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President: Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.554 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS: ANNUAL  
REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (T/1118, 1122; T/L.478) [Agenda item 4 (e)]  
(continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. F. Midkiff, special representative  
for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, took a place at the Council table.

Economic advancement (continued)

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): For my first question I would invite the attention of the special representative to page 57 of T/PV.550, where in his opening statement he makes reference to the Jaluit Development Programme for the resettlement of inhabitants of the Island of Jabwor. I was wondering what proportion of the population is involved and what success this programme has had so far.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The Island of Jabwor was occupied by the Japanese and taken over entirely as public domain and very highly improved with wharves and substantially reinforced concrete buildings. During the retaking of the island, however, the structures were destroyed by bombing and they stand there to this day as waste wrecks.

We have assembled lumber and building materials and had plans all made to send our top Marshall Island agriculturist and his wife and children down there to start the redevelopment of it. However, one of those unfortunate situations arose when the better half of the family decided against taking that step with her young children and we had to look around and secure a new couple for the purpose. We now have recruited a couple and hope that they will be satisfied. They have been thoroughly apprised of the situation and the conditions under which they will labour amongst the people and they will now undertake this redevelopment in the building of the new improvements, working with the people to resettle the island.

Therefore, we have not done anything definite yet on that island except to make all plans and get all our materials ready to proceed and we will be ready within a month to start to work on it.

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): We note from the annual report that one of the principal export industries in the Trust Territories is handicrafts. Will the special representative tell us what are the main products of this industry and which countries are the principal importers of these products?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The main handicraft products from the Trust Territory are made of the fibres and the woods of the Trust Territory. From the lauhala or pandanus leaf are made mats, baskets, handbags and containers of all kinds. This type of material wears and lasts well and is in considerable demand if well made and of good design and if a steady supply can be maintained so that the dealers can depend upon being able to maintain their supply when they have built up a market. In addition, in western Micronesia carved wood objects and plaques are made and models of canoes and various things of that sort, and these are in considerable demand.

These handicrafts are purchased extensively, mainly as curios, but it is a question how long the market can be maintained. This depends somewhat upon the tourist nature of the market. The tourists buy these things in Honolulu and also at the post exchanges in Guam and Kwajalein. There is quite a market for the Micronesian handicraft products in the post exchanges and so far the demand has been greater than the supply. We are trying to improve and standardize design and to make sure that the quality is good and acceptable and that the supply will be maintained. We have not yet undertaken to move a considerable amount of handicraft products to other places besides the west coast of the United States, Honolulu and the post exchanges of Guam and Kwajalein.

Mr. S.S.LIU (China): One of the most important problems facing the Trust Territory mentioned by the special representative is that of over-population. We have noted the different approaches which the Administration is making towards the solution of this problem, and also the reference made to this by the special representative in his opening statement. As can be seen from page 11 of T/PV.551, the special representative stated: "A programme to reduce conditions of over-population at Ebeye was begun." Could the special representative tell us a little more about this programme and about the other steps which are being taken to meet the problem of over-population?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The pressure of over-population is becoming a fact and a factor to be dealt with. I have been informed, and I believe it is in the records of the Trusteeship Council, that western Samoa

probably will have doubled its population by 1970. Our rate of increase may be similar. At any rate, on the island of Kusei last year there were 60 births and 7 deaths. That change has come about through modern health services, and we see strikingly large numbers of children who were born since about the year 1946. That date corresponds with the date when the USS Whitby went round the Territory and inoculated the people with penicillin to eradicate yaws and took other steps to improve the health of the people. As a result, there is very little infant mortality these days, and the live birth rate and the rate of survival during the first year and so on is very gratifyingly high.

The population is increasing; the large number of children is evident, and above the children there is a gap which showed that the rate of population increase was much smaller in years gone by. We have been able to resettle two groups of people from Mortlocks on the island of Ponape. We have a village from Kapingamaragi resettled on Ponape, and we now have requests for a group to come from Pingalap to Ponape. There is more room on Kusei and Ponape as they are high islands; there is more room for resettlement. We are not certain that we are going to do much on the low islands in taking care of addition population except through better husbandry. We feel that with improved agriculture we can increase production of coconuts and other foods so that the population will not outstrip the food supply and so that production will not only be adequate for subsistence but for additional export. In Ebeye the problem is a specific one. Ebeye is one of the islands in the Kwajeleln Atoll, and the main island in the Kwajeleln Atoll is the one occupied by the military as a shipping and trans-shipping station. Ebeye Island is close to Kwajeleln and the people of Ebeye find extensive employment on the military station, so that they have been inclined to leave their home atolls and come to work in Ebeye for cash; that is an abnormal situation. The ratio of males to females is not what it usually is, and there are certain problems that have arisen in connexion with this abnormal situation in Ebeye. We have been working, therefore, to encourage the people to return to their home atolls and carry on their normal copra production work and other things appropriate to the atoll in order that this unusual situation does not continue.

