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Fiftieth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FIFTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 23 May 1985, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. MAXEY (United Kingdom)

Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General (Trusteeship Council resolution 36 (III) and General Assembly resolution 754 (VIII))

Examination of the petitions listed in the annex to the agenda

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolutions 557 (VI) and 753 (VIII))

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 September 1984: Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM IN TRUST TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL RESOLUTION 36 (III) AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 754 (VIII)) (T/1873)

The PRESIDENT: First, I call on Mr. Masha, representative of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, who will briefly outline the activities of the Organization in the dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): Once again, it is a great pleasure for me to appear before this United Nations body to introduce the annual report of the Secretary-General on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/1873). The report is in the form of a summary of activities that we have undertaken to maintain and enhance the awareness of the people of the Trust Territory concerning the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System. The Department has continued the distribution of information material, such as publications, press releases, radio programmes, films and photos, both directly from Headquarters to the Territory and through our Information Centre in Tokyo.

In our report last year, we indicated that, during his visit to the Territory, our Information Officer from our Tokyo Office had found great interest on the part of Government officials and the educational community in receiving United Nations films on video cassettes. I am happy to report that last year, for the first time, the Department of Public Information introduced films on video cassettes for use in the Territory, and we have information that they are actually being used.

As indicated in the report which is before the Council, the annual visit to the Territory by our Information Officer in Tokyo has not taken place. The visit which is now scheduled for the fall of this year will give us an opportunity once again to assess the needs of all interested users of our materials and our disseminators and we shall, of course, inform the Council at its next session of the results of that visit.

(Mr. Masha)

I have confined my remarks to what I consider to be the salient points of the report which is before the Council. I wish to stress again the great importance that the Department of Public Information attaches to the Council's work and assure the Council that we will continue to carry out our role as mandated by the General Assembly of providing information to the people of the Trust Territory on United Nations activities and the principles and objectives of the International Trusteeship System.

The PRESIDENT: Are there any comments or questions on Mr. Masha's statement and the report of the Secretary-General?

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): First, I should like to thank the representative of the Department of Public Information, Mr. Masha, for introducing the Secretary-General's report on the dissemination of information on the United Nations throughout the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. In this connection, we should like to address a few questions to him.

Our first question relates to paragraph 2 of the report in which it is stated that:

"As in previous years, the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat implemented its information mandates by distributing material ..."

I wonder whether Mr. Masha is in a position to explain to us any changes that have occurred in those tasks, in comparison with past years, with respect to the major thrust and guidelines governing those mandates, with particular regard to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): I would draw the attention of the representative of the Soviet Union to the paragraph in the report which deals with the films and cassettes. This reflects a change that we have introduced following a visit to the Territory by an official of the Information Centre at Tokyo. It will also be noted that in the annex information is given about the number of copies of publications that we are sending to various parts of the Trust Territory. That is a departure from the previous list; indeed, we have increased the number of copies of some of the publications we send. There has also been a change in the nature of some of the documents that we have sent to the Trust Territory. The list is different in terms of quantity and, to some extent, content from the list that was presented to the Council last year.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am much obliged to Mr. Masha for the clarification he provided in response to my first question.

My next question is the following: is the list of information material contained in the annex to the report an exhaustive list or does it exclude anything distributed by the Department of Public Information in the past?

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): We can report only on what we do in our Department. I would not want to be presumptuous and say this is indeed an exhaustive list of material from all the possible channels through which the people in the Trust Territory might be receiving information about the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System. The report contains a description of what the Department provided during the course of the year. I only hope that the people in the Territory are receiving more material than what we are sending through channels, contacts, and perhaps, through the Administering Authority.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could Mr. Masha explain how the Department decides on the quantities of publications to be distributed. In the vast majority of cases 78 copies were distributed, in others 18 and in yet others only 6; and, in one case 390 copies were distributed.

(Mr. Berezovsky, USSR)

I for one should like to know the criteria governing the Department's decision that 78 copies should be distributed in some cases, six in others and 390 in yet others.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information (DPI)): Decisions concerning quantities of material, whether supplied directly by the Department or, where we are able to obtain material in the quantities we desire, by the originating Secretariat unit, are based on the perceived needs of the area. As we have said, we normally send missions to the area. Our people have their contacts in the Territory. We have a pretty good idea of how much material will be used or would be useful, who would want it and the quantities they require. On the basis of their visits, of visits by officials from our Information Centre at Tokyo and of the consultations we hold with the Secretariat of the Council we are able to make a fairly accurate assessment of needs.

Now some of the publications do not originate directly in the Department. In those cases, we can only send as many copies as are made available to us. It is this that accounts for the discrepancy in numbers. We send 78 copies of most publications because this is the number that we have determined over the years is adequate for use in the Territory. We should be glad to know if there is any indication that a greater number of copies would be used so that we could send more. We would have no problem in sending many more if it is thought that there is a need for them.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. Masha has just told to us that three elements are taken into account in determining the quantities needed: first, consultations between the Department of Public Information and the department dealing with trusteeship and decolonization; second, assessments of needs made by the Information Centre at Tokyo; and, third, consultations between officials of the Department of Public Information and their local contacts.

It would appear that these figures are determined on the basis of long experience accumulated over the course of the years. My delegation has already raised similar questions in previous years. It addressed the question, for that matter, to the Special Council of the Administering Authority to find out if the people in the area were being kept abreast of what the United Nations is doing, and we have already said that not enough information was being distributed on the spot.

(Mr. Berezovsky, USSR)

It not by chance that I am again today raising the question of exactly how the number of copies to be sent out is arrived at. We have already, in the past, stressed this aspect and the representative of the Department of Public Information agreed that there was a need to increase the number of publications and copies sent to and distributed within the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Above and beyond that, I have just raised a question: let me rephrase it. Is this an exhaustive list? In other words, is everything that the Department of Public Information sends to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands included in this list? Looking at this list, I do not find documents such as - and I stand corrected if I am mistaken - the Charter of the United Nations or the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Moreover, in the course of one of yesterday's meetings the representative of the Administering Authority indicated that that particular document was indeed being disseminated throughout the Trust Territory. I note in the list released by the Department of Public Information that, for some unstated reason, this document is not mentioned. For our part, we should like to have light shed on this matter.

