals or whether the situation was attributable to some other cause.
75. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Visiting Mission's report reflected the views of the Director of Public Health, which might not be those of the Administering Authority. The question how long it would take to build a number of hospitals could only be answered by the architects, builders and other

experts concerned, and he had not had the opportunity of discussing that particular point with the Administering Authority; but he would like to draw attention to the mention, also in paragraph 267 of the Visiting Mission's report, of the £7 million building programme, of which £4,500,000 was to be spent in New Guinea. The Visiting Mission had gone on to refer to the Lae and Wau European hospitals, which were nearly completed, and the Native hospital near Rabaul, the construction of which was to begin shortly. The statement as it appeared might possibly give the impression that the only action taken by the Administering Authority in its hospital-building programme was that related to the over-all scheme for building general or regional hospitals and that it had completely neglected the ordinary small district hospitals. Actually, expenditure on the hospital programme, from 1950 to 30 June 1954, had amounted to £157,000, and £70,000 had been spent in the same period on improvements and maintenance of hospitals in use, with the consequence that those hospitals could continue in operation until the Administering Authority caught up with the over-all building programme. He had said before that priorities would be given to make it possible to catch up with the lag in hospital construction. Such priorities had already been given and would continue to be given. The stepping-up of the programme had begun in the year under review, when the expenditure for new buildings had been £126,000, while for the first nine months of the year 1955-1956, it had risen to £214,000. He emphasized that there were two hospital programmes, one for the completion of new buildings, and the other for providing smaller hospitals where they were absolutely essential and, at the same time, repairing and improving other hospitals, pending their replacement.

76. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) noted that, in paragraph 272 of the Visiting Mission's report, reference was made to several thousand medical *tultuls* who did medical work in their villages. They were unpaid and had little or no training. The 1953 Visiting Mission had disapproved of the practice and had been informed that the *tultuls* mainly provided medicaments and treatment for simple ailments such as malaria. He asked what kind of medical work they were performing and whether it was safe to allow them to continue it. He also inquired whether the Administering Authority considered them indispensable.

77. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the *tultuls* were being replaced as fast as indigenous medical assistants could be trained. He believed that the training period was two years, and the medical assistants then started work and were paid by the Administering Authority. The medical *tultuls* received a short course of training varying from three months to about six months. They worked mainly in the areas newly opened up, though some still worked within a reasonable distance of the coast. In that training period, they were taught to recognize some of the simpler ailments and were provided with medicaments for the treatment of those ailments, including, of course, malaria. They also treated minor injuries, such as cuts, but their chief duty was to see if any of their villagers were sick, in which case they notified either the European medical assistant or an indigenous medical assistant, or arranged for the patients to be taken to the nearest hospital. The policy of the Administering Authority was to replace them, as soon as it could possibly do so, with properly trained indigenous medical assistants.

78. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) drew attention to the Visiting Mission's concern, expressed in paragraph 273 of its report, with the fact that there were no prospects of remedying any of the various health problems besetting the Territory for years to come unless more drastic steps were taken than those at present planned. He asked the special representative to comment on that statement.

79. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he could add little to what he had said earlier on the subject of the hospital-building programme, namely that it was being stepped up, as would be seen from the figures which he had quoted, and also that the Administering Authority fully appreciated the urgent need to replace some of the hospitals. He felt confident that the views of the Visiting Mission would be considered, and he could assure the Council that whatever priorities were needed to meet that urgent need would be given.

80. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked the special representative what important changes were contemplated under the new draft labour legislation which was to replace the existing labour ordinance.

81. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) did not think it would be proper for him to give particulars of the draft provisions, but he could say that the Administering Authority had been working on the draft for over two years. It would take into consideration not only conditions in the Territory at the moment, but those which might prevail in ten or twenty years' time. The Administering Authority was endeavouring to draft the basic legislation to regulate labour in the Territory over the years to come. The ordinance would contain the basic provisions, and the varying needs, arising from possible changes in the position from year to year, would be met by regulations made under the ordinance.

82. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked the special representative for information about the scope of the apprenticeship scheme to which he had referred in his opening statement.

83. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the scheme was now officially in force and the greatest interest was being shown in it, both by employers and by prospective apprentices. There was a central board exercising control over the scheme, and a district board in each district. All applications from employers and parents of prospective apprentices were being studied by the various district boards. Their recommendations would be submitted in due course to the central board, and he had no doubt that within the next few months quite a number of young persons would be apprenticed. So far no actual apprenticeship or indenture had been entered into. The scheme was still in the stage at which the boards were dealing with applications.

84. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) noted that in paragraph 280 (d) of the Visiting Mission's report the people of New Guinea were referred to as "Papuan". What was the significance of that reference? Did it imply that the future of New Guinea and that of Papua were linked together and that some sort of unity was envisaged for the two Territories? He had always understood that there was some sort of legal distinction at least between them, despite the fact that their peoples were of the same origin. He asked whether the term "Papuan" was a wider term embracing peoples of both New Guinea or Papua or whether perhaps the Visiting Mission had used the term incorrectly.

85. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that the word "Papuan" was sometimes used for the indigenous inhabitants of the whole of New Guinea, viz. Papua, the Trust Territory of New Guinea and Netherlands New Guinea. It was a general term and in the context to which the previous speaker had referred it had been used incorrectly.

86. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) inquired why the Administering Authority continued to leave education at village level in the hands of missions.

87. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that, at the sixteenth session (622nd meeting), he had pointed out that the missions were working more or less throughout the Territory, in the villages in particular. It had always been part of their policy to provide education and to take part in the education of children in the villages. Before the Second World War, most of the education provided had been given with the assistance of the missions. The Administering Authority considered that the most effective way of providing education for the majority of the people, particularly for the younger children in the villages, was to use the mission school facilities and to pay the missions subsidies. The education provided by missions was an integral part of the Territory's education programme. The Administering Authority was concerned mainly with the education of children who had completed their education at the village level, in other words, children who had attended village schools for three or four years. There were some exceptions to that general principle, and in some areas indigenous inhabitants had asked the Administering Authority to provide schools at the lower level, which it had done. As a general rule, however, as the parents belonged to various missions they were willing to have their children educated for the first few years in the mission schools.

88. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) said that his question had not been designed to reflect in any way on the efforts of religious missions in the Trust Territory, but he noted that there had been criticisms of the standards in the schools. He realized that in the past the missions had been the sole promoters of education in the Territory, and the Administering Authority had left the matter largely to them. But as the Administering Authority had lately been concerned with post-primary education, he had simply wondered why it had not yet dealt with education at the village level.

89. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority could see no sound reason why it should refuse to accept the assistance of the missions at that particular stage in the education of the indigenous people.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.20 p.m.

90. Mr. GRILLO (Italy) said he understood that the Administering Authority was experiencing some setbacks in attaining its short-term objective of developing Melanesian pidgin as the medium of instruction in the Territory. On the other hand, one of the Administering Authority's long-term objectives was to make English the *lingua franca* of the Territory. He asked the special representative whether he believed teaching English instead of the vernacular from the first stages of schooling would be more conducive to the attainment of that long-term objective.

91. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the advancement of the children would be delayed if they were taught English at the beginning of their

schooling in order to enable them to undertake further studies in that language. It had been thought better to use the vernacular in the early stages and, after one or two years, to give instruction in English so that students might be completely literate in that language at the end of their primary education. In that way, post-primary and secondary education could be given in English.

92. Mr. GRILLO (Italy), noting that there were many categories of schools in New Guinea, said that he had nevertheless failed to obtain a clear picture of the educational level reached by the New Guineans. School attendance in 1955 had been over 13,000 and he wondered how many of those New Guineans were receiving an education comparable to that received in the senior high schools under the traditional American system of education.

93. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) referred to appendix XXII to the annual report, which gave the figures concerning the types of schools in the Territory and the number of pupils attending them. No New Guineans had so far reached the top of the secondary school level although there were now seventeen in Australia receiving secondary education under scholarships. On completing their studies they would have achieved the standard of secondary high school in Australia—matriculation level—which was probably comparable to the American high school standard.

94. In reply to a further question from Mr. GRILLO (Italy), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) agreed that at the moment no New Guineans had received an education comparable to that obtained in the traditional American high school.

95. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) inquired whether the special representative believed that the police force in the Territory was sufficiently well organized to justify the abolition of the existing restrictions on the movement of New Guineans.

96. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he had nothing to add to what he had said about those restrictions earlier, in reply to a question put by the Indian representative. The Administering Authority had given its views to the Visiting Mission and he took it that in giving those views it had taken into consideration the competence of the existing police force.

97. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) asked whether the special representative could give any information concerning the precise amounts to be spent in future financial years for the construction of hospitals for New Guineans. He asked whether all those funds were already appropriated under the Administration's budget or whether they were simply estimates of sums to be appropriated in each financial year in accordance with the plan which might be finally adopted.

98. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he had no figures available on the amount to be spent on the construction of hospitals for the New Guineans. As the Visiting Mission had noted in paragraph 267 of its report, the total of £1,050,000 had been committed for regional hospitals for the financial year 1956-1957. In his opening statement he had mentioned the hospitals being built for New Guineans in the current year but unfortunately he had no figures of the actual costs incurred so far for building those hospitals, or of the estimated costs of future construction. He understood that the sum of £1 million which he had mentioned had been made available in the 1956-1957 estimates. The practice was of course to plan beforehand, and the actual

amount of money needed was then made available for the fiscal year.

99. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) noted the delay of six years which had occurred in the execution of the hospital programme. He asked whether the district commissioners would be given facilities to contract locally for the building of some of the hospitals now under construction, or whether the contracts would be placed with overseas firms, or whether the hospitals would be constructed by the Commonwealth Department of Works. The Visiting Mission during its stay in the Territory had heard some criticism of that department's efficiency. Was there any foundation for those criticisms? Perhaps the special representative would comment on the desirability of providing facilities for district commissioners to arrange locally for the construction of small hospitals, as had been done in the case of certain small institutions, usually maternity homes.

100. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that much depended on the size of the various projects. Those coming under the £7-million plan were mainly regional and general hospitals, and were usually handled by the Commonwealth Department of Works, which had an agency in the Territory. Smaller hospitals were dealt with by the Department of Works, a branch of the Administration, which arranged contracts or daily work on building, whichever was most convenient. The matter was not handled by the district commissioners. Local facilities and resources were often used, together with local workers, for some of the smaller projects, whether houses, hospitals or schools. That was done through the Department of Works and its representatives in each particular district. The question whether buildings might be handled better through the district commissioners was debatable, and he saw no reason, as there was a Department of Works, for placing responsibility on the district commissioner. He would not care to comment on the criticisms of the Commonwealth Department of Works.

101. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala), noting the shortage of doctors in the Territory, asked the special representative whether the Administration was thinking of offering some additional incentive to doctors to settle and to stay in the Territory.

102. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that in addition to the incentives of improved salaries and housing conditions, medical officers were given the opportunity of studying at the Australian School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine for their diploma in tropical medicine and tropical public health. Their fees were paid for that course and they received a full salary while attending it. He had no information as to the Administering Authority's intention of offering any other form of incentives.

103. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) suggested that the relatively small number of students receiving post-primary education in the Territory would make it difficult to select a sufficient number to continue the study of medicine at schools such as the Central Medical School at Suva. Many of them would, naturally, be attracted to the teaching profession, which also needed staff. He asked what measures the Administration was thinking of taking to preserve the balance between the needs of the Departments of Health and of Education in regard to the number of students receiving higher education.

104. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the requirements of the technical departments, in partic-

ular the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, were given consideration with regard to the students who completed their training at the teacher-training colleges. They were not trained only as teachers, although most of them eventually went to the Department of Education. The number of colleges of that type had been increased to four. Special training courses, fully explained in the annual report, were available for the specific purpose of training teachers. He could assure the representative of Guatemala that the needs of all departments were taken into consideration.

105. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) said the Administering Authority had difficulty in taking effective measures to ensure an equitable and convenient distribution of personnel in the two departments mentioned without interfering with the freedom of choice of the New Guineans. He wished to say that whatever measures the Administering Authority was considering would not interfere with that freedom of choice.

106. In reply to a further question from Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that any indigenous student who had reached the standard required for entry into the Central Medical School at Suva, and who expressed a desire to undertake those studies, would be given the opportunity to do so.

107. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) noted that the Administration was endeavouring to standardize the syllabus of the different types of schools, and asked whether the inspection arrangements were sufficient to ensure that the standard syllabus would be adhered to.

108. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the inspectorial staff was being increased and should in time be sufficient for the purpose.

109. In reply to a question from Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that at the present stage of the Territory's development the first objective was to provide primary education for more people. For many years to come the next task in order of priority would be to train the indigenous population, at technical schools and on the job, to do the day-to-day work of the Territory, and to assist them in adapting their way of life to keep pace with their rapid progress towards civilization. The Administering Authority was fully aware of the need to extend educational facilities throughout the Territory and to ensure reasonable uniformity in advancement between all parts of the Territory and between men and women; that task would tax the Territory's physical and financial resources very heavily.