We have taken several people from Ebeye who had come from Utrik and taken them back to Utrik voluntarily. They agreed to go when the LST bearing the Utrik people back home recently made its trip. Similarly, some superfluous people on Ebeye that had come from Rongelap joined the LST and had moved down to Ejit and Majuro; they had gotten off at Ebeye. In this way we are trying to discourage people from leaving the farm and coming to the city where conditions are abnormal; the reason is that these people are needed on their home atolls to carry out the balancing of the work and to take care of their families and to increase the production of copra, etc.

The Commanding Officer of the naval air station at Kwajelein has agreed not to employ Micronesians in the future unless they are bona fide residents of the Kwajelein Atoll itself. In other words, he is going to do his employing through the District Administrator's representative on Ebeye who has a local committee to work with him on selecting personnel for employment at the Kwajelein air station. Thus, without being harsh or domineering in this matter, we are working with the people of Ebeye to solve this problem and get things back on a more normal basis.

#### Social advancement

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): On page 48 of the report and then again on page 57, it is stated that the Administration does not interfere in any way with the activities of medical training. It is said in the report "that traditional medicine men practice according to native lore and are not molested. This problem is not serious." Since this problem was a very serious one in other Trust Territories, I should like to know whether the special representative is really so sure that these medicine men do not engage in nefarious activities harmful to the society and the community.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): That is a very important consideration of course. We have native medical men or medicine men and the native medical practitioners. The former are those who use the ancient arts including the use of ancient herbs and therapies, massage, salt water to cause vomiting and other herbs to aid in medicine. The native medical practitioners are those that have been trained in special modern schools at Guam and then later at Suva Medical School. These men are exceedingly well qualified comparatively. We have a qualified anthropologist in each district who speaks the language and who is in constant touch with the people who visit among themselves; these people are free to call upon him and visit with him. He gets thoroughly acquainted with the various phases of the life of the people, including their health practices. I do not know and I have seen no reports of any recent practicing of what might be called witchcraft or praying people to death in the Trust Territory. I think things are rather

secure in that respect. Our hope is that our modern native practitioners and our well-trained doctors may come to understand native medicine so well that they can preserve the good of the old medicines and build upon it; respecting the old medicine and the good of it, explaining it, understanding it themselves, imparting it in scientific terms to the people and building on it in this way, securing the people's co-operation in more extensive application of modern sanitation and preventive medicine.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium): I am not so much concerned about witchcraft. I was thinking about the possibility -- on an island where there are no medical practitioners -- of someone dying without the cause being explained. In that case his relatives might go to a native medicine man and ask him whether his father or his mother, or whoever has died, may not have been bewitched. It often happens in other countries, in such a case, that the medicine man will say, yes, the one who died was bewitched by so-and-so. As a result, hate is stirred up and sometimes there are murders, in the belief that the death of a father, for example, is being avenged. That is what I am concerned about -- not the witchcraft itself, but unjust accusations of witchcraft by medicine men. I am glad to hear that that practice does not exist in the islands since, if it did, it certainly would be worth while for the Administration to go a little deeper into the practices of the native medicine men.

(continued in French)

According to page 51 of the annual report, there is no vocational training school in the Territory. "Some vocational training is carried on in the schools, and a number of Micronesians of particularly high qualifications have been given special training not available in the Territory, in Guam, Hawaii and the United States". Does the Administering Authority intend to establish some kind of vocational training in the Territory? It seems to me that vocational and technical training are as important in a Trust Territory as the classical education provided in primary and secondary schools.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): Manifestly, that point is an important one and well taken. The vocational training that we have supplied up to the present has been arranged chiefly through a systematic occupation-training programme set up by a training specialist. Textbooks are prepared by the staff of the District Administrator on the spot, the American personnel responsible for the different jobs -- clerical, skilled trades, etc. -- giving the instruction. This applies to work in the field of electricity, refrigeration, agriculture, etc.

We do have what is known as the Pacific Islands Central School at Truk, where some vocational training is given. A course in navigation, which is very useful

in the islands, is also being given, and at Ponape the wife of the District Administrator personally is training young men who are engaged in navigation to take readings, and so on. When people are actually doing the work and are aware of the value and the need of training, it is not difficult to achieve considerable improvement by a minimum of training. That has been our policy to date, carried out with a limited staff and a limited budget.

The agriculturists in the intermediate schools, and more particularly at the Pacific Islands Central School, are busy training young people in the field of agriculture.

We have a nurses' training course being given by a registered nurse who has had a great deal of experience in that type of work. In each hospital we have young men and women in training as interns, dental aids and nurses, and also as sanitarians.

There are only 120 people in our Central Islands School and we have not decided to expand that for the time being, believing that there is some advantage, after they have received the general education which we can provide and the limited vocational training which we can give, in having people go to places where they will have contact with modern machinery, modern conditions, modern hospitals, etc. and receive a more rapid training in their specific fields, also acquiring a background of understanding, competence and confidence which will enable them better to take over the work of the Trust Territory in place of the American personnel.

