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**President. Mr. Miguel Rafael URQUIA (El Salvador).***Present:*

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, El Salvador, France, Haiti, India, 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, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

**Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea: (a) annual report of the Administering Authority (T/1114 and Add.1, T/1122, T/1124); (b) petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure (continued)**

[Agenda items 4 (c) and 5]

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. J. H. 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 (concluded)**

1. Replying to questions by Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he would try to have statistical information on the amount of tax collected for exports of copra, gold, coconut oil and so on included in the next annual report on New Guinea.
2. The Administration had not granted any monopoly for the exploitation of New Guinea's natural resources or for industries based on agriculture. The law in force providing for the formation of companies for the agricultural or industrial development of the Territory applied to all equally.
3. He gave some information on coffee-growing and the progress achieved since the first experiments made in the Territory. It was not possible to predict whether coffee would ever become one of the major exports, but coffee-growing was encouraged, in particular in the Central Highlands, where nine additional blocks had been made available to settlers.
4. The PRESIDENT invited members of the Council to ask questions concerning social advancement in the Territory.

5. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), noting that it was rather hard to find exact information among the scattered data on medical service expenditures in the report, asked for confirmation of the figures in appendix IV of the annual report.<sup>1</sup>

6. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the figures were accurate. He admitted that direct capital expenditure on medical services had been very low in 1952-1953. Capital expenditure, for example for the purchase of means of transport or for maintenance of buildings, was given under a single heading, consequently the expenditure on buildings used by the Department of Health was not shown in it.

7. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) observed that there was an omission in the annual report: the number of hospitals was given, but not the number of doctors in the Territory. A health establishment to which no doctor was attached could not be regarded, strictly speaking, as a hospital. He asked the special representative whether the Administration's 51 hospitals were directed by a qualified physician.

8. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that information about the staff of the Department of Health was given in appendix XIX. The main hospitals were in the charge of a medical officer. The smaller hospitals attached to the smaller Administration stations were in the charge of a European senior medical assistant. As of 31 March 1954, the establishment of the Department of Health included 35 medical officers or 35 physicians qualified in medicine and surgery appointed by the Administration. The Administration was continuing recruitment to fill all of the 48 approved positions as early as possible. The European medical assistants had to have the St. John's First Aid and Ambulance Certificate and some certificate showing that they had served a period as hospital attendants; they also received further training in tropical medicine and hygiene. After passing the requisite examinations, they might be appointed senior medical assistants and, as such, be given control over some of the smaller hospitals on the stations.

9. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked whether New Guinea law provided for imprisonment for debt.

10. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that it did not. The term "debtors" on page 81 of the annual report was misleading. Unfortunately, he could not explain what meaning should be given to the term in that context.

11. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked that the Administration's attention should be drawn to that point.

12. Mr. PIGNON (France) was glad to note that genuine progress had been achieved with regard to public health; but in view of the considerable respon-

<sup>1</sup> See Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of New Guinea from 1st July, 1952, to 30th June, 1953, Commonwealth of Australia, 1953.

sibility often placed upon indigenous medical assistants, he would like to know whether the Administration had taken any action on the suggestion made by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1953, to the effect that the training course for assistants should be extended (T/1078, para. 133).

13. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Administration had reviewed the training programme for indigenous medical assistants. The course still lasted two years, but it was now more concentrated and more complete, and met the recommendations of the Visiting Mission. In addition, the medical assistants were recalled from time to time for post-qualification training. The Director of Health was convinced of the new plan's merits.

14. Mr. PIGNON (France) believed that indigenous women should be encouraged to enter the nursing career, for which, it was generally conceded, they showed particular aptitude.

15. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Administration also thought so. However, action along that line had not brought the response that had been hoped for. Indigenous girls, although volunteering for infant welfare work, showed less interest in the general studies which would qualify them to work as nurses in the hospitals.

16. Replying to questions by Mr. S. S. LIU (China), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Administration was doing its utmost, for instance by publicity and requests to universities, to speed up the recruitment of medical staff. That had been fairly successful in the past nine months, and it might be anticipated that all the vacant positions would be filled in the coming twelve months. The construction of the general hospital at Lae would probably require eighteen to twenty-four months more to complete.

17. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) observed that the right of petition was becoming increasingly known in the Territory, and asked what steps the Administration was taking to inform the people that they could send petitions to the United Nations.

18. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the Administration was using broadcasting, the Press and, to some extent, school syllabi. In addition, the general information given about the United Nations naturally included information on the right of petition. The right had been clearly explained to the indigenous inhabitants during the visits of the 1950 and the 1953 Visiting Missions.

19. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) was worried about the restrictions on the indigenous inhabitants' freedom of movement, which amounted to a virtual curfew. He asked what was the reason for those regulations and whether the Administration intended to continue them.

20. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he had already had an opportunity to make a detailed explanation on that subject: the only purpose of the restrictions was to prevent crime and to aid in the maintenance of peace and good order in certain town areas, for settlements, sometimes composed of riff-raff, cropped up in the vicinity of towns. The restrictions were not aimed at the indigenous people, but contributed to their protection. Obviously the Administration was most unwilling to restrict the freedom of any person and was determined to lift the restriction as soon as it felt that it could properly do so. It had already applied it more flexibly in certain districts; if

the relaxation did not result in an increase in crime, the restrictions would be lifted altogether.

21. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) noted that mixed marriages could not be contracted without the written consent of the district officer, and asked for further explanation.

22. The annual report stated that workers and employees received only part of their monthly wage or salary at the end of each month, the remainder being paid only at the end of the labour contract; he asked the reason for that practice.

23. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that, as the indigenous women were not sufficiently advanced to understand all the possible consequences of marriage contracted under customs different from their own, the Administering Authority had taken steps to provide them with the advice and guidance of senior administrative officials before they took such a serious decision.

24. The Native Labour Ordinance, 1952, provided that an agreement should not exceed two years, and, on its expiry, the worker must return home for a period before he could enter into a further agreement. For that reason, the majority of the workers were unsophisticated recruits, and the deferred pay system would ensure that they had some money to take back with them to their village.

25. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether there was legal provision for the payment of compensation when a worker was separated from his employment.

26. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that the labour agreement was signed before an officer, who ensured that both parties — employee and employer — fully understood all the clauses. In case of a dispute before the expiry of the contract, the two parties could conclude an agreement, which had to be approved by a district officer; otherwise the case was referred to the court, which might order the payment of compensation to the employee if his contract was terminated.

27. On the normal expiry of the contract the two parties appeared before the district officer, who determined whether everything was in order and asked the worker whether he was quite satisfied or whether he had any complaints. The worker was paid the deferred wages owing to him under the agreement, and it was the employer's responsibility to see that the worker was provided with rations and free transportation back to his village.

28. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) noted that, according to the annual report, there was no special legislation dealing with social security because the tribes themselves assumed responsibility for the social protection of their members. Not all the indigenous inhabitants, however, lived in tribes; he wondered whether there was any social security system to cover labourers, for example.

29. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that the Native Labour Ordinance provided for the payment of compensation in the event of the death or injury of a worker. The tribes provided all assistance necessary for the aged and the infirm; there had been only a few isolated cases in which assistance by the Administration had been necessary, and it had been liberally given. The Administrator had the authority to give financial assistance in exceptional cases.

30. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether the Administering Authority was taking steps to train indigenous medical practitioners.

31. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that there were as yet no indigenous people who had the secondary education required to enable them to go on to a university; there certainly would be one day, although not in the immediate future. For the time being, the Administration was sending some of the indigenous inhabitants to the Central Medical School, Fiji, where they were taking a course for assistant medical practitioners. A number had already returned and were employed by the Administration.

32. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether the Administration was contemplating any measures to ensure that marriages contracted in accordance with tribal customs were entered in the civil register.

33. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) pointed out that the tribes had not yet reached a state of advancement at which a central marriage register would be practicable. However, there was a marriage register of a kind; for some years each village had had a book in which births, marriages and deaths were recorded by family group. Entries in the village register were made by the inhabitants themselves, by administrative officers who visited the villages at least twice a year, or by the village council, where there was one.

34. Mr. BHANDARI (India) asked whether the indigenous workers always received rations and clothing in addition to cash wages.

35. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that every indigenous worker received food, clothing and tools in addition to his wages; he was also entitled to free medical services and transportation between his village and his place of work. When he was accompanied by his wife and children, they were entitled to similar benefits.

36. Mr. BHANDARI (India) noted that teachers were paid less than certain manual workers and asked whether that might not explain the Territory's shortage of teachers.

37. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he did not believe that indigenous inhabitants who wished to take up teaching as a profession were deterred by the lower wages. The temporary shortage of teaching staff in the Territory was not due to a lack of candidates; the present situation was caused mainly by the delay in opening and expanding the teacher-training colleges owing to the difficulty in getting qualified teachers for those schools. He assured the Council that many indigenous inhabitants were eager to make a career of teaching.

38. Mr. BHANDARI (India) asked whether the indigenous and European women medical assistants did the same type of work.

39. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that in most cases they were the wives of indigenous medical assistants who had gone through the training course with their husbands; when the couple took up the work to which they were appointed the woman medical assistants usually concentrated on work with women and children in the locality.

40. Mr. BHANDARI (India) asked why the Administration had limited the indigenous inhabitants' labour

contracts to periods of two years, at the end of which they had to return to their villages. It might be difficult for the workers to acquire skill in such a short period. As the workers who went to the towns to work only a small proportion of the total population, the indigenous social structure would surely not be seriously affected if they were allowed to remain in towns, where they had better opportunities for education, vocational training and employment.

41. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) explained that the Administration had come to the conclusion that political, economic and social advancement of the indigenous inhabitants should, as far as practicable, be through community life in the village; accordingly, the village must be preserved as a basic unit. Success achieved through the co-operatives and the rural progress societies had confirmed the wisdom of that policy. To do so the Administration had limited to two years the period during which the indigenous inhabitants might leave their village under an agreement to work elsewhere. At the same time, it was well aware that that period was too short for a worker to become completely efficient in skilled occupations, and it had therefore provided for exceptions to the general rule. Although a single worker or married man not accompanied by his wife had to return to his village for a period before entering into a further agreement, that rule did not apply to a worker whose wife resided with him at his place of employment.

42. The Administration was giving the most careful consideration to the problem of the employment of indigenous inhabitants, and all its plans were directed towards their best interests. The possibility of exempting skilled indigenous workers from the requirement to return home before entering into a second or subsequent agreement was at present under consideration.

43. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) asked how many indigenous inhabitants were employed on the medical staff of the mission hospitals.

44. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he did not know the exact figure, but understood from the information available to him that the number was very similar, proportionately, to the number employed by the Administration.

45. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) noted that the Administration provided financial assistance to the mission medical establishments and that it might, therefore, ask the missions to supply some information, if only approximate, about the indigenous medical staff employed in mission establishments.

46. He asked whether the Administration made use of posters and other simple publicity devices to teach the indigenous inhabitants the rules of personal hygiene and environmental sanitation.

47. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that at the end of 1953 he had seen excellent posters in the Territory, several thousand of which had been printed, and which provided the indigenous inhabitants with useful information.

48. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) asked whether the Administration had had any extensive investigations made into the nutritional requirements of the indigenous people.

49. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that a survey had been made about two years previously by Australian experts, whose report

had been published recently. Generally speaking, it had been found that, except for a few deficiencies, the indigenous diet was entirely satisfactory. The Administration was doing everything possible to remedy the deficiencies, in particular through the Department of Agriculture, by the introduction of new crops.

50. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) asked whether prisoners in the Administration prisons received vocational training.

51. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied in the affirmative. In addition, thought was being given to the creation of a separate vocational training department in the prison system.

52. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) requested additional information on the hospital-building programme in the Territory and asked whether the relatively small sum allocated for that programme indicated that the work of the Department of Health in the Territory had been retarded.

53. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the delay in starting the hospital-building programme had been very disappointing to the Administering Authority; it was due to the fact that the matter had to be given careful thought before a final decision was taken, in view of the large sum that the Administering Authority intended to devote to the programme. In any case, the work was now under way and the tempo would probably increase year by year.