110. While primary education was of necessity the first priority, the number of secondary schools would also be increased to meet the growing need, and plans were now being made to establish a secondary school in the Rabaul area. The Administering Authority had arranged for the secondary education of indigenous, mixed-race and Asian children at Australian schools for two reasons, both of them temporary: first, it would be wrong to deny access to secondary education to suitable individuals while there were no secondary schools in the Territory; secondly, and more urgently, there was the need for more indigenous people capable of helping their fellow-countrymen to advance. In providing those facilities the Australian Government was consciously seeking to establish, without undue delay, a corps of educated staff to serve the Territory as instructors in health, agriculture and economic activity and as leaders in social and political change. Scholar-

ship-holders were, of course, free to choose their own occupations, but the Administration sought to channel their ambitions and interests towards serving the Territory in the employ of the Administration.

111. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) asked how students returning from overseas fitted into life in the Territory.

112. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that the Australian scholarship scheme was only two years old and that it would be some time before any of the pupils qualified under that scheme and returned to the Territory. The few students who had returned from Australia had fitted into the community quite smoothly.

113. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) asked whether the Administering Authority was making as much use of audio-visual aids as its primary and basic education plans warranted, and in particular whether it intended to expand the use of radio. He commended to the Administering Authority the excellent radio programmes provided for schools in Western Samoa.

114. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) stated that audio-visual media were already in extensive use, as described in the annual report, and would be put to greater use in the future. Radio was used, not for basic education purposes, but for lectures on hygiene, sanitation, medical care, infant welfare and other matters of interest to the indigenous people.

115. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) said that he shared the Indian representative's doubts as to the outcome of the Administering Authority's policy of using Melanesian pidgin as a medium of instruction in New Guinea. He asked whether, if a grammar and dictionary of Melanesian pidgin was to be prepared, it might be advisable to change some of the vocabulary, e.g. the word "master" meaning a European, and "monkey" meaning a New Guinea child.

116. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Guatemalan representative's observation would receive full consideration.

117. In reply to a question from Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the teaching staff of the schools established by the indigenous councils were paid by the Administering Authority.

118. Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) noted that the religious missions' expenditure on education was about six times as large as the subsidies they received from the Administering Authority. Was that expenditure financed from voluntary contributions by the inhabitants or from outside sources?

119. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that many missions had large properties in the Territory, mainly in the form of coconut plantations, which provided most of their funds. Other missions received assistance from outside the Territory. In addition the adherents of the different missions undoubtedly made some contribution to their support.

120. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative to amplify his statement that curfew restrictions would be lifted when the indigenous inhabitants had reached a sufficiently advanced state.

121. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that he had nothing to add to his previous remarks.

122. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why, although approximately the

same amount of money was spent on the schools of the Department of Education and on the schools run by the religious missions, the former catered for only some 5 per cent of the school population and the latter for the remaining 95 per cent.

123. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that he would endeavour to obtain detailed information concerning that expenditure.

124. U MYA SEIN (Burma) asked whether the existing technical training centre at Malaguna and the centre not yet opened at Lae would give instruction in the Territory's main industries, namely agriculture, mining and forestry.

125. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that the main purpose of the technical schools was to provide training in the various trades: mining, electrical engineering, cabinet-making etc., while forestry and agriculture were taught at separate establishments.

126. In reply to questions from U MYA SEIN (Burma), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) stated that the Administration had no fixed policy with regard to foreign missionaries. An application for an entry permit for a missionary was treated like any other such application; the subject was not covered by regulations, nor was any time limit placed on permission to stay in the Territory. Persons were free to remain so long as they did not commit any offence that made them liable to deportation.

127. U MYA SEIN (Burma) asked what was the proportion of converts to non-converts in the Territory.

128. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that no statistics were available, but that when a mission entered a new area most of the people gave it their adherence.

129. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) added that in practice it was very difficult to determine the point at which a person became a convert.

130. In reply to a question from Mr. BARGUES (France), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) stated that, since the publication of the annual report, the Administering Authority had appointed a Controller of Corrective Institutions, and that the present policy was to regard the custody of prisoners not only as a measure of restraint but also as an opportunity for reformatory and educational measures. Prisoners serving terms exceeding twelve months would be sent to special institutions which had sufficient ground, plant and other facilities to provide them with useful full-time occupation; they would be given instruction in hygiene, standards of living and English, and would receive a medical examination and any necessary medical care. Similar facilities and service would be provided for prisoners serving shorter terms. The Department of Native Affairs would assist the rehabilitation of discharged prisoners.