I have no doubt that the time will come soon when we shall feel obliged to give more vocational training to more young people, but at the present time it seems to me that the vocational opportunities which we can offer are working out very satisfactorily and with a minimum of cost for a maximum of competence gained.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I am fully aware of the importance of training teachers and nurses, but I was thinking along simpler lines, such as blacksmiths. Formerly, people used tools made of shells, but I should like to know whether any blacksmith exists in the islands now. Would it not be advisable to have at least one person in the islands capable of

repairing tools? At the same time, it might be advisable to have a carpenter. That is the kind of handicraft which I had in mind. A teacher can give lessons in agriculture but could not train either a blacksmith or a carpenter.

Mr. MILKIEFF (Special representative): I wish to thank the representative of Belgium for his observations which, I know are the result of long experience and, therefore, of value. He might be interested to hear that in one district -- for example, Koror -- the students of the intermediate school have been instructed in carpentry as applied in the construction of western types of houses, and, as a part of their curriculum, they have built a number of houses for the use of local people.

They have also built and are building cabin boats. A great deal of welding is taught. The cutting torch and the welding outfit are used extensively now, especially around the wharves and in connexion with ships, electric plants and big construction jobs. We are training many young people under our own master mechanics on the job. I simply add that for information, but I still recognize the soundness of the suggestion of the representative of Belgium.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The Council will certainly be gratified to learn that at present there are thirty young men from the islands attending the medical school at Suva. This clearly is a considerable burden and effort undertaken by the population of the Territory, which is not very numerous, and it calls for commendation on the part of the Council.

I note on page 56 of the report, and again on page 60, a statement which is somewhat surprising to me, namely that there is a special programme for training midwives by native teachers. The training of midwives seems to me a rather strange function to be assumed by native teachers.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The teacher who was imported was a registered nurse with outstanding qualification and competence in the field of midwifery. The ordinary school teacher does not have anything to do with that. The nurses in the hospitals also assist in deliveries, as do native medical practitioners. However, there are certain places on some of the islands where the women do not care to have men present at childbirth. They take care of themselves, and it is therefore desirable to have some young girls come from those islands for special training in midwifery under a competent registered nurse with the assistance of a physician.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium): I fully agree. What is really meant then is their training by qualified midwives, and not by native teachers.

(Continued in French)

Page 61 of the report makes reference to the fact that beer cannot be sold except in Saipan. I know that we had a petition from some women in Saipan

complaining that their husbands indulged in beer drinking, but I do not recall why there is any distinction made here between Saipan and other parts of the Territory.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): I do not recall what action was taken by the Council in respect of the petition from the women of Saipan. During the days when American troops were there in such great numbers, and in fact before that when the Japanese were there and imported large quantities of Kirin beer and saki into the Territory for their colonists and for sale, a habit of beer drinking was established. So the people of Saipan are what might be referred to in a very loose way more acculturated, that is they have learned a little bit more about drinking beer. I think it is a local administrative problem to be worked out by the people with the Administration to control these matters. If I may, I should like to ask Commander Gordon Findley a question about how it is going just now.

I am informed that there are adequate regulations now so that the people do not seem to have any further request or need for outside assistance. It is being handled very satisfactorily.

With regard to other districts, there have been two that have desired permission to sell spirituous liquor, based on the statement that they are manufacturing and selling jugame, jugaru, or whatever it may be called, in different districts -- the fermented drink of the coconut blossom. This is claimed to be deleterious to health and less desirable for sale and drinking than properly prepared and inspected beer, wine or hard liquor.

I have taken the position that the people should give that very careful consideration. I have explained to them the effect of hard liquor upon the Hawaiian people, with whom I lived over forty years, and have given them considerable information. They are still debating whether or not they would really like to take the plunge and to have the importation and sale of liquor authorized for the Micronesians of these specific districts. I feel that they are giving it such great study and careful consideration that their judgment will be dependable when provided.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Page 62 of the report makes reference to labour in prisons. I should like to know whether persons who work in lieu of being imprisoned are simply compelled to engage in certain labour or whether they are at the same time imprisoned.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): Both practices are used by the magistrates. Usually for very light offences, labour fines are imposed and imprisonment is unnecessary. Sometimes the offender is regarded as fitted for a little special treatment in the jail and he is committed, during which time he also works keeping public areas clean and doing other public chores. In most cases the offences are so slight that imprisonment is not necessary. However, there are some cases when it is better to incarcerate people and keep them away from their neighbours for a while. Both systems are used.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): What is involved, then, is really a sort of fine to be paid by means of labour in lieu of imprisonment?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): That is true.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): I have only one question, and that has already been partially answered. With reference to page 55 of the report, could the special representative tell us the qualifications and standards of work of the Micronesian medical employees who serve outlying villages and islands?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): We have a few certificated native medical practitioners scattered around through the Territory in the outlying islands. Our supply is limited and the work in the hospitals is very heavy, because we are trying to eradicate tuberculosis and the use of modern drugs is very effective, and therefore we do not have as many certificated medical practitioners in the outlying districts as we should like. We have young men who have had a certain amount of training in the hospitals under the physicians and the nurses, and they are out, and we bring them in from time to time for further training in the hospital and, while they are in for further training, we replace them with others who are taken out of the hospital. However, there will be twenty-five additional native medical practitioners made available who are graduating from the Suva training course in December of this year, which will go far toward filling the needs of the outlying atolls.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The Visiting Mission in 1953 had noted that in all of the main islands, or all the administrative centres, medical organization was close to perfection, and it wanted to congratulate the Administering Authority on this in its report. However, the Administration itself -- and this is typical of the frankness of the relations it had with the Visiting Mission -- pointed out that in the remote islands, the distant islands,