There is yet another facet of things, however, that is of interest to us to some extent and that entails the criteria the Department applies in despatching information and documentation publications to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): I am not sure that I have anything more to add about how we determine the figures we arrive at. When we send someone from the Department to the area and that person comes back and says, "These are the materials that would be used, useful or needed", and we respond accordingly, then I am not sure what else we can do. If the representative of the Soviet Union has addresses or knows of needs that we have perhaps not identified we would be glad if he would share that information with us. We should be only too glad to send that material. But we can work only with the information we have obtained as a result of our research.

(Mr. Masha)

As to the documents to which the representative of the Soviet Union refers, let me just indicate that we have been sending material to this Territory for a long time. This is not the first time. In our 1981 report (T/1829), for example, we indicated that we had been sending the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. We have been sending some of this material over the years, and in the case of materials which do not require updating there is no point in continuing to send the same document to the same, or similar, groups. I am not sure that it is the suggestion of the representative that, if we send copies of the United Nations Charter to a person this year, then next year we should again send more copies.

But I am quite willing to accept any suggestions of new sources in the Territory, that we might not have reached, to which we should send materials.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I still have quite a few questions in connection with the last comments made by Mr. Masha. First, when was the last time a representative of DPI went to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and how intensively and extensively were his consultations carried out in the Territory?

Secondly, with regard to the comment about the statement that the same materials should not be sent every year to the same parties, we can agree with that if the parties receiving the materials do not ask for the same materials again. However, we cannot agree that DPI should not consider the situation and see how it can expand upon this information.

You will agree, Sir, that what was sent last year - 67 copies of the Plan of Action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples - hardly constitutes a sufficient quantity for such a large territory as Micronesia, with its many populated atolls and islands - something which, quite clearly, we should take into account.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): We have been reporting over the years that we have had our Information Officer in Tokyo visit the Territory every year. But, as we have indicated in our document this year, this is the only year the visit has been delayed. But we do visit the Territory every year and we have done so for the last several years.

Now, as to the depth of the consultations that are undertaken, I am not sure whether I should read out the itinerary for the various visits which the Officer has made or give a list of the individuals with whom he has met.

I do not believe that is the intention of the representative of the Soviet Union. I can only assure the Council that our Officer has no limitations whatsoever on visiting all possible areas where our information materials are either used or could be used in order to ascertain the utilization of the materials we have sent in the past.

I would just add that with regard to the Charter, which was specifically mentioned by the representative of the Soviet Union in 1982 we did send 80 copies of the Charter. Were I to search my files, we should probably find other occasions when we had sent copies of the Charter. It is quite possible that indeed the

(Mr. Masha)

materials we sent might not have been adequate for all the people in the Territory. That is quite possible. I do not deny it. All I am saying is that if we are to send the materials on the basis of potential usage, then this is what we are able to establish at the moment. That is why I reiterate that we should be extremely glad, in the event the representative feels there are areas we have not been able to reach, for him to give us the addresses, and I am sure that, with the co-operation of the Administering Authority, we would be able to send them.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In the list of publications sent to the Trust Territory, we failed to note many materials we feel would be very useful, namely, any information on the existence of United Nations bodies directly linked to decolonization - a subject that is referred to, particularly during the General Assembly session, in the Fourth Committee, for instance. Many specific statements are made during plenary meetings of the General Assembly, and our delegation feels that the Department of Public Information should draw attention to this, because in the list that has been provided we do not see references to these materials. We are sure that some kind of formula or basis could be found for sending such materials to the Territory.

As to Mr. Masha's comment that it is not very clear to him why the representative of the Soviet Union wanted a list of the people with whom the representative of the Department of Public Information has spoken in visiting the information centres - such as in Tokyo, the Trust Territory itself, or other places where he has travelled - we know Mr. Masha well enough to believe what he says and we do not need a formal document to this effect. But what we should really like is to have an idea of how extensive the travels of this representative have been - for example, he starts in Saipan and then simply moves on to Tokyo. We simply do not know. That is why we were interested in asking Mr. Masha this question.

I hope he will not take our question as an attempt in any way to interfere with the Department of Public Information. On the contrary, we have a very high opinion of the Department's efforts in the general context of the United Nations struggle for decolonization. Our task here is simply to promote even further the success of the work of this Department of the United Nations.

Mr. MORTIMER (United Kingdom): Like my Soviet colleague, I want to thank Mr. Masha for introducing the excellent report of the Secretary-General. I wish also to congratulate him for ensuring that so many DPI publications are apparently distributed in the Trust Territory.

As is so often the case with all aspects of our work, the quality is, of course, considerably better than the quantity. Speaking of quality, I see that copies of the excellent DPI publication "Image and Reality" has been circulated in the Trust Territory. That seems to me to be perhaps one of the best and most balanced and informative guides on the United Nations that has been produced. One that is not quite in the same category as far as quality is concerned is the remarkable teaching guide on decolonization, about which my delegation had must to say last year in a number of forums - not much of it complimentary, I have to say.

(Mr. Mortimer, United Kingdom)

I wonder if Mr. Masha could tell us whether it is the intention of the Department of Public Information to distribute more copies of this document and whether it is being used in schools - perhaps the Administering Authority might be able to comment on that - and also remind us of the content, of the annex, which is described here as DPI/751/Add.1.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): I appreciate the comments of the representative of the United Kingdom and his praise for one of our publications, Image and Reality.

With respect to the teaching guide, I want to check whether Addendum 1 is a revision of the copy which caused some comments last year. I shall be able to give the answer in a moment as to which edition was sent to the Territory.