131. Separate measures would be taken for the care of juvenile offenders; even at present juveniles were not confined with older prisoners.

132. Prison reform was an example of the Administering Authority's use of experts from outside the Territory: in that case it had been assisted by the Controller-General of Prisons of Queensland, Australia, who had been impressed with the efficiency of the Territory's prison officers and the cleanliness of its prisons.

133. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) asked whether the Administration had begun the consultations with the

United Kingdom Government, referred to in paragraph 70 of the Visiting Mission's report, with regard to freedom of movement for the Buin people between the mainland and the Shortland Islands.

134. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that, as the Australian representative had stated at the 719th meeting, the consultations would begin shortly.

135. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) asked the special representative to comment on the statement by a spokesman of the Erap people, as reported in paragraph 80 of the Visiting Mission's report, that the Erap lived like animals.

136. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the demonstration which the Erap people had arranged for the Visiting Mission had been of a grossly exaggerated character, as the Mission had evidently realized. The Erap lived in an inaccessible mountainous area and had not made as much progress as the coastal people, but he was confident that agricultural extension teams would visit the area and assist their economic development.

137. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) observed that the complete lack of restraint shown by the Erap people in expressing their views to the Mission even in the presence of representatives of the Administration showed that they had some confidence in the latter.

138. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) assured the Australian representative that he fully realized the confidence which marked the people's relations with the Administering Authority.

139. He asked for clarification of the statement made in paragraph 130 of the Visiting Mission's report with regard to the dissatisfaction of the Sepik River people.

140. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the inhabitants of the Sepik area had been most difficult to bring under control. The area was in economic difficulties—the land was swampy, and there was little arable soil—and the people were asking for aid. A small technical school had been established on the river some years previously, but had been discontinued owing to lack of response. A survey had shown that the land to the west of the river offered limited possibilities for pastoral and other kinds of economic development, and the people would receive whatever assistance was available.

141. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) asked whether the system of bride price created a problem in New Guinea, and whether the Administering Authority contemplated trying to solve it on the lines suggested in paragraph 140 of the Visiting Mission's report, viz. by abolishing the bride price and replacing the custom by a simple mission type of marriage.

142. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the bride price was not a serious problem in the Territory, and drew attention to the explanation of the custom given on page 71 of the annual report. The complaint to which the Mission referred would receive the Administering Authority's full attention, and any necessary action would be taken. The Administration

was reluctant to interfere with any indigenous custom unless it was in the best interests of the inhabitants.

143. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) noted that, according to paragraph 270 of the Visiting Mission's report, the only Administration schools with an eighth-grade standard were Kerevat and Dregerhafen, and that a ninth-grade level was required for admission to the Central Medical School at Suva. He asked whether the Administering Authority intended to provide ninth-grade instruction at those two schools in order to enable students to enter the Central Medical School.

144. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that the educational system had been reorganized to provide education up to standard 9 at all post-primary schools. Standard 9 instruction had always been available at some Administration schools, and the students now in Australia under scholarships had completed standard 9 in the Territory. Kerevat and Dregerhafen had until recently been the only two schools providing a standard high enough to satisfy the conditions of admission to the Central Medical School, but more schools now offered the required standard. The schools which would be most affected by the reorganization were those previously known as central schools, as distinct from the Dregerhafen and Kerevat colleges, which were mainly teacher-training institutions.

145. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) noted that the practice at mission schools of employing languages of instruction other than English seemed out of harmony with the evident desire of the people to be taught in English; he asked whether the Administering Authority planned to make it compulsory for instruction at mission schools to be given in English.

146. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) drew attention to his opening statement (719th meeting), in which he had mentioned the new system of educational grants-in-aid to mission schools, which would depend on the qualifications of the teachers in respect of the teaching of English.

147. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) noted that, while the missions were under no statutory obligation to teach in English, the Administration was satisfied that it could enforce its policy effectively by indirect methods.

148. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) said that he wished to clarify a point made by the Australian representative at the previous meeting in reply to a question from the USSR representative. The latter had drawn attention to paragraph 255 of the Visiting Mission's report, which mentioned a reference made by the Australian Minister of State for Territories to the future "free, close and permanent association with the indigenous peoples for many generations to come". The word "permanent" referred, not to the duration of the Trusteeship Agreement, but to a period extending long after the objectives of the Trusteeship System had been achieved. The Minister's statement could not properly be interpreted as a response to the Visiting Mission's effort to ascertain a target date for independence.

The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.