the situation was not altogether satisfactory. I should like to ask the special representative whether any progress has been made since last year, whether any improvement has been registered in respect of these remote islands through the improvements in medical service, for example, to which reference was made.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): Dr. Marshall gave me a summary to the effect that, during the past year, there have been certifications of about six young men who, during their year's experience, have demonstrated that they are worthy of receiving certificates as native medical practitioners, and who have had adequate theoretical and practical training. We have been able to send out from the hospitals a few more young men in the public health field, out to the outlying islands, here and there throughout the districts. The progress has not been adequate during the past year, but we have had to do the best we could in regard to manning the hospitals, counting upon the twenty-five new men whom we are going to have in December of this year from Suva.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): There was one problem that disturbed the Administration last year: the problem of the remuneration of these native health officers who had to serve in outlying or isolated islands. It was not certain that they would be able to provide for their subsistence by the practice of their profession. I should like to ask the special representative whether this problem has been settled.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): We are trying to get the people of Micronesia to assume the financial burdens of their government in so far as this is practicable, on the theory that service by outsiders -- American personnel, and so forth -- will decrease and will be picked up in due time by competent, adequately trained Micronesians. This has already gone pretty well in the field of elementary education: the different districts have devised ways of paying their school teachers.

We started off with a system of having the medical health aides and native medical practitioners in the outlying islands paid through fees that they might collect. But the people are not yet accustomed to paying fees for things like that, to the extent that the native medical practitioners had to turn from their

health services and spend a considerable amount of time in preparing copra, along with the rest of the community, in order to make a living. We are now paying half their salaries and asking them to call upon the people to pay, in so far as they are able to pay, for the services rendered -- very small fees. Some physicians in some places are able to get along very well; others are having trouble. This is a transition stage in which we shall have to make adjustments and trials in respect to having salaries or fees or a combination thereof.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I now come to my last question. In his opening statement, the special representative told us of two projects which I think are very desirable -- namely, two leprosaria which have been established. I visited the one at Tinian, and I noticed that it was very well set up; however, I noticed that it was inadequate to the needs of the archipelago. I should like to ask the special representative what he meant when he referred to these two institutions as native institutions.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): We have evolved, from experience, a very interesting way of getting co-operation from the communities in the treatment of tuberculosis. Our hospitals are too small to care for all the tuberculosis patients during the period of convalescence after they have had their cases arrested by drugs. When they are ready to leave the hospital, they return to their home islands or atolls and usually take up immediately the normal work of a man or woman or child, as the case may be, and this is a little too strenuous and may result in a setback or in a reactivation of the disease. We are therefore establishing on an experimental basis -- and it seems to be working very well in some places -- little convalescent houses which the communities themselves build: the convalescents are expected by the leaders to stay there, to be relieved of a certain amount of work and to be provided with food by their families, so that they may have a chance to recuperate. That might be called a native institution.

Leprosy is a disease which is not regarded as it used to be. It is not thought to be as contagious as it once was. It is quite possible to arrest it and eliminate it if caught early. Therefore, we have to obtain the co-operation of the people in order to detect the disease in its early stages. They must have confidence that if they have any symptoms of the disease, their removal to a hospital will promise recovery and that it is not a sort of death sentence, incarceration, and so forth.

They prefer to stay near home if possible. That is the reason we are setting up the leprosaria in a rather simple normal homelike atmosphere in nature where they can be taken care of by the regular general hospital not too far away, but where the people can also help themselves and where their family can help them. They will have the comforts and the psychological benefits that seem to come from their not being taken a long distance away to a strange place among strange people. That is really the purpose.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): With regard to the section dealing with labour, on page 51 of the annual report, I note the statement that "wages and conditions of employment in the government service, therefore, tend to become the standard". Since these wages and conditions of employment in the government service tend to become the standard for the Territory, would it not be in the interests of labour relations to establish minimum wages and a code for the conditions of employment?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): My answer to that would have to be that I do not know. We are getting along very well now. We have these rates of pay which have been worked out with the people over a considerable period of time and we have the work and employment graded from 1 to 12 inclusive. The rates of pay vary, the lowest at 1 and the highest at 12. People may start in at grade 1, or if they have had a considerable amount of training and preparation they may start in at grade 4 or 5 or higher. Then they are progressively raised as their competence increases. It seems to be working out without dissatisfaction. In a way it seems to me that having established the classifications and specified

the wages for the different classifications, we do provide for both maximum and minimum wages there. It is something like a civil service arrangement and it is working out very well at present.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): On page 48 of the annual report there is a reference to an indigenous religious practice which is new to me because when I was in the Territory as a member of the Visiting Mission I was not aware of the existence of this movement. However, we now note the reference to this religious movement in the Palau. I would like to enquire from the special representative as to what the actual strength of this movement is and whether it has any political orientation. If so, is it still anti-foreign, and how are its relations with the Administration?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): I know of that native cult and sect. No attempt is made to eradicate it. It seems to meet the needs of possibly 150 or 200 people. Even though some of them might be nominal Christians, they may also belong to this old cult. It has no serious social manifestations. I do not believe it is going to spread. I think rather that the Protestant and Catholic faiths are the ones that are spreading.