The PRESIDENT: Meanwhile, are there any other comments or questions?

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have one more question. Mr. Masha must know that last year a film on Palau was shown in the United Nations. The film was both interesting and useful. Does Mr. Masha know anything about how matters stand with this film? Has the Department of Public Information acquired the film, does it have it available and does it have a video cassette version of it? If it is available to the Department of Public Information, has it been distributed in Palau and in the other parts of the Trust Territory?

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): Let me first refer to something that the representative of the Soviet Union asked earlier - whether we send out material on discussions and proceedings of the Fourth Committee. The listing we show in the annex is in addition to what we indicate in the other paragraphs, particularly in paragraph 3, of the document, in which we say we send press releases, radio tapes and other materials to the Territory. Those press releases which cover the activities of the Fourth Committee obviously would contain statements by the various delegations on this question, and they are mailed to the Territory. So this kind of information is reaching the Territory.

On the question of the film, my recollection is that the film was made outside. We indicated that for us to acquire that film would entail a cost, as well as a problem of copyright arrangements. I understand that the makers of the film were willing to let us have it at minimal cost, but there was cost in terms of acquiring it and also changing it to a format to enable us to send it to the Trust Territory. There was resistance to the cost factor connected with this film, but, if the Council wished us to acquire it, obviously we would have no problem, as long

(Mr. Masha)

as it is understood that there is a cost attached which we were not able to meet last year.

On the teaching guide, I understand that a copy of the version that was sent to the Territory is being brought down to us.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): For the record I should like to state that the United States of America, as a member of this Council as well as the administering Power, regards the film in question as tendentious, biased, inaccurate and in fact a misportrayal which makes no distinction between allegation and fact, between charge and truth. The United States, as a member of the Trusteeship Council, would have the most severe and unyielding objection to the acquisition of this film by the Department of Public Information.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The last statement by the representative of the United States surprised me somewhat. We are proposing sending a film to the Territory. If it is inaccurate, the population there will know right away what is and what is not true about it. It seems to me in this case that the Administering Authority would try to ensure and would advocate the film's getting to the Territory. Then, if it is inaccurate, the Micronesians themselves will of course see through it. Well, that is a matter for the conscience of the representative of the United States; that is his position. As far as the Department of Public Information is concerned, given the Department's budget and the expenditure that the distribution of information entails every year, acquiring this film should hardly give rise to an unusual financial outlay. The videotape of this film, as I understand it, costs \$800, and I believe that one of the decolonization bodies of the United Nations made a special recommendation to the Department of Public Information that the film be acquired and used. Therefore we feel that this question has a broader context than that simply of information for the population of the Trust Territory. To go on -

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): Before we go on, let us conclude with this topic. The business of the Department of Public Information is to convey information. It is not in the business, as I understand it, of sending fiction films around the world.

Mr. ROCHER (France) (interpretation from French): As this is the first time I have heard about this film, I have some questions to ask. Who made the film? Where does it come from? Is it considered to be an official document of the Department of Public Information? Is it accessible to members of the Trusteeship Council and can we look at it?

Mr. MORTIMER (United Kingdom): What I wish to say is that, fiction or not, it seems to me that \$800 for a cassette is an outrageous sum of money, and I would protest strongly at such a sum being spent on a single film.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): Since this is not a United Nations film, not a film made by the Department of Public Information, we can distribute it only if so directed by an intergovernmental body, and I do not want to interject myself into the politics of arriving at a decision on that. I can say only that if it is agreed that we purchase and distribute the film, the cost will be communicated in the proper manner.

I am now in a position to answer the question put by the representative of the United Kingdom about the teaching guide. We revised the guide to accommodate some of the objections that had been raised concerning the earlier version. The English edition that was sent to the Trust Territory was the original version, with the revisions appended to the guide. I have a copy here, in case the representative of the United Kingdom wishes to examine it. The editions in the other languages had not actually been printed, so we were able to incorporate the changes into the text.

The PRESIDENT: The film under discussion was made for United States television, and it seems to me clear that there is not a general wish on the part of the Council that it should be acquired.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): It is my understanding that this film has been viewed in the United States Congress and televised here in New York on Channel 13. I think that the proposal of the representative of France that it should be viewed by members of the Council deserves serious consideration. We could certainly find 45 minutes of our time in which to look at it.

As for the comment made by the representative of the United States that the Department of Public Information should not distribute films, the report before us states that -

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the United States on a point of order.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I said that the Department of Public Information should not deal with the distribution of fiction films, not films in general.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I am not certain that the description of the film given by the representative of the United States corresponds to the facts. In the film we even

(Mr. Berezovsky, USSR)

see members of the United Nations Visiting Mission in the Trust Territory and hear their statements there. There are many interesting things in the film. It is something new to hear that members of the Council appear as movie stars.

I again stress that I fully support the proposal made by the representative of France that the Council view the film to see what the facts are, especially now that we have entered into a discussion about it and heard various opinions.

Mr. ROCHER (France) (interpretation from French): I should like to make a small clarification for my Soviet colleague. The record will show that what I asked was whether the film was accessible to members of the Trusteeship Council for viewing, no more and no less. I did not propose that members should view it.

The PRESIDENT: Could Mr. Masha tell us whether the film is in fact available?

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): The film is not available to us now but, if it is the wish of the Council, we will try to get it from the owners.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I thought that I had been interrupted on a point of order, but a discussion has been developing on this matter. That is just a comment on procedure.

I should like to put a question to Mr. Masha. This year, 1985, is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. There are the territories which are not yet independent including Micronesia. What measures are planned by the Department of Public Information in connection with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on decolonization with special reference to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands?

Mr. MORTIMER (United Kingdom): I am sorry to return to my hobby-horse, the teaching guide. Let me first thank Mr. Masha for his explanation and for having given me a copy of the guide. I wish only to record my view that the effect of this teaching guide on unformed, tender minds does not bear thinking about. I should be very interested to know from the Administering Authority of any reactions from schools in Micronesia which have had the fortune, or misfortune, to be using this DPI publication.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I have no comment on this point, but the members of the delegation who represent the States of Micronesia might have some observations they would care to pass on about this very strange teaching guide.

