

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/636
27 April 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

1 MAY 1950

PROVISION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNITED NATIONS
TO DEPENDENT PEOPLES

Communication Received by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council a communication from the Government of Australia on the action being taken by it to implement Trusteeship Council Resolution No. 36 of 8 July 1948.

AUSTRALIAN MISSION
TO

THE UNITED NATIONS

4510 EMPIRE STATE BUILDING
NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

13th April, 1950

The Minister in Charge of the Australian Mission to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform him of action being taken by the Government of Australia to implement Trusteeship Council Resolution No. 36 of the 8th July, 1948.

The Director of Education in the Territory of New Guinea has reported that the greater part of the teaching concerning United Nations in that Territory has been by means of radio, native newspapers, and by talks in schools of all types. Scripts dealing with United Nations and specialized agencies have been broadcast frequently and articles based on these have been published in "pidgin" English in the local broadsheets. In addition, recorded talks received from the United Nations Headquarters have also been broadcast on numerous occasions. United Nations Day was observed last year by special broadcasts and received attention in all school programmes in the Territory.

The Secretary-General,
United Nations,
Lake Success, New York

/Posters
T/636

Posters illustrating United Nations aims and activities have been displayed at libraries and at educational establishments in the administrative districts. In the field of visual education, five sets of United Nations film strips have been distributed for use in the most populous areas of the Territory where they will be viewed by many thousands of inhabitants, after which they will be transferred to other areas for screening.

The following information shows in greater detail the efforts being made by the Government of Australia to inform the inhabitants of New Guinea of the aims and activities of the United Nations:

Broadsheets

In the absence of newspapers, broadsheets are prepared by the Education Department of Papua and New Guinea containing articles which give information concerning both United Nations and the specialized agencies. These articles appear with regularity in the following native language broadsheets which are issued weekly:

"Rabaul News" for New Britain

"Iagasai" for New Ireland

"Buka News" for Kieta District

"Lae Garamut" for Morobe District

On the 29th November, 1947, the "Rabaul News" printed the first of a series of short talks prepared on request by the Trusteeship Division of the United Nations. In addition, special articles appeared for United Nations Day on the 15th October, 1948 and 1949, and the United Nations Appeal for Children was given publicity in September, 1948, with far-reaching results.

It should be noted that the Education Department broadsheets are widely distributed by District Offices, Post Offices, etc., and that distribution is free. The broadsheets are distributed in schools although they are mainly intended for villages and for labour lines.

Radio

The Education Department in the Territory includes talks on the United Nations and the specialized agencies in its daily "Native Hour" programme from the Australian Broadcasting Commission Station, "9 PA" in Port Moresby. A series of talks prepared by the Trusteeship Department of the United Nations at the request of the Government of Australia has also been given.

Last year a member of the United Nations Secretariat, on leave in New Guinea, spoke in the "Native Hour" and on the European programme. It should be pointed out that news from the United Nations broadcasts in Australia have also been relayed to the Territory of New Guinea.

Publications

The Department of Education is preparing for the publication of a periodical intended for the indigenous inhabitants and has obtained selected photographs from the United Nations for use in this periodical.

Papua and New Guinea Government Gazette

The attitude of the Government of Australia towards instruction of the indigenous inhabitants in United Nations activities is shown by notices which have appeared in the Government Gazettes of the Territory. For example, United Nations Day was officially notified in the October Gazettes for both 1948 and 1949, officials in the Administration were instructed to fly the United Nations flag from government buildings, and educational authorities were instructed to give special programmes on United Nations in the schools of the Territory.

Similar information concerning the Trust Territory of Nauru is being obtained and will be forwarded as soon as it becomes available.