There was in the Palau district some tendency towards Buddhism during the Japanese occupation and there are still shrines to be found and some people are still seen worshipping at those little shrines. I was told that some worship according to the Buddhist fashion and that some go to those little shrines and worship according to this occult religion. But it is a shrine and they make use of it in that way. I am not sufficiently qualified to enlighten the Trusteeship Council in detail on that subject. I have read what the anthropologists have to say and they do not seem particularly worried about it at all, nor have we had anyone who is particularly skilful in comparative religions to give us the fine points of it. Probably in due time it will disappear, unless it is serving some very useful purpose.

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Mr. RIFAI (Syria): The main point of my question was to enquire whether this movement has any political orientation. It is stated in the annual report that it is anti-foreign and consequently that implies some sort of political orientation. It was anti-foreign under the Japanese, but I am enquiring whether it still exists in that way.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): If I am not mistaken, it would be my judgment that to attempt to repress that would probably stimulate it. At any rate, we see no harm coming from it at the present time and the people go about their daily work with all the other people and all other religions. Possibly the best way is to take rather a sympathetic attitude towards the people who may be getting some benefit from it and try to assist all in improving their economic and social conditions and also assist the established churches in their work. I may assure the representative of Syria that this is not increasing and probably does not have the serious aspect that the Japanese seemed to think it might have.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): In the report under the heading "Human rights", I find that the Bill of Rights of the Code of the Trust Territory guarantees many things, including, "no imprisonment for failure to discharge contractual obligation". What is the penalty, then, if a person fails to discharge his obligations under a contract arrived at in good faith? Does the special representative think that imprisonment on this score implies any sort of infringement of human rights?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): When I first read the Bill of Rights contained in our Code, I asked in particular about this matter, and I was informed that it was taken almost word for word from the Constitution of the United States. I think that the wording of most of the other items in the Bill of Rights has the same origin. If the Bill of Rights under which the people of the United States have been getting along is satisfactory for those people, then the assurance of these rights to the Micronesians may prove of benefit to the Micronesians also, but I do not know about that.

With regard to the specific questions asked by the representative of Syria, I think any failure to discharge contractual obligations would have to be covered by regular court procedure, and the man would have to be tried and the due process of the law would be observed. I do not know to what extent imprisonment might follow a trial for a failure to abide by a contract, but there might be cases where that would be true.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): My next question refers to employment abroad. It is stated in the annual report that individuals have migrated to Guam from the Trust Territory, but that "no serious problems are created by this migration". Since it is stated that no "serious problems" are created, I should like to know whether any problems are created and, if these problems do exist as a result of migration to Guam, what they are.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): It is within our authority to prevent the Micronesians from travelling to Guam. They have to obtain permits to do this, but we would be loath to prevent them going if they were seeking employment or going there for education purposes. Of course, we would encourage

that. Although the statement is made in the annual report that there are no serious problems created by the Micronesian travelling to Guam, there are benefits that flow from such an experience but, in my opinion, there are also considerable hazards. I will be very happy when we are able to provide employment within the Trust Territory for our people in the production of copra, in new agricultural products, in additional surface transportation, in fisheries and other various ways, and thus discourage the people from going to Guam.

Most of the Micronesians who go to Guam go to live with a well-established family. They go to a relative's home or to some good family, and often they work in the family to pay for their board while they are going to school or working elsewhere. We make investigations to find out what kind of family they live with, the conditions under which the young people will find themselves and, contrary to my own expectation, we have found that it is not working out very badly.

I do not very much like this migration to Guam. I do not like the growing tendency to leave the islands and go into a centre of this sort, and it is something I should like to try to improve upon. Most of the migration to Guam is from the northern Marianas, because the people there speak the same language as the people of Guam and have the same ethnic ties. I am informed that in the northern Marianas this migration is not regarded as a problem. It would be somewhat more of a problem for the young people who live in Palau, Yap, Truk and other districts.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I recall that the last Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory was greatly impressed by the Koror community centre when it visited that centre. I was under the impression that this was the only centre except for one that exists in Saipan. Is the Administering Authority encouraging the establishment of such centres and helping the people to do so?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): There was a definite need for a community centre in Koror. The people of the Palaus were in the habit of leaving their home villages and going into Koror to work. In many cases these people had different customs, different prejudices and jealousies, and there was considerable

unrest. There was more than competition, there was a kind of contest that was unwholesome in a way. It was felt before I took office that it would be a good thing to have a place where these people could meet for recreation and the discussion of problems and so on. The South Pacific Commission supported this experiment. It was felt there should be a place where the different groups that came to work and study, and that did not have a church of their own in Koror, could meet. This community centre has worked fairly well, but it has not been entirely satisfactory and not as much progress has been made as we hoped would be. We are continuing the experiment and enlisting the leadership of the local people more. In my opinion, the community centre was set up a little too much like the mid-western American plan of community action, with a committee for this, a committee for that, and all kinds of committees. The people found that it took a great deal of their time in the evenings, and they did not particularly like it or respond to it.