The PRESIDENT: I should not be surprised if they found the question a little too particular.

Mr. MORTIMER (United Kingdom): I was not expecting an immediate answer; I thought this was something they could perhaps bear in mind for next year or just keep an eye on. I should be very interested to have some feedback as to the effect of this document on schools in the area.

The PRESIDENT: I call on Mr. Masha for any final comment he may have.

Mr. MASHA (Department of Public Information): With respect to the question by the representative of the Soviet Union on whether we have a programme for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration, indeed last year we formulated a consolidated programme of activities related to that anniversary. I was a little remiss in that I did not bring a copy of that document with me, but I can assure the Soviet representative that we have developed, in consultation with the Committee of 24, a consolidated programme which we are implementing this year also in consultation with that Committee. The Soviet representative may be interested to know that that programme includes a film which we are producing this year on the role of the United Nations in the decolonization issue. We are undertaking several other activities related, in particular, to the many seminars and meeting which the Committee has planned for this year.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We note that there is not a single reference to this programme in the Secretary-General's report to the Council. We express our regret because we feel that such an important question as this should have a place in the report on the activities of the Department of Public Information.

Secondly, I think that we could ask the DPI to get the film on Palau and show it to members of the Trusteeship Council.

Mr. MORTIMER (United Kingdom): On the question of the film, I recall - if I am not mistaken - that there was a request last year to show this as part of a petition. The outcome was that it was decided that it would not be shown in the Trusteeship Council, but would be shown separately in the United Nations cinema. Indeed, I saw it there myself. I have also seen it on Channel 13, so am perfectly familiar with it. I found it faintly entertaining; not wholly accurate. It certainly added nothing about Palau that I was not already familiar with, and if it added no knowledge for me it certainly would not have added much for the Palauans.

The PRESIDENT: It would appear that three members of the Council have seen the film. It does not seem, therefore, that a lot of purpose would be served by its being shown. The representative of France is indicating assent.

If there are no further questions or comments, I propose that the Council express its collective thanks to Mr. Masha and decide to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (T/1873).

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the Soviet Union on a point of order.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): It seems to me that we have been a little hasty in our adoption of the decision on this question of the distribution of information. I do not know what other delegations feel, but the Soviet delegation intends to make some statements on this question. We understood that today we would just have the presentation of the report and that consideration of the question could be continued. Therefore we reserve our right to express our views on the activities and work of the Department of Public Information in connection with the distribution of information to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands at a later meeting.

The PRESIDENT: The Soviet representative was given ample opportunity to say if he had any further questions or comments, but I take note of what he now says and he will be given an opportunity to make any further comments that he wishes to make.

EXAMINATION OF THE PETITIONS LISTED IN THE ANNEX TO THE AGENDA (see T/1872/Add.1)
(continued)

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now proceed to examine written petitions and communications which have been received concerning the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. These communications and written petitions are contained in documents T/CON.10/L.353 to 355 and T/PET.10/325 to 328 and 330.

If there is no objection, I intend to deal with these communications and petitions in distinct categories.

The first category consists of the communications, which are contained in documents T/COM.10/L.353 to 355. Does any member wish to comment on any of these communications?

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to ask the Administering Authority whether it has taken any measures in connection with document T/COM.10/L.354 and what are its comments on the document.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): The United States is a party to the London Dumping Convention, which is the principal subject of the resolution contained in document T/COM.10/L.354. The London Dumping Convention establishes an international safety standard for the disposal of nuclear waste in the ocean. The London Dumping Convention prohibits ocean disposal of nuclear waste, except that which is classified according to criteria established within the Treaty as low-level waste. The United States, as I said, is a party to and is bound by the London Dumping Convention.

Beyond this, however, current United States law is even more stringent on this subject. It specifies that the United States may not dump or dispose of radioactive waste in the Trust Territory. There is a complete and blanket prohibition within United States law. Additionally, I should point out the Compacts of Free Association contain similar prohibitions.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have listened carefully to the statement of the representative of the Administering Authority and I understand it. Thank you. I have no more comments.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I have a comment with regard to the petition contained in document T/COM.10/L.353. This document states that it would be contrary to section 411 of the Compact for the Executive to submit to the United States Congress Compacts of Free Association for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Marshall Islands, and not at the same time also submit a Compact with regard to the Republic of Palau. I wish to state, however, that this is a misreading of section 411 of the Compact, which does not say that at all.

In view of the problems which have been so amply discussed among us here in this Council, the Republic of Palau was deleted from the Compacts and section 411, therefore, does not refer to the Republic of Palau.

The PRESIDENT: I propose that the Council should take note of the communications contained in documents T/COM.10/L.353 to L.355, inclusive.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed to examine the written petitions contained in documents T/PET.10/325 to 328 and 330. Members of the Council will note that there are two categories of petition, namely, those requesting action by the Trusteeship Council and those which contain requests and complaints seeking action by the Administering Authority. There is one petition in the former category contained in document T/PET.10/326, while requests for action by the Administering Authority appear in documents T/PET.10/325, 327, 328 and 330.

Taking first the latter group of petitions, that is to say, I repeat, those seeking action by the Administering Authority, if there are no comments with regard to this group, I propose that the Council decide to draw the attention of these petitioners to the relevant observations made by the representatives of the Administering Authority at the current session.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: If there are no objections concerning the other petition, that addressed to the Trusteeship Council itself, contained in document T/PET.10/326, I propose that the Council take note of it.

It was so decided.

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 557 (VI) AND 753 (VIII) (T/1874)

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): After studying the report and the Secretary-General's report, we are interested in knowing how, generally speaking, information is organized for the Micronesians with regard to opportunities to study in any given country or countries and how they learn of the various special subjects available to them for study in any given country?

