



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Thirty-first Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. F. H. CORNER (New Zealand).

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, China, France, Liberia, New Zealand, 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.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea: annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1963 (T/L.1621, T/L.1071) (continued)

[Agenda item 4 (a)]

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

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

1. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked the Australian representative, on the assumption that the new Territorial legislature was an interim arrangement, whether the Administration contemplated the elimination of the system of special and official seats, and if so, whether that might happen before the next elections.

2. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that, as far as he knew, there was at present no plan to abolish the ten special electorates; it was felt that such a step and other constitutional changes should flow naturally from the operation of the legislature, which had an elected indigenous majority.

3. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) added that the original intention had been to have only open seats in the House of Assembly; the special seats had been included at the express wish of the vast majority

of the population. It would be that body's prerogative to decide whether and when they should be abolished.

4. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) pointed out that she had been referring not only to the ten special seats but also to the ten seats occupied by officials of the Administration.

5. She inquired what was the marriageable age for women in the Territory.

6. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that it was sixteen years.

7. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether, in the light of that fact, the Administration could not persuade the legislature to reduce the voting age for women to eighteen years from the present twenty-one.

8. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the age requirements for women voters had already been given very careful consideration by the Administration; they would of course be kept under constant review both by the Administering Authority and by the new House of Assembly.

9. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked the special representative to repeat his reply to a question put at the last meeting regarding the total numbers of non-indigenous voters and indigenous voters in the Territory.

10. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that in his reply he had quoted the approximate figures of 14,000 non-indigenous and 700,000 indigenous voters.

11. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) inquired to what extent the new legislature would have power over budgetary matters.

12. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that budgets would be prepared by the Administration and submitted to the House of Assembly, where they would be open to debate and amendment in accordance with parliamentary procedure.

13. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) inquired what would be the powers of the local government councils.

14. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that local government councils were responsible for purely local matters, such as the fixing of local rates and taxes and the administration of local services.

15. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) recalled that at its thirtieth session the Trusteeship Council had referred to the need to set realistic target dates for the progress of the Territory. She wondered whether the Australian representative or the special representative could estimate when the population would be able to exercise its right of self-determination.

16. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that he would be unwilling to do so. It would be for the people of the Territory themselves to make known their wishes in that respect to the Australian Government. One of the purposes of the new legislature was to facilitate the expression of popular will on that and other vital matters.

17. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) inquired by what means the people of the Territory—where there were no political parties—were being informed of the form that self-determination might take and the alternatives open to them under the United Nations Charter.

18. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the local government councils had been instituted to enlighten the people in political procedures; in addition, political information was disseminated through such media as schools, missions and clubs. A new department had recently been set up to disseminate information on all matters including matters connected with the United Nations.

19. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether any indigenous inhabitants had immigrated to Australia from the Trust Territory and if so whether any of them had returned before the elections.

20. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that no inhabitants had taken such a step or indicated any desire to do so.

21. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) recalled that at the Council's thirtieth session (1215th meeting) the representative of UNESCO had drawn attention to the strong feelings in the local government councils about the question of compulsory education. She asked what had been done since then to implement the Education Ordinance concerning compulsory education in the Territory.

22. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that compulsory education had recently been proclaimed in four new areas in the Territory, under the Education Ordinance. The New Guineans needed no encouragement to attend school, and the compulsion did not refer to the early stages of education but to the later years, when young persons were under pressure to go out to work.

23. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked what steps had been taken to encourage youngsters to pursue their studies beyond the secondary level.

24. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that students were given every possible encouragement to complete their secondary education, after which facilities for further studies were available in all fields, depending on the student's qualifications. Applicants were not necessarily expected to meet university entrance standards; the technical field, especially, provided plentiful opportunities at lower levels. The Administration offered scholarships in all fields, and any young New Guinean wishing to proceed to any form of tertiary education could do so entirely cost free.

25. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) wished to know whether anything had been done to meet the criticisms voiced by the UNESCO representative at the thirtieth session concerning educational standards in the Territory.

26. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the number of schools had expanded tremendously since that time. As he had already explained at the previous meeting, the difficulty stemmed purely from the need to teach the indigenous children English ab initio at the primary stage, with the result that they were unable to tackle an overseas type of curriculum until they reached the secondary level.

27. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked the special representative to clarify the meaning of paragraph 33 of the Secretariat working paper on conditions in the

Trust Territory of New Guinea (T/L.1071), which concerned the revising of legislation in order to remove provisions implying racial discrimination.

28. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that in the past year all provisions such as those alluded to in paragraph 33 had been removed from all legislation in the Territory; he had already stated that additional legislation was being introduced to ensure that no discrimination was practised in the Territory.

29. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) referred to a statement on page 49 of the annual report of the Administering Authority^{1/} to the effect that the exact amount of capital invested in the Territory and the extent to which profits remained there were not known. In her view, that was a serious situation, particularly in a Territory which stood in need of economic development. She wished to know what measures would be undertaken in order to remedy it.

30. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that all companies operating in the Territory, whether foreign or local, were required by law to register and to state their nominal operating capital; on the other hand, it would be extremely difficult to know the exact amount of capital with which all companies were operating at all times. As to the question of profits, all companies were required to prepare annual statements and a close watch was kept on all capital and other exports from the Territory.

31. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) expressed the hope that, when the next report on the Territory was prepared, the special representative would be able to furnish precise data regarding the profits made and left in or taken out of the Territory.

32. She asked the special representative whether, in the light of the concern that had been expressed at the previous session regarding the Territory's economic development, he could provide any information regarding the work which had been carried out there by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

33. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that CSIRO was regularly requested by the Administration to carry out surveys in the Territory in such fields as agriculture, forestry and geology. Those surveys, which had now been extended to the entire Territory with the exception of only two areas, and formed the subject of annual reports, had greatly facilitated the development of agriculture in the Territory. He could supply no information as to the result of the Bank's survey, as the corresponding report had not yet been submitted to the Australian Government.

34. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that, according to the Administration's report, gold was the only mineral of economic significance in the Territory. Could the special representative indicate the monetary value of the gold that was being exported from the Territory?

35. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that gold-mining in the Territory had declined of late, being regarded as uneconomical by the larger com-

^{1/} Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations: Administration of the Territory of New Guinea, 1st July 1962—30th June 1963 (Canberra, Commonwealth Government Printer, 1964). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1621).

panies. Since 1948, the Administration had been encouraging the New Guineans to mine gold; there were now some 3,000 indigenous miners producing about one fifth of the current total gold output, which was valued at approximately £650,000.

36. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said it was her understanding that there were still large reserves of land in the Territory. She wondered why it was not being shared out among the people, since the Territory was so greatly dependent on agriculture.

37. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the amount of reserved land in the Territory was very small; as he had said in his opening statement (1225th meeting), only 2.46 per cent of the total land area of New Guinea was not indigenously owned.

38. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) inquired whether any progress had been made in the matter of individual landholding, the importance of which had been stressed by the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru and New Guinea, 1962 (T/1597 and Add.1, para. 146).

39. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that considerable progress had been made, inasmuch as legislation had been introduced to facilitate the conversion of land tenure. The current legislation included the Land (Tenure Conversion) Ordinance, the Lands Registration (Communally Owned Land) Ordinance, and provision for a Land Titles Commissioner responsible for determining ownership according to the wishes of the people.

40. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) inquired whether there were any plans for improving unfertile land and for teaching the population to expand their agriculture from a subsistence basis to a higher level.

41. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Administration was constantly preoccupied with land improvement; in particular, a large-scale drainage scheme was just getting under way in the Wahgi Valley of the Western Highlands; if successful, it would be followed by a resettlement scheme. As to the educational aspects, in addition to numerous agricultural stations, the Administration had established some sixty agricultural extension centres in New Guinea alone and their number was being increased. The Administration's current aim was to provide some 1,500 farmers yearly with a comprehensive twelve-month practical training course.

42. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether there was any set plan, such as a five-year plan, for the economic development of the Territory in terms of targets and dates.

43. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that there were plans for a three-year, a five-year and a ten-year period which were implemented by the departments concerned; introduction of the successive stages depended on the progress made annually.

44. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that, at the 1215th meeting, the special representative had described in great detail the difficulties attendant on organizing the elections in the Territory yet had failed to refer to certain aspects. He wished to know firstly whether the House of Assembly's decisions required a two-thirds or a simple majority.

45. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the decisions were based on a simple majority.

46. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether a bill passed by the House of Assembly required the approval of the Administrator or of the Australian Government in order to take effect.

47. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that such a bill was subject to allowance or disallowance by the Administrator in some cases or by the Governor-General of Australia in others, in keeping with normal parliamentary procedure in the Australian Commonwealth.

48. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what the procedure would be in the event of the Governor-General not approving a bill.

49. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Governor-General or the Administrator, as the case might be, were both empowered to suggest amendments for consideration by the House of Assembly.

50. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what the situation would be if the House disagreed with the proposed amendments.

51. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that in such an event the previous procedure would be repeated, but that in the meantime the Administrator would be unable to pass any other legislation without the approval of the House, since any bill put forward by the Administration required the support of a majority in the House.

52. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired what types of bills the House had authority to consider, and in particular whether it had authority in budgetary matters, or whether they required the final consent of the Governor-General.

53. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that all bills of any kind put forward in the Territory had to go before the House for its decision, following which they required the assent of the Administrator or the Governor-General.

54. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the House would also be competent in regard to foreign relations, including questions of defence, trade and so on.

55. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that all such matters would go before the House, if so required; however, the Australian Government would reserve the right also to bring such legislation before the House itself through the Administrator.

56. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the House would have the right to express its opinion should the Australian Government conclude an agreement on the establishment of foreign military bases or the admission of foreign troops into the Territory.

57. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that such matters were not normally dealt with by the Territorial legislature, but by the Australian Government, which, under the Trusteeship Agreement, had the same powers of defence in relation to the Trust Territory as it had in relation to metropolitan Australia. That position also held good in respect of the House of Assembly.

58. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired whether there were any laws which were not approved by the Governor-General or by the authorities in Canberra.

59. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) replied that, as the special representative had already explained, all bills passed by the Australian Parliament required the assent of the Governor-General as the representative of the Queen in Australia; the same principle applied to Territorial legislation. On the other hand, the Administrator could not introduce legislation into the Territory without the consent of the House of Assembly, which had an elected indigenous majority. Thus, despite the powers vested in the Governor-General or the Administrator, as the case might be, the latter could only secure the passage of legislation in the Territory by convincing the elected indigenous majority that it deserved their support.

60. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said the special representative had admitted that all laws must be approved by the Governor-General—a negative aspect.

61. He asked the special representative how many New Guineans would be members of the newly expanded Administrator's Council.

62. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that he could not say at the present stage.

63. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) regretted that the special representative had been unable to answer such a simple question. He asked what were the functions of the Administrator's Council and whether its decisions were subject to approval by the Administrator.

64. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Administrator's Council was an advisory body linking the executive and the legislature. It was expected that the Council would take over responsibility for many matters of policy which had in the past been decided by the Administrator. Most of the Council's decisions would subsequently come before the House of Assembly for approval in the form of bills. The Administrator must explain to the House of Assembly all matters on which he had rejected the advice of his Council.

65. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that, according to pages 26 and 27 of the Administering Authority's annual report, the Administrator was not bound to act in conformity with the advice of the Council, but if he failed to act in accordance with that advice in a case where a statutory power given under an ordinance might be exercised either by the Administrator-in-Council or by the Administrator, he must provide the Legislative Council with a statement of his reasons. The implication of that statement was that the Administrator's Council had been created largely to keep the Administrator in constant and continuing touch with the views of the House of Assembly, especially during its periods of recess. The fact that the Administrator must explain why he had not followed the advice of his Council, the majority of which consisted of elected members of the House of Assembly, was a safeguard against and deterrent to arbitrary action by the Administrator.

66. The reason why the special representative had been unable to answer the question asked by the Soviet Union representative in regard to the precise composition of the Council was simply that the decision had not yet been taken; when it was, the Trusteeship Council would be duly informed.

67. In reply to a question by Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. McCARTHY (Aus-

tralia) said that the Administrator's Council did not have the right to approve legislation before it became law; that power was vested in Parliament.

68. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), noting that only a small percentage of the membership of the House of Assembly were indigenous inhabitants, asked the special representative what measures the Administration planned to take to eliminate discrimination and when such measures would be applied.

69. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that no discriminatory practices now existed in the Territory. Previously existing discriminatory provisions in legislation had been entirely eliminated during the past year, and the Discriminatory Practices Ordinance, which provided severe penalties for anyone practising discrimination in the Territory, had been adopted.

70. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that ten seats in the House of Assembly had been reserved for non-indigenous candidates at the precise and explicit wish of the indigenous people themselves. The ten official seats represented a temporary arrangement because the ten official members possessed the greatest knowledge and experience in the Territory in the particular subjects with which they were concerned. Elections for the ten reserved—as distinct from the official—seats were held on the basis of universal suffrage. In addition, six non-indigenous candidates had been elected by an overwhelming majority to non-reserved seats. The indigenous people clearly wished those persons to represent them in Parliament whom they considered to have the best qualifications for the positions, regardless of race.

71. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired whether the Administration planned to transfer local power to the local councils and do away with the unlimited powers of the Administrator. He also wished to know why the local administrator retained the right formally to appoint members of the local council who had already been elected.

72. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) explained that the main powers of the local administrator were those of co-ordination and supervision of the practical operation of the administrative machinery in the field. More and more, elected representatives to the House of Assembly would take over the various district functions.

73. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why the membership of the district advisory councils and their relationship to the local inhabitants were not based on the will of the people themselves.

74. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the district advisory councils had recently been reconstituted by the Administration to provide for indigenous majorities. Those bodies advised the district commissioners and the Administrator on all local matters. The Administrator could bring any local problem before the House of Assembly or to the notice of any department. It was envisaged that in time those advisory councils would also be linked to the activities of elected members of the House.

75. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired what percentage of the members of the local councils were indigenous inhabitants.

76. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that, although the percentage varied in different districts, in a council of twenty members the indigenous representation must number at least eleven.
77. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that the local government councils, which represented approximately 1 million people in Papua and New Guinea, were elected by the people themselves and performed statutory local government functions which were being increasingly expanded. The advisory councils, to which the Soviet representative had referred, had been set up to advise the local district leaders in matters of concern to their districts. The Administration wanted the best-qualified men of both races to serve on the advisory councils.
78. Provision had been made for a majority of indigenous inhabitants on all advisory councils; the number of eleven which the special representative had quoted was only a minimum.
79. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the Australian representative to comment on reports which had appeared in the Press to the effect that New Guinea would be given independence only when its Parliament had concluded a treaty with Australia which would safeguard the latter's strategic interests in the area.
80. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that no such statement of policy had ever been made by the Australian Government. The reports to which the Soviet Union representative had alluded were undoubtedly based on pure speculation.
81. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wondered whether the special representative was prepared to state approximately when the Administering Authority intended to apply the provisions of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples to the Territory.
82. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that self-determination would be granted to the Territory of New Guinea in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of New Guinea themselves. Australia considered that the best means of doing so would be through a democratically elected legislature representing all the people and elected on the basis of "one man, one vote", regardless of race, creed or colour. That body would speak for the people when it wished to do so.
83. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that since all laws passed by the House of Assembly must be approved by the Governor-General, it was easy to imagine what kind of popular will and freedom that would be.
84. He asked when, approximately, the under-secretaries in the House of Assembly would be appointed.
85. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that they would be appointed at the opening of the House of Assembly on 8 June.
86. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative how many of the approximately 1,200 indigenous civil servants were working in the various departments of the Territory.
87. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the number of indigenous officers in the first, second, and third divisions of the Public Service had risen from 113 in 1963 to 136 in 1964. There were
- also 32 temporary indigenous employees and 893 permanent officers and 180 temporary employees in the auxiliary division of the Service.
88. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wondered how many heads of departments were indigenous inhabitants.
89. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were no indigenous heads of departments at the present time, since a long period of training was required to perform such functions. It was the aim of the Administration to turn the Public Service over to the indigenous inhabitants as fast as was practicable.
90. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative how many heads of departments had indigenous assistants.
91. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that at the present time all responsible officers had indigenous assistants.
92. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative what was the relative importance of each of the divisions of the Public Service and what was the number and percentage of local inhabitants serving in each.
93. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were four divisions of the Public Service: the first division consisted of heads of departments; the second of the more senior officers of the Administration; the third, of a lower rank of administration officers; and the auxiliary division was a training division which could supply officers to any one of the other divisions. There was no basic difference in the pay of indigenous and Australian officers except that the latter were given an overseas allowance in addition to their salary. There were approximately 1,200 indigenous members of the Public Service. The number of permanent indigenous officers in the first, second and third divisions was 168 with another 1,173 in the auxiliary division.
94. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many indigenous judges there were in the Territory and how many students were preparing to become judges.
95. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that there were no indigenous judges at present in the Territory. One indigenous inhabitant was now in his third year of law at Sydney University.
96. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many programmes concerning the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples had been broadcast to the local population, and, in particular, how many such programmes had been broadcast to school children.
97. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that he was unable to answer the Soviet representative's question in specific terms. Numerous programmes were broadcast every day to schools and other interested bodies. Some information concerning the United Nations was always disseminated during those broadcasts. Information on the Declaration had been given at various times.
98. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) thought it was asking too much of the special representative to give specific figures on broadcasts that were given daily throughout the year by two radio stations on a whole variety of matters in which the United Nations was interested.

99. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) disagreed. The Secretary-General's report (T/1623) contained not a single word about disseminating information to New Guineans about the Declaration. He asked whether the Declaration had been translated into the local languages.
100. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative), recalling that some 706 different languages and over 2,000 different dialects were spoken by a population of approximately 2 million, thought it would be impossible to translate the Declaration into all those languages. Efforts had been made to translate much United Nations material into many of the local vernaculars and into the languages of convenience—Melanesian Pidgin in New Guinea and Police Motu in Papua—as well as into English. The Declaration had been widely distributed in English throughout the Territory of New Guinea.
101. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that many thousands of copies of the English text of the Declaration had been disseminated throughout the Territory to schools, district headquarters, patrol posts, and local government councils.
102. The customary mode for disseminating information in the Territory was by word of mouth; once a piece of information had been absorbed from a document by one or two persons it was then passed by word of mouth throughout practically the entire Territory. Thus the Declaration had been widely disseminated in the Territory.
103. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why the Declaration had not been translated into Pidgin and Motu.
104. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that translations of the Declaration into Pidgin and Motu, which were linguae francae only in a very limited sense, had not been widely disseminated, first, because the Declaration had been widely distributed in English; secondly, because the people who were most interested in the document were the people to whom the English version was available; and thirdly, because United Nations documents such as General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) were extraordinarily difficult to translate into such unsophisticated tongues as Motu and Pidgin. Moreover, neither was a language in the proper sense of the term. Motu was merely a simplification of one of the Papuan languages. Melanesian Pidgin was an extraordinarily inexact language, much related to the daily lives of the people. The difficulties of translation were fantastic because there was nothing in those languages corresponding to the sophisticated and far-reaching concepts involved in United Nations documents. The Administration was now trying to find a solution to that problem.
105. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what percentage of the adult population was literate.
106. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that, although the differing criteria of literacy made it difficult to answer that question, it could be said that approximately 15 to 20 per cent of the population was literate.
107. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many of the indigenous inhabitants had received higher education.
108. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that a large number of indigenous inhabitants had received advanced training in technical subjects. None of the indigenous inhabitants had yet completed university studies but twelve of them were attending universities in Australia. There were 665 teacher trainees in the Territory.
109. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled the special representative's statement at the 1225th meeting that about 175,000 children in the Territory were attending school and asked the size of the school-age population.
110. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that the estimated number of school-age children in the Territory was 450,000.
111. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the university to be established in New Guinea would be of the same standard as Australian universities.
112. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied in the affirmative.
113. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked when the university would be established.
114. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that a commission on higher education had just made a survey of the entire Territory and submitted its report to the Minister for Territories. On the basis of the information and recommendations contained in that report, the Australian Government would consider the question of the establishment of a university in the Territory.
115. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the situation with regard to higher education in the Territory was deplorable. It was particularly regrettable that the Administering Authority was not allowing the indigenous inhabitants to take advantage of the fellowships offered by States Members of the United Nations. He wondered whether Australia had any plans in that connexion.
116. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that, although the Administering Authority was grateful for the various offers of fellowships, the facilities available in Australia were adequate to meet the existing needs of the population of the Territory. Those facilities would continue to be available for indigenous inhabitants, even if a university was established in the Territory.
117. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) inquired what was the average per capita income for the white population and the indigenous population in Papua and New Guinea.
118. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that he did not have separate figures for the different ethnic groups but that the over-all per capita income in the Territory had risen to about £67 a year.
119. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what use was made of the grant of £25 million made to the Territory by the Administering Authority and how that sum was divided between the different sectors.
120. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that, out of the Territory's total budget of £37.5 million for the current year, £25,250,000 was provided by the Australian Government to augment the money available from the internal revenues of the Territory. The money was spent in all fields where it was required and a budget was drawn up every year

for the various services and development programmes in each of the departments of the Administration. In addition, £5 million was spent directly by the Australian Government, mainly on the provision of works and services. The annual report contained an itemized list of expenditure in the various departments.

121. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how much of the budget came from taxes paid by the indigenous population and how much from taxes paid by foreign companies operating in the Territory.

122. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) said that, of the total budget of £37.5 million, £25 million was given by the Australian Government and the remaining £12 million was raised in the Territory. The bulk of the revenue of the Territory consisted of taxes from non-indigenous sources, such as income tax and company tax. Many of the indigenous inhabitants paid no taxes at all; their taxes were adjusted to the individual's capacity to pay and never exceeded £2 a year.

123. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the indigenous population was represented in the Papua and New Guinea Employers' Association and, if so, in what proportion.

124. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the indigenous inhabitants were represented in the Association and that their membership was continually increasing.

125. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that, according to the annual report, the investment of outside capital in the Territory was encouraged subject to suitable safeguards to protect the interests of the indigenous population. He would like to know how the interests of the indigenous population were protected.

126. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) replied that the Administering Authority welcomed outside capital as an aid and incentive to the development of the Territory. One example of such development was the purchase by a co-operative society of a coffee-processing plant in the Highlands.

127. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested information about the activities in the Territory of such companies as Burns Philp, Mobil Oil Australia and the Shell Company of Australia.

128. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that, together with a number of other large concerns operating in the Territory, Burns Philp provided trading facilities throughout the Territory and also operated a coastal shipping service. Mobil Oil and the other oil companies operating in the Territory supplied and transported oil products. The oil companies were spending considerable sums in the Territory in oil exploration and were thus making a significant contribution to its future welfare.

129. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the special representative had any information about the capital investment of such companies and their profits.

130. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that unfortunately he had no exact figures. However, it was significant that in the trade balance for the current year imports had been worth about £10 million more than exports.

131. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the local government councils were consulted with respect to the alienation of land.

132. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) said that only 2.46 per cent of all land in the Territory was not indigenously owned and some of that was used for various public services. Before any land was acquired, the local people were consulted and, except in very special circumstances, there was no compulsion.

133. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the policy of replacing community ownership of land by private ownership might sow discord among the different communities.

134. Mr. TOOGOOD (Special Representative) explained that the system of group ownership had led to disputes about the ownership of crops. A new Land Ordinance had been passed to resolve those difficulties. No land was transferred and there was no permanent demarcation of boundaries until the wishes of the people had been ascertained. The matter was then referred to the Land Titles Commission, which had the authority to determine ownership.

135. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would like to put a question to one of the advisers to the special representative.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Magan and Mr. Tau Boga, advisers to the special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, took places at the Council table.

136. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what role was played by the co-operatives in the economic development of New Guinea.

137. Mr. MAGAN (Adviser to the Special Representative) said that he was unable to describe the work of the co-operatives throughout the Territory but could give information about the co-operative in the Bougainville District, with which he was associated. That co-operative had been started by the people themselves. It purchased their copra, shell and other products, which were then sent to other purchasing companies and shipped out of the Territory. A balance-sheet was drawn up at the end of each year and the profits from the co-operative were then distributed among its members.

138. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the co-operative movement had developed on a wide scale in the Territory.

139. Mr. MAGAN (Adviser to the Special Representative) replied that co-operatives had been established in many parts of the Territory. They were very progressive and had facilitated the shipment of products by purchasing their own trucks, vessels and other means of transport.

140. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how the local population had reacted to the decision of the Administering Authority to transfer group land to private ownership.

141. Mr. MAGAN (Adviser to the Special Representative) said that he was unable to answer the question, because he had no first-hand experience of that procedure.

142. Mr. SHAKHOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked Mr. Tau Boga what deficiencies there

were in the school system in the Territory and what measures should be taken to remedy them.

143. Mr. TAU BOGA (Adviser to the Special Representative) said that there were no deficiencies and

that all measures had been taken to accelerate educational progress in the Territory.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.