I think we forced it a little bit too much, and I also think we have learned a good deal. We will carry it on and it will grow into something useful. I feel sure that people joined together and built this very attractive community centre; it is a monument to their enterprise and co-operation. The problem is how to keep them co-operating, how to keep it serving a useful purpose and how to prevent it from becoming a burden upon them. That is the way we are trying to continue it at the present time. In other places we would be keenly responsible to any desire on the part of the people to have an organization of that sort. The people are usually kept quite busy with their church organizations and their other organizations, employment, copra making, siapo or the making of coir fibre and handicraft making. They spend a great deal of time together; while they are working they sit and talk things over. They have a remarkably fine community institution just in that form. Possibly that is the reason we do not have such a great need for this new form of community association that we realized was needed in Koror, where there was a certain amount of displacement because of people coming to the centre to get work.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I now come to my last question, and I trust it will not engender any wrong impressions in the minds of my colleagues. It refers to polygamy. To my knowledge polygamy is not prohibited in the African Trust Territories where, according to long standing customs and for social reasons pertaining to the conditions of the territory, it is still in existence. I am not now pronouncing any judgment on the institution of polygamy as such, but I should like to know the reasons which prompted the Administering Authority to resort directly to legal prohibition in eliminating this custom instead of attacking the problem through educational means.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): This regulation and this section of the Code was enacted before I was High Commissioner, and I shall try to explain what I think was the reasoning of the people who drafted it and put it into effect. I may say that my predecessor as High Commissioner was a devout Mormon, and he possibly had no strong feelings personally against polygamy, but the missionaries who have been in the Trust Territory for over a century took this very strong action against polygamy, preached against it and convinced the people that it was not right and that it was undesirable. Thus I think that with very

few exceptions there was nothing novel about placing on the statute books a statute against polygamy. It was probably already in effect, and placing it on the books probably only confirmed the opinions and beliefs of the people. I do not think there has been much violation of that statute although in some of the very remote places it may be that some of the old chiefs have more than one wife. I could not say anything about that, but I would not be very much surprised to hear it.

Mr. LOOMES (Australia): I have only one question on this section and that relates to social organizations referred to on page 46 of the report. I observe there the existence in Palau of age-grade societies, a type of society that is new to me. I observe that these societies are communal work units and, seen from that point of view, they seem to be some kind of community development scheme. I would be grateful to the special representative if he would give us a little more information on the nature and activities of these societies. Could he tell us whether they are traditional groups or whether they are imported into the Territory by the Administering Authority?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): My explanation for this phenomenon would be that it is in the acculturated area of Koror, and is a rather natural reaction of young men to the organization of the chiefs. They probably wish to practise leadership on their own and wish to play a part -- and they probably went ahead. The reason I say that is that it is the same sort of thing that the representative of New Zealand will recognize in Western Samoa, where they have the Fono of the chiefs and a group known as the Aumaugo or the young men, so called. They are young men who are not yet chiefs or who have failed to make the grade of chief; they have organized themselves to have their own good times and carry on their own activities and councils. They have certain codes and customs which are well established. I am not so well acquainted with this 35-age group and the other age groups there, the teenagers. However, I think that they probably have felt a social lack and need and have formed themselves into that group in order to enjoy a little feeling of belonging to something since they are not yet in the company of the chiefs. That would be my estimate of the situation.

Mr. PERRY (New Zealand): The special representative referred in his opening statement to 100 students who were pursuing advanced courses in various places outside of the Territory. He finished that section of his address with the statement that "most of them at present intend to return to the Trust Territory." (T/PV.550, page 51) If there is in that statement any implication that an appreciable number of these students are not to return to the Territory to work there, my delegation would regard that implication as disturbing. I wonder whether the special representative could clarify this question, the question as to whether these students will be returning to the Territory.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): That is an old question. I have often wondered how Scotland could educate so many fine young men, carrying them through the expenses of childhood, elementary, primary and secondary schools and college, and then send them away to other parts of the world where they assume new burdens and are unable to return anything to Scotland. I pondered over this in Hawaii, where we have hundreds of such excellently trained men serving Hawaii in one form or another; I wondered what profit Scotland was making on that transaction. I do know that it would be a loss to Micronesia if its well-trained people did not, in most cases, come back. Some of them, however, may become so accustomed to places in other parts of the world that they will prefer to remain away if they can find occupations. I believe that is all that can be implied by that last sentence. For that reason, we have not encouraged the students to go away for a long period of time, but merely for one or two years of training, always keeping in mind their home islands and service to their own people, who will benefit by the training which their young people are acquiring. Such an objective is encouraged, and I think it is going to work out satisfactorily, although, of course, there will be some disappointments.