Mrs. McCOY (Special Representative): Whenever any notice whatsoever of any training offers comes into our headquarters in the Trust Territory, in Saipan, it is immediately disseminated to all of the Governments for their choice and decision. It must be remembered that many offers of training go directly to the Governments now.

MR. TAKESY (Special Adviser): I should like to add to the list (T/1874) of Governments that have offered training opportunities to the Federated States the Governments of Japan and the Netherlands.

Normally, we receive formal notification, as the High Commissioner has said, through the High Commissioner's Office, but we also receive direct communications from United Nations agencies and regional organizations to which the Federated States belong. So in point of fact, in addition to the Member countries listed here, we also receive direct bilateral assistance from countries members of the regional organizations to which we belong.

Mr. INGRAM (Adviser): As the High Commissioner said, we receive this information through the Trust Territory Government. In most cases this is handled by our Department of Education and our Public Service Commission. We have also been given opportunities for education in Papua New Guinea, and, in fact, our best local attorneys have been trained there.

We would be happy to provide any additional information required or reply to any additional questions in writing.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In the course of this session we have heard a number of statements with regard to the situation in Micronesia. We have been given information on various subjects, and when our delegation asked a question about physicians we were told that over a certain period the number of medical specialists among the Micronesians had not increased. In that connection, are the Micronesians by and large aware of the existence of United Nations fellowships?

Mrs. McCOY (Special Representative): I have here a list of all the different training programmes that have been offered to Micronesia, and I would be more than happy either to read it out now or simply to submit it. After skimming through it, I would imagine that there are somewhere in the neighbourhood of 50 different headings with different programmes included under them. We are very grateful for all the programmes that have ever been offered to any of us in Micronesia. We need all the scholarships and all the training programmes that can be offered to us. We are grateful for them, and I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that we take advantage of them every single time we can.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We have read the report submitted by the administering Power very carefully and on the basis of that we have a whole series of questions to raise with regard to the training of Micronesians and with regard to the reports on fellowships which have been submitted. From the report of the Administrative Authority we have learnt that Micronesians are studying in the United States, in Guam and in Fiji. I wonder if there are countries to which Micronesians go to study other than those mentioned in the reports, and what specialized fields they enter? Could we have some greater detail with regard to this?

Mrs. McCOY (Special Representative): There are other countries in which medical training is given, namely, Belgium and Japan. Also, a new programme is about to be funded by the United States in connection with the University of Hawaii East-West Center, for the training of medical officers for Micronesia. The appropriation is at the moment under discussion in the Office of the Budget in Congress in Washington, D.C., but we are very optimistic about its being granted. In that case, it will be devoted purely to training people in the health fields for Micronesia.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): Inasmuch as at the moment we are on the subject of health, I should like to advert to a question that was asked and replied to this morning regarding infant mortality. It will be recalled that the figure for infant mortality in the Marshall Islands as provided in our statistical review was 33 infant deaths per thousand births. I want to read from the United Nations publication World Statistics in Brief some other figures for infant mortality so as to put that into context.

(Mr. Feldman, United States)

According to the United Nations statistical pocket book, in 1982 infant mortality in Libya was 107 per thousand; in the Mongolian People's Republic, 59 per thousand; in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 135 per thousand; in Viet Nam, 106 per thousand; in Nicaragua, 97 per thousand; in Afghanistan, 205 per thousand; in another South Pacific State, Fiji, 40 per thousand. Let me recall that in the Marshall Islands - which has the highest number in the entire Trust Territory - infant mortality was 33 per thousand; that is, less than the infant mortality rate in any of the other countries I have cited.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I think that the representative of the United States did not quite grasp the meaning of my question. I was not addressing myself to the question of infant mortality rates from the point of view of a comparative analysis of the figures; I was addressing myself to the question of the training of physicians. In the report submitted by the Administering Authority we are told that Micronesians go abroad, to the United States, to Guam and to Fiji, to pursue their studies. I should like to have some further details. To what other countries do Micronesians go for their studies? What are the fields of their study? How many of the Micronesians involved go to countries other than those mentioned in the report submitted by the Administering Authority?

The PRESIDENT: The United States representative was, in fact, answering a question that had been put this morning by the representative of the United Kingdom. Since medical matters had now been raised, he thought it an appropriate time to deal with that outstanding question.

Does Mrs. McCoy wish to add anything with regard to the question just put by the representative of the Soviet Union.

Mrs. McCOY (Special Representative): From our four Governments, on World Health Organization fellowships alone we have people receiving health training in Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Japan, Korea, Singapore, the Philippines, New Guinea, Hawaii, and of course the United States. It is a very impressive list of fellowships. I repeat my thanks to the World Health Organization and the United Nations for their help in training our people.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have another question in this regard. Year after year we consider the question of fellowships and scholarships and we hear the replies by the Administering Authority to the questions we put. My question is this: What measures is the Administering Authority taking to ensure that full use is made of the scholarships and fellowships offered by countries Members of the United Nations for professional training for Micronesians?

Mrs. MCCOY (Special Representative): As I pointed out earlier, every notification of any fellowships anywhere in the world is immediately disseminated to the Governments. Our colleagues from Micronesia have pointed out that some things they get directly; others they get through Trust Territory Headquarters. To be perfectly blunt, sometimes the decisions have to be made on the basis of the financial aspect of the scholarships; at other times, the decision is based on the distance and the time.

But I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that every offer that comes in from every single, solitary nation is immediately sent out and is looked at very carefully and very thoroughly to see whether we can take advantage of it.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I wonder if some of our colleagues from the Micronesian States might wish to add a word.