54. There had been no contraction in the work of the health services; as a perusal of the annual report indicated, the contrary was true. Special attention should be drawn to the research work carried out on the three principal diseases prevalent in the Territory — malaria, tuberculosis and Hansen's disease. Such work would be extremely useful not only to the Territory itself, but to all countries where those diseases were rife.

55. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired how two seemingly contradictory statements in the annual report could be reconciled: the first; on page 61, was that all elements of the population were secure in the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination as to race, sex, language and religion; the second, on page 62, mentioned restrictions on the movement of the indigenous inhabitants. More over, the annual report also indicated that the indigenous inhabitant was still liable to corporal punishment.

56. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that there was no contradiction in the annual report; the first passage quoted by the USSR representative was in fact followed by the words "except to the extent that it is still considered necessary to preserve certain provisions relating to the indigenous inhabitants in order to protect their interests". Where freedom of movement was concerned, he had nothing to add to the statement he had made in reply to a question by the Indian representative. The question of corporal punishment was discussed in detail in part X of the annual report, dealing with the action taken on the resolutions and recommendations of the General Assembly and of the Council, and he did not see what further information he could give on the subject.

57. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the restrictions on the movement of the indigenous population were in fact imposed in certain towns only.

58. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) confirmed that such restrictions were imposed only in certain townships named in the relevant ordinance.

59. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that, according to the annual report, a number of indigenous inhabitants had been convicted for the unlawful wearing of clothing. He would like fuller information on the matter.

60. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) regretted that he was not in a position to give any explanation; he would consult the competent authorities and provide information at a later stage.

61. Replying to further questions by Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the 1,566 indigenous inhabitants referred to in appendix III, page 127, of the annual report had been prosecuted for breaches of the peace, such as disputes occurring at sports events or celebrations which might lead to a brawl. The punishment meted out was not severe, the sole intention being to make the offenders realize that such behaviour would not be tolerated. The chief officers of villages had authority to order certain work to be carried out in order to maintain cleanliness and hygiene in the villages, in the interests of the inhabitants themselves. The 165 indigenous inhabitants referred to in appendix III had been sentenced for failing to comply with such orders.

62. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that the cash wage of day labourers was very low, the cost of clothing and other articles provided by the employer accounting for over 5s. out of a daily wage of 6s. He would also like to know the salary of the two medical assistants employed by the Baluan Council at its own expense, having regard to the fact that the Council's total expenditure on medical services in 1953 had been £174.<sup>2</sup>

63. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) pointed out that the figure quoted by the USSR representative was the minimum wage for day labourers; after deducting cost of rations, a day-to-day worker received almost double the minimum cash wage. He was sorry that he could not give any information on the second point.

*The meeting was suspended at 3.55 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.*

64. The PRESIDENT invited members of the Council to ask questions concerning educational advancement in the Territory.

65. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), quoting the figures given on pages 84 and 86 of the report, emphasized that the cost of education was largely borne by the missions, which were not State organizations and which received a total subsidy of only £50,000. The devotion of the missions found tangible expression in the number of schools they had opened without receiving any subsidy to cover building costs. Greater advantage could be taken of the devotion and competence of the missionaries, who had no personal ambitions and were prepared to remain humble schoolmasters in primary schools. In view of their thorough knowledge of the language of the country in which they spent their lives, they were, for example, in a better

<sup>2</sup> Figures used during the discussion on New Guinea refer to Australian currency. £A 125 = £ sterling 100 = \$US 280.

position to train indigenous inhabitants to teach indigenous inhabitants. The teacher-training college run by a mission received, however, a grant of only £100 a year. The second teacher-training college run by the Administration was an interesting experiment, but it had trained only 12 students during the year under review; no expansion of the educational system could be achieved at such a tempo. It would be in the Administration's interest to encourage the work of the missions by granting large subsidies, provided of course that the missions gave instruction of an adequate standard and agreed to inspection of the schools by the official government services.

66. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that it was the Administering Authority's policy to assign a very important role in the educational field to the missions, particularly where village primary schools were concerned. The Administering Authority was highly appreciative of the assistance being given by the missions and granted them subsidies for their educational work. The construction of village schools did not involve the missions in any expense, as the schools were built by the inhabitants themselves with local materials. The grants made by the Administration were not limited to any fixed sum but were related to what the missions themselves could do; if they could comply with the requirements in regard to teaching standards and could provide an approved teaching staff which could be effectively employed, and there was no question of opening several schools by different missions in the same village or area, the Administering Authority granted subsidies; for example, for an education liaison officer £500 per annum, for an approved master or mistress £450 per annum. Furthermore, the amount of the subsidy paid to the different schools rose according to whether the school was a village primary school, an intermediate non-boarding school, an intermediate boarding school or a higher training institution. The Administering Authority attached great importance to educational policy and its attention would be drawn to the Belgian representative's observation on the matter.

67. Replying to a further question by Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that, although the degree obtained by young people studying at the Central Medical School at Fiji was not quite equal to the medical degree obtained, for example, in Australia or the United States, a very high standard was maintained and advanced training given. Graduates of the school were variously known as Native medical practitioners and as assistant medical practitioners; their training and qualifications were the same in both cases and were those possessed by the Samoan medical practitioners in Western Samoa.

68. In reply to a question by Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the recording patrols referred to on page 92 of the annual report were carried out by officers of the Department of Education. During such patrols, programmes on subjects of general interest and educational value to the indigenous population were recorded; such as music peculiar to the area or tribe visited, agricultural methods, the land ownership system, etc. Such programmes were then broadcast to the population as a whole.

69. Replying to a number of questions by Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that regulations for compulsory education were at present under consideration; appropriate action would be taken when the draft regulations had been approved. The complete course of primary education was not usually given in any one school. The 52 Administration schools, however, also provided the four final years of the course. Of the 20 secondary-education scholarships awarded to young people in Papua and New Guinea to enable them to continue their studies in Australia, six had been won by indigenous students of New Guinea, the same number—20 for Papua and New Guinea—would be awarded the following year; the Administration was in the meantime taking steps to provide secondary education for students who had attained a sufficiently high educational standard. The scholarships covered tuition fees, school books, clothing, and incidental and travelling expenses for the full five-year secondary course.

70. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why only six scholarships had been awarded to young people from the Trust Territory as against 14 to those from Papua.

71. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied that scholarship holders were selected by competitive examination. Only six of the candidates from New Guinea had reached a sufficiently high educational standard to permit them to continue their education in Australia. Those of the unsuccessful candidates whose knowledge was adequate for more advanced courses would have an opportunity of continuing their studies in one of the higher training centres in the Territory.

72. Referring to the figures given on page 133 of the annual report, Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that appropriation for the education of Europeans rose annually, whereas appropriation for the education of the indigenous population where the need was greatest, was lower than the previous year. He would like some explanation of that situation.

73. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Administration had made an effort to recruit trained staff in Australia, which had to some extent retarded the development of educational services. The necessary staff had now been obtained; educational activities would thus be expanded and expenditure would consequently increase. The wages of indigenous teachers had been slightly increased. The chief savings had been made on school equipment, which need not be replaced each year, and especially on the cost of maintaining the pupils in boarding schools, without, however, reducing their numbers. Considerable savings, amounting to £40,000, had been effected by the establishment of station gardens; the produce from those gardens had replaced the food formerly imported at very high prices. The quality of the food served to the students had not in any way suffered; the calory and vitamin content had remained the same.

74. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he could not see why economic and administrative factors affected only indigenous schools.

75. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) pointed out that the higher expenditure for European pupils was explained by the increase in their

numbers. As there were no European boarding schools, expenditure on school meals could not be reduced as it could in the indigenous schools.

76. Mr. ROBBINS (United States of America) asked whether any comprehensive plan existed for educational development, which seemed to him essential for the country's general development.

77. He noted that in the Administration indigenous schools there was on the average one teacher for every 19 students, whilst in the mission schools and in the European schools there was one teacher for every 26 on every 21 pupils respectively. He wondered therefore whether greater advantage might not be taken of the available teachers in the Administration indigenous schools by increasing the number of pupils.

78. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied in the affirmative to the first question.

79. The number of pupils in the Administration schools was governed by the location of the school and the number of pupils it was intended to serve.

80. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked if there were any village schools in receipt of subsidies from the Administering Authority.

81. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that village councils were encouraged to establish schools in their areas. Teachers were provided and paid by the Administration. On page 84 of the annual report, the number of Administration schools was shown: there were 11 indigenous area schools and 41 other indigenous primary schools. On page 86 of the report, the number of mission village schools was given as 2,471.

82. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether provision was made for instruction in civics in the Administration schools and whether the pupils were informed of United Nations responsibilities towards the Territory.

83. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) replied in the affirmative.

84. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) inquired whether there was a clear-cut distinction between the three categories of schools existing in the Territory, and asked for details of the secondary-school programme for the indigenous population and for Asians.

85. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that where the population was sufficient, there was a school for each racial group in each locality, as the population did not wish to have mixed schools, and better results were obtained by meeting the particular needs of the students, as for example his language needs. However, when the number of the children of several racial groups were insufficient to warrant the establishment of separate schools, all attended the same school. The programme of secondary education did not take the indigenous and Asian pupils to the same standard as applied in Australia. However, the plan for educational advancement would enable full secondary education to be made available to the indigenous inhabitants. The best students could continue their studies in Australian schools.

86. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether pupils who had completed the full course of studies in the Territory would have access to universities.

87. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that some scholarship holders would complete their secondary education in Australia and

could then enter a university. However, no instance had yet occurred.

88. Mr. TARAZI (Syria), turning to the question of uniformity of language, asked whether the Administering Authority was considering steps to enable pupils to follow courses in a common language, irrespective of the school they attended.

89. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that English would be the *lingua franca*. An investigation was currently being carried on to determine whether there were any groups of indigenous languages which could be used for educational purposes. When it had been completed, a decision would be made and the Council would be informed of it.

90. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador) asked whether segregation was in force in the mission schools, and whether any indigenous inhabitant was a member of the Education Advisory Board or the District Education Committees.

91. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the missions were working mainly among the indigenous people. There were at present no indigenous members of the Education Committees.

92. Mr. PIGNON (France) noted with satisfaction that the Administration in its annual report recognized the importance of fundamental education. He wondered whether the collaboration of some of the missionaries, who had wide experience of the indigenous population and could co-operate with the education officers, might not be obtained in drawing up the programme. The inhabitants themselves might also usefully take part.

93. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the Education Department was to some extent working with the missions and with the indigenous local councils, but admitted that there was no official arrangement, except as provided for by the Education Ordinance. The French representative's suggestion was very important; he would submit it to the Administering Authority for consideration.

94. Mr. PIGNON (France), referring to the community development plan which was being carried out at Tabar, asked how far it had been successful.

95. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the results had been quite interesting. There had been a general improvement in that community, and a number of indigenous people, whose services would be used in other areas, had been trained. The Administration had started several experimental projects in addition to Tabar.

96. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) asked whether there were any village higher schools maintained by the missions. He noted that the annual report mentioned the establishment of a number of schools in association with the village councils, and would like to have some information on that association.

97. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea), answered the first point by referring to page 194, appendix XXII, of the report. With regard to the second point, he said that the school buildings were usually provided by the village councils, which also met the costs. Control of the schools, however, rested with the Director of Education.

98. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) asked what was the value, in pounds, of the scholarships for higher studies in Australia awarded by the Administration, and whether the missions awarded similar scholarships to their pupils.

99. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the value of the scholarships for secondary education was approximately £1,500 and would amount to £3,500 or £4,000 if they were for higher education. He did not know whether the missions also awarded scholarships to their pupils, but they were eligible for Administration scholarships.

100. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) said that it was reassuring to learn that there was free education at all levels for boys and girls, both in the Administration schools and in the mission schools. The annual report stated (p. 87) that it was anticipated that compulsory attendance at schools might be applied in certain more advanced areas of the Territory. He would like to know what areas were contemplated.

101. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that the measure would at first be applied

in urban areas, and subsequently in other densely populated areas where adequate transport and schools were available.

102. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) noted that the special representative, in his opening statement (537th meeting), had said that he thought he could reach an agreement with the United Nations Department of Public Information to ensure a steady flow of material suitable for distribution in the territories. He would like to know what arrangements had been made.

103. Mr. JONES (Special representative for New Guinea) said that he had not yet had time to get in touch with that Department, but intended to do so as soon as possible.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.