Mr. PERRY (New Zealand): On page 43 of the annual report some information is given about the use of motion pictures in the Territory. As far as I can see, these are operated by native-owned organizations, but I am not very clear as to what type of film is used and whether the Administration itself makes any conscious effort to use films for the purpose of improving standards in the Territory and of making the people better informed concerning the outside world.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): We are so far behind what New Zealand has been able to do in western Samoa in this respect that I can only say we shall just have to try to learn by their experience and to improve this medium of education and influence. It is a very difficult thing because we do not have electric current in many places, and the transportation of equipment and film over this vast area is very expensive.

At the present time, the films that are shown are shown in the centres, usually by the trading companies, who import the films and keep the equipment in order. The people attend the motion picture shows whenever there is an opportunity. They go quite regularly in Truk and in Palau, and there is also a motion picture theatre in Yap. But the ships and aircraft that bring in these films are not very frequent, it is expensive to keep a supply of films, and we have not yet undertaken the extensive use of films in our educational programme, although I have been recommending earnest attention in that connexion during the past year. I regret that I am unable to report more use of this medium.

Mr. PERRY (New Zealand): On page 113 of the report, it is stated that there are no cottage hospitals or infirmaries in the Territory, a fact which, standing on its own, I find slightly surprising. I should have thought, from the nature of the Territory, that cottage hospitals and infirmaries would have been of some use. In the next line, however, there is a reference to 115 outlying dispensaries with one to ten beds, and the special representative, in earlier replies, has referred to action being taken towards caring for convalescents in tuberculosis cases. I am wondering whether the statement that there are no cottage hospitals or infirmaries is the whole truth in itself, or whether, in fact, there are certain establishments which would normally rank as such.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): I think that statement is just about correct. I do not recall seeing any home -- so-called -- that would constitute a hospital, nor any small house outside of the established dispensary where outpatients are received, throughout the Trust Territory. We have only the general hospitals and the dispensaries. Some are good, some medium, and some really not too good. But the houses of the Micronesians contain many people of all ages -- they are usually fairly well crowded -- and the native medical practitioner can visit people in their houses, or the people can come to the dispensaries. On the visiting trips of the Administration ships that go about, it usually happens that several people are picked up and

brought to the general hospital for treatment. So far, we have not gone into the field of establishing any hospitals except the central general hospital in each district.

Mr. PERRY (New Zealand): I should like to refer, finally, to page 54 of the report, under the heading of Native Social Welfare. We are told that the care of the aged and other people suffering misfortune is the accepted responsibility of the indigenous society. I should like to ask the special representative whether, in the more developed centres, the structure of the indigenous society is holding together so that they will continue to care for the aged and the infirm, or whether it will be necessary, as civilization progresses, to make some specific provision for these people.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The situation referred to may come to pass. At the present time, the care which the Micronesian people give to their own aged and infirm is an object lesson to almost everyone else in the world. The aged have a high status. The old men live together, working at various things appropriate to their strength and age, talking over the affairs of the municipality and making various kinds of plans.

The older women have the same type of arrangement, and the ill people are taken care of in accordance with their own customs. They receive very sympathetic attention. The ministrations in the homes of friends and relatives, plus the assistance of the native medical practitioner and the registered physician who comes around, are really quite humane and efficient.

We are trying to avoid urbanization throughout the Territory. We would prefer not to build up sizable centres. We would rather see the centres decrease somewhat in size down to a minimum and see the local communities improve so that they will be attractive to people to remain in them and live normal lives adjusted to their environment. It is a very fine type of adjustment that they make to a wonderful environment, and I hope that the spoiling of it will be very slow indeed. It is our objective to prevent the change to urbanization in so far as is practicable.

Mr. QUIROS (El Salvador) (interpretation from Spanish): I have just one question, which refers to the hospitals. On page 56 of the report we read that there are seven hospitals in the Territory with a combined bed capacity of 496. If we bear in mind the beds in the dispensaries, we might assume that there are approximately 600 beds for the population. In view of the fact that the population is approximately 60,000, this would seem to imply that there is a given ratio between the number of hospital beds and the number of inhabitants.

I wonder whether the actual number of beds is not at certain times inadequate for the number of patients. When such cases arise, what steps are taken by the Administering Authority? Could I have some explanation on this general question of hospitals and the ratio of the number of beds to the number of inhabitants.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): The number of beds that we have is inadequate. We have the leprosarium at Tinian which has only thirty people in a hospital that has room for one hundred. But the other hospitals in the district centres are usually overcrowded. During the past year we have been able to add thirty beds to the hospital in Koror. That is not shown in the figures here. We are expanding the hospitals.

When we decide whether the centre is to continue at Moen or go over to Dublon, we shall expand the hospital facilities for Truk.