Mr. GUERRERO (Adviser): I used to work for the Trust Territory Department of Education and then for the Northern Marianas Department of Education, handling scholarships and financial aid programmes for the Trust Territory as well as for the Northern Mariana Islands. My experience in the past was - and I believe this is still true - that whenever information was received from countries on any scholarships, we immediately disseminated that information to the schools and to interested individuals.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation would like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the fact that in the report submitted by the Administering Authority for the period 1983-1984 we do not find any adequate indication of just how Micronesians are able to make the fullest possible use of what is offered them in the way of opportunities for higher-level training, particularly in areas important for the development of their economic and social life as Micronesians, and taking advantage of the fellowships and stipends offered by States Members of the United Nations.

What clearly emerges from the report and statements delivered by Micronesians is that in virtually all Trust Territories there is a dearth of specialists, technicians, workers with higher-level training and specialization. A large number of States Members of the United Nations, including the Soviet Union, are offering Micronesians tangible aid - stipends and fellowships - to enable them to train highly specialized and competent cadres to meet that need. It is unfortunate indeed that descriptions of such fellowships and stipends as are offered to the inhabitants of the Trust Territory of Micronesia have not found their way into the report. It is therefore not clear how those Micronesians who might wish to take advantage of fellowship-supported training in the Soviet Union and other countries which provide assistance for the higher-level training of Micronesians can avail themselves of such offers.

The Administering Power does not spell out in detail in its annual report how many Micronesians - how many from Palau, the Mariana Islands and the Marshall Islands - have in fact availed themselves of such stipends and fellowships offered within the context of the relevant United Nations programme. In the report submitted by the administering Power there is a chapter dealing with progress in the realm of teaching in which there is a general description of the education and teaching systems in three different categories.

Indeed, we are provided with statistical data; true enough. Alas, these data do not give us a complete picture of the situation prevailing with respect to education and training. The result is that we are even less able to gain a clear picture of just how the Micronesians are taking advantage - if they are - of fellowships and stipends offered by other States Members of the United Nations. It is therefore difficult to know whether Micronesians are aware of which countries are offering them possibilities of training within their own borders, what specialized training they may receive in other countries, and under what conditions

(Mr. Grigutis, USSR)

such training and education will be provided to them. In other words, the Administering Authority has not reflected how this information has been conveyed to the Micronesians and to what extent they were able to use this programme in 1983 - although at the last session of the Trusteeship Council during the discussion of the question of fellowships and scholarships for training and professional education the representative of the Administering Authority promised to submit to the Trusteeship Council a detailed list of United Nations and other programmes in which Micronesians participate.

The Soviet Union initiated many important activities undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the areas of education, science and culture. Our country generously shares its experience in these areas by helping many developing countries to train highly qualified personnel. In 1983, the Soviet Union trained 58,000 persons from developing countries, including 6,000 from the least developed countries. In 1984, 82,000 foreign students from States of Asia, Africa and Latin America, including 24,000 from the least developed countries, studied in higher and specialized institutions of learning in the Soviet Union.

The PRESIDENT: It is not clear to me what relevance the remarks of the Soviet representative have to Micronesia. We must try to confine ourselves to the subject in hand. Those statistics are not relevant.

Mr. GRIGUTIS (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I simply wanted through those statistics to show that many foreign students are studying in the Soviet Union and, therefore, the Soviet Union can make a contribution to the training of Micronesians as well.

Unfortunately, during the entire period that the Soviet Union has been offering scholarships, not one inhabitant of Micronesia has studied in the Soviet Union. We have repeatedly made offers of scholarships and fellowships for students from trust territories. Evidently, that information has not reached the inhabitants of Micronesia since, as I have already said, they have not taken advantage of those offers.

As a member of the Trusteeship Council, the Soviet Union considers it its duty to continue to make available such scholarships and stipends, freely offered and not tied to any commitments, conditions or obligations.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): We are most grateful to the representatives of the Soviet Union and to the country they so ably represent for the offers of scholarships and training assistance. I believe we have already heard that information about those offers have indeed been communicated. That information was conveyed in the statements made by representatives of the Micronesian States.

(Mr. Feldman, United States)

I would agree most wholeheartedly with the representatives of the Soviet Union that there should be every attempt to make use of all relevant offers which can benefit the people of Micronesia. In that connection, I hope that you, Sir, and the delegation of the Soviet Union will permit me to make a personal observation and to note that my wife holds the degree of Kandidatka v Istoriichisky Nauki - Doctor of Historic Sciences, and has a Shestitsa v Diamat - and could ask the Soviet representatives to explain that.

However, as regards the statistics, I do wish to point out that the annual report of the Administering Authority is prepared on the basis of a questionnaire, and the questionnaire did not contain the information specifically requested as to how the offers are conveyed, how many offers there are, and so on. Beyond that I should like to call on High Commissioner Mrs. McCoy for amplification

Mrs. McCoy (Special Representative): As to this question of scholarships to study in the USSR, no Trust Territory citizen has been prevented or discouraged from accepting offers to study in the Soviet Union. In fact, two separate offers through the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) have been made available in the reporting year: one for a planning seminar in the USSR, and a general announcement for fellowships for 1985 and 1986.

In the first case, two Trust Territory citizens were accepted, but withdrew for financial reasons when it was learned that financial assistance would cover only Bangkok to Moscow and not home to Bangkok. In the second offer, no Trust Territory citizens applied, although the offer was widely disseminated throughout the Trust Territory in October and November 1984.

I would add one more short note. The Trust Territory continues to participate in relevant activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In fact, there are several Micronesian members of a regional UNESCO Committee dealing with historical preservation. The annual report details some of these activities.

As to ESCAP training activities, in addition to the rather detailed reports made by the individual Governments in their contributions to the annual report - in the section on "International and Regional Relations", further information can be gleaned from ESCAP document E/ESCAP/445/Rev.1 of 13 March 1985, entitled "ESCAP activities in the Pacific", which became available only after the annual report was published. A reading of that report will give an excellent idea of the extent and variety of regional activities in which the Micronesian Governments participate. I

(Mrs. McCoy, Special
Representative)

will be happy to make a copy of this document available to the Council if it is not already in the Council's files.

The PRESIDENT: Once again I propose that we conclude discussion on this item and decide to take note of the report of the Secretary-General in document T/1874.

It was so decided.

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1984: TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (T/1871) (continued)

The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed with the questioning of the Administering Authority.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I was so confused by the whole preceding course of events that I have decided to see if any of my colleagues have questions, because suddenly answers are being given on a different subject, one we never asked about. All of a sudden there is talk about mortality in Micronesia, comparing that region with other, unrelated parts of the world, and so on. We did not intervene, even though the matter was not handled by you, Mr. President, at the appropriate time, as had been done when we submitted statistics on the number of foreign students studying in the Soviet Union.

As promised, I have some additional questions for the Administering Authority. In view of the limited time remaining, however, I will ask just a few so that the Council may pass to the other agenda items.

Taking into account that very recently we looked at petitions and communications, including one on the question of the disposal of radioactive waste, I shall begin by asking this question: Could representatives of the Administering Authority not tell me what degree of radioactive contamination there is on Runert island. This is a place where radioactive materials from Enewetak and other atolls are kept. In this connection, I have had information to the effect that the idea has been put forward in the United States of turning this island into a place where radioactive waste from the United States, and perhaps from Japan, is to be disposed of. I should like to have an explanation on this from the representative of the Administering Authority and of course I take into account the statement already made recently by Ambassador Feldman with regard to obligations of the United States and to membership in the London Agreement on this question.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): With your permission, Mr. President, I should like to ask Attorney-General Andy Wilson to answer that question.

Mr. WILSON (Adviser): The question, as I understand it, is the radioactivity level on Runert Island in Enewetak Atoll. The island of Runert, as is common knowledge and as has been openly stated in all our various publications, was the storage site of all the materials cleaned up during the Enewetak clean-up. The various materials and a great quantity of dirt, as well as radioactive debris, were cleaned up from the balance of the atoll, placed in a concrete slurry - which, let me explain, was mixed together with concrete - and was then deposited in what was known as the Cactus Crater in Runert Island. Runert Island does not have, other than at the crypt at Cactus Crater, unusually high levels of radiation. However, owing to the fact that it is the place where all the material used during the clean-up was placed, Runert Island is off-limits and is expected to be off-limits to the population in perpetuity.

(Mr. Wilson, Adviser)

There is no plan to use Runert Island or any other place or facility within the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for nuclear storage of any kind whatsoever, now or in the future. We are a signatory to the London Dumping Convention, and we intend to abide by the provisions of that Convention.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I believe that the last reference of the representative of the Soviet Union was to a plan that was formulated some time ago to store certain radioactive wastes on Johnson Island, which is not within the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I was not mistaken when I asked that question; I know about Johnson Island.

What I asked about is Runert Island. I have come across information on Runert Island. That is why I asked the question, about Runert, not Johnson, Island.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): Before the representative of the Soviet Union continues, permit me to make a further clarification so that matters will be fully reflected.

In my statement earlier I discussed, or mentioned, the London Dumping Convention, which deals with the dumping of radioactive wastes within the ocean. In connection with that reply, in which I said that we were, of course, bound by the Convention and are not disposing of any radioactive wastes within the ocean, I went on to say that United States law is even more stringent as regards the Trust Territory. It specifically prohibits the storage of any radioactive wastes within the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

I should have clarified that. That refers to the storage of any radioactive wastes coming from the United States; it would not refer, for example, to the storage of radioactive materials excavated from Enewetak, within Runert, which was the subject of the statement just made.

I wanted to say this to explain that there is no contradiction of what I said earlier and the fact that radioactive wastes from Enewetak are, in fact, stored at Runert. These are radioactive wastes from within the Trust Territory. They are stored at Runert.

Earlier in our deliberations, we heard reference to the excavation of radioactive materials from Bikini, and it is indeed possible that some of these radioactive materials which will be excavated from Bikini will also be stored at sites like Runert, and perhaps on Runert itself.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I wish to revert to part IV of the report of the Administering Authority on the implementation of obligations, for the maintenance of international peace and security. We are interested in learning why the report says practically nothing about the military activities of the Administering Authorities in the Mariana Islands.

I am asking this question because there are several aspects to it, one of which is very important for the Micronesians themselves. We all recall the statement by a petitioner who appealed to this Council to defend her rights to land used for military purposes by the United States.

Could the United States give us a clearer explanation, by means of data, on how much land in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is being used by the United States for military purposes. We know the plans which exist in the United States for the ongoing use of Micronesia for military purposes. But what interests us now is the situation as it is today.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): If I understood the Soviet representative, there were two questions. The first was why there was no mention in the report of military activity in the Northern Mariana Islands. The second question was how much land has been taken for military use in the Marianas. Am I correct? Are those the questions posed by the Soviet representative?

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The representative of the Administering Authority has almost understood my question correctly.

My first amendment, or correction, is that we are not talking about why there is no reference; there is a reference. But there are no data. There is no description of this military utilization of the territory of the Mariana Islands.

My second question relates not only to the Marianas but to the entire Trust Territory.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I must confess that I am somewhat confused now as to what the second question is.

Is the second question: What is the amount of land in use, or contemplated for use, for military purposes throughout the entire Trust Territory? I am sorry; but I really do not understand the question.

The PRESIDENT: Yes. I think that is the question.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): As regards the first question, I should like to call upon the editor of the report to comment.

As regards the second question, specifically with respect to the Northern Marianas, the Commonwealth Covenant provides that the United States shall have the option of leasing certain lands for possible use for military purposes. We exercised that option in January of 1983 and leased approximately 19,000 acres on Tinian, Saipan, and Farallon for contingency military purposes. The lease runs for 50 years.

However, much of the land - I think most of the land - is leased back to the present occupants at a nominal fee so that they may continue to use it for civilian purposes, which is primarily for agriculture. That is, the land is joint-use land.

In point of fact, when it is used at all, it is used for training exercises, normally for periods of one to two weeks a year. The rest of the time it is used for agricultural purposes under this lease-back operation.

I should like to stress that the lease-back is for very, very nominal rentals. There is no permanent installation in the Northern Marianas or, in fact, except for the Kwajalein missile range, anywhere else in the Trust Territory.

(Mr. Feldman, United States)

As regards other areas, I will find the information and provide it later, but I wish to make it clear that, except for the Kwajalein missile test range, there is no facility which is occupied on a permanent basis. Any other land which is used for military purposes is used intermittently, temporarily, for training purposes. I must correct that: there is a Coast Guard station, which I mentioned in my opening remarks, which facilitates civilian navigation and search and rescue. I want to emphasize again that we contemplate no military bases in the Territory. I will provide data as to the leases for training purposes on other land.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): How does the Administering Authority intend to carry out its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement to protect the Territory's population from the loss of land and how does it intend to reconcile this with its military interests? I was struck by the reaction of the representative of the United States when he expressed compassion for the petitioner who wept when she talked about the fact that her land is being used not by her but by the United States. He referred her to the Micronesian local authorities in this regard. I was struck by this reaction for the simple reason that it is the Administering Authority that has the obligation to ensure that the population of the Trust Territory does not lose its land. Here we see a serious difference between the obligations of the United States as Administering Authority and the actions at present being taken in the Trust Territory.

Our concern is even more serious and profound with regard to the plans of the United States for the use of Micronesian territory for military purposes in the future. If now, as Administering Authority, the United States is using the territory without even taking into account the Trusteeship Agreement, what is going to happen in the future under that noble document of "free association"? How is that going to come into play?

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): Naturally, all of us must be very severely affected when we see a young person obviously troubled, obviously greatly disturbed, in tears, and we must be all the more affected when such a person tells us that she has been the subject of a grave injustice. Nevertheless, if such a person has put her case to a court, and if a duly constituted court has denied the validity of the claim, even though the person whose claim is denied feels that she is being unjustly treated by the court, there are procedures - legal, judicial, constitutional - which must be followed. There are, for example,

(Mr. Feldman, United States)

appeal procedures open to people who feel that the decision of a court is incorrect. So, while we might have our emotions swayed and might indeed feel that it is terrible that such a young person should feel that she is being treated unjustly, there is no obligation on the part of the administering Power to destroy a court system or a legal system, to act contrary to the findings and proceedings of that judicial system, because that young person feels that she has been unjustly treated. I believe that is the meaning of the rule of law - that the decision of the court must stand and must take precedence.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I did not get an answer to the question how the Administering Authority reconciles its obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement and its military interests. We referred to the fact that we had a young woman here in tears, showing genuine emotion, which gave rise to feelings of sympathy; we are told that nevertheless there is a court. We saw not just one girl in tears before us in the Council; we saw Micronesia - all Micronesians.

(Mr. Berezovsky, USSR)

How many such girls could not come here? How many girls no longer live on Kwajelein but, having been resettled, live in highly unacceptable conditions? We are not talking about units; we are talking about people, the Micronesian people; we are talking about the obligations of the Administering Authority under the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement, obligations to the people of Micronesia undertaken before the United Nations. We want to know how the Administering Authority feels it can reconcile its responsibility under the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement with its military interests.

Mr. FELDMAN (United States of America): I am glad we finally came to the question; I was wondering when we would.

The answer, of course, is that what we see as our obligation is to carry out the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement, and that is what we are doing. We are not obligated by the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement to overturn the court system in the Northern Marianas because Ms. Nabors - who is not from Kwajelein, of course, but was born and grew up in Yap and was later resettled in Saipan, and who claims to own land not in Kwajelein but in Tinian - feels that she has not been given her due by the courts there. Our obligation is to fulfil the Trusteeship Agreement, and that is what we do.

I might point out that Ms. Nabors is one of a very small minority who have declined to go along with the settlement proposed by the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. I might also point out that it was the Government of the Northern Marianas which established the entitlements and the criteria for payments from the very substantial funds made available by the United States.

Mr. Guerrero of the Northern Mariana Islands may have further comments on this.

Mr. GUERRERO (Adviser): We commented on this issue after Ms. Nabors presented her petition. It is true that the matter is now under consideration by the court. There were options open to Ms. Nabors. The Government gave her the choice of either selling the land to the Government or exchanging it for land on Saipan. What was not clear was that the Government does not want to exchange with the land for which she was asking because it has plans to use that land for public purposes. So there are differences there. There is other land in the Northern Marianas that the Government is willing to exchange for Ms. Nabors's land, but she wanted a specific piece of land on Saipan.

Mr. BEREZOVSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Despite the fact that there are many more questions that I could ask the Administering Authority, I shall keep my promise and conclude my questioning, on the understanding that if in the future any serious questions should arise we shall be able to put them to the Administering Authority.

I wish to conclude by drawing the attention of the Administering Authority to the fact that the annual report to the Council for 1984 is very voluminous and quite complex from the point of view of being able to work on it and draw the appropriate conclusions. We should like to ask the Administering Authority if in future it could provide information on the situation in the Territory not broken down, but in such a way as to enable us to see the overall picture.

The statistical portions of the report are fairly voluminous. Are these statistics studied by the Administering Authority and, if so, what conclusions are drawn from them? This is a very serious question, which would require lengthy discussion, and we simply do not have time for that now. It is, however, something for the Administering Authority to think about and on which to take action.

I wish to thank you, Mr. President, and the representatives of the Administering Authority, who have been so patient and kind in helping us to ensure that the Trusteeship Council can form a better picture of what is taking place in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mrs. MCCOY (Special Representative): I wish to congratulate our colleagues from the Soviet Union on having obviously read the whole report from beginning to end. It is very difficult to please everybody in all ways, but we are certainly trying. We have an American expression: "The buck stops here." I take full responsibility for the annual report and anything that might be wrong with it.

The PRESIDENT: That was spoken in true Truman spirit.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.