I think we shall have to admit that our hospital facilities are not adequate because of the number of tubercular patients that we have. Tuberculosis became rampant during the latter part of the war years when the food supplies were shut off and nutrition was very low. Tuberculosis spread terribly and we have not caught up with it yet. We have a substantial hospital programme. This year we have been very fortunate in securing an appropriation from the Congress of \$1,000,000 for permanent improvements throughout the Trust Territory. About half of that may have to go towards the improvement of wharves and cargo-handling equipment, and things of that kind, in order to cut down the terrible costs of surface transportation. But the other half will go towards other construction, and the main item will be the expansion of the hospital facilities. I think that in some places we have a hospital census of 100 per cent month after month, which is regarded as too high. And at that we are not able to hospitalize people we would like to hospitalize. As a matter of fact, our programme to detect and locate tuberculosis in its earliest stages awaits the development of these new hospitals, which we expect to expand during the coming year.

Our hospitals are full, and we know that there are other tuberculosis cases that we ought to <sup>bring</sup> in to isolate and to give drug therapy. We shall be able to do that as we get these new hospitals expanded.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My first question refers to page 51 of the report, where it is stated:

"Reduction in wage employment by the Trust Territory Government has necessitated the return of some former employees to their traditional way of life, contrary to their wishes ..."

Could the special representative tell us the approximate number of employees who were forced to give up their work?

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): At the present time we have employed 1,262 Micronesians throughout the Trust Territory, and they are on what might be called the Government payroll. When that figure was given, in response to a question by the members of the Congressional Appropriations Committee, it caused considerable gasping; they wondered whether we intended to get everybody on the Government payroll.

During the past year we have reduced some of our expenditures, chiefly in the field of public works. We did not have the money to go ahead with our public works programme. We made drastic cutbacks in employment in that field. During this coming year, with this additional money we shall go ahead building again and we shall be able to provide more employment. We are very anxious not to create temporary Government employment at a rate to entice people away from their normal permanent copra production and other agricultural activities. We try to keep that situation in balance.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Perhaps I did not state my question quite clearly. I was interested in the number of employees who were compelled to give up their employment.

Mr. MIDKIFF (Special representative): At one time, when we were carrying on a substantial public works programme, we had in excess of 1,500 employees. At the present time, we have 1,262.

The meeting was suspended at 4.00 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Just before we took our recess, the representative of the Soviet Union was asking questions of the special representative, and I call on him now to continue.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): During the recess, I learned that, in view of the fact that the representative of India has to leave New York tomorrow, he would like to have the opportunity of speaking today in order to make a general statement on this Territory. If there is no objection, I would agree, out of respect for the representative of India, to make an exception and to interrupt my questioning of the special representative so that the Council may first hear the representative of India.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to consult the members of the Council on the suggestion made by the representative of the Soviet Union.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I hope that the representative of India will be given this privilege. I shall not make a motion to that effect unless it is necessary.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there is no objection on the part of any member of the Council, we shall now hear the representative of India.

It was so decided.

Mr. Krishna MENON (India): I am extremely grateful for the latitude that has been given me and for the Council's action in interrupting its proceedings to enable me to submit observations on the general question. I hope the Council will forgive my inability to be present for the remainder of this session. However, I have to leave New York tomorrow, and the other members

of my delegation will have to carry on until the end of the session. But my Government considers the problems involved in this matter to be of sufficient importance to be dealt with by the delegation in its full strength, and that is why we have appealed to the generosity of the Council, a generosity which has been so kindly extended.

In the case of these islands, popularly known as the Pacific Islands, we appreciate that we are dealing with a complex problem of administration, where the Administering Authority has to deal with some 2,141 units covering a small area of 687 square miles, with a population of only 57,000. But, as we have said in the case of Nauru and Western Samoa, regardless of the size of the population or the fact that other people choose to call them backward, and regardless of whatever vicissitudes may have been their fate in the march of civilization, we cannot, from the point of view of the United Nations and the great responsibility which humanity has accepted in the conception of trusteeship, set aside their fate as of no importance. Therefore, as on the previous occasions, my delegation will deal first with the problems in regard to administration and then will come to the political and other issues which confront us.

We are happy to note that considerable attention has been paid by the Administering Authority to various matters concerning administration. Within the short time available to me this afternoon, it is not my intention to cover the whole ground or to repeat what already appears in a number of the reports and summaries and papers prepared by the Secretariat.

With regard to education, however, we are faced with what appears to be not a complete picture. It is no one's fault; it is probably the way that the report has been presented, or our lack of appreciation of it.

Suffice it to say that the aim of education is something to which we must all pay tribute in the sense that the Administering Authority seeks to provide education for every child at the elementary level. We also find that it is the aim of education to provide facilities beyond the elementary standard so that leadership may rise in this Territory, for administration and, I hope, for self-government in the future. But when we come to the actual facts with regard to education, we are confronted with figures on which light would be thrown only by subsequent explanation.

In 1952, with respect to education, the Administering Authority expended \$437,888. That amount decreases in the next year to \$399,540, and in 1954 it goes still further down to \$382,531. Therefore the expenditure for education shows not only a decrease in a particular year but a contracting trend. I do not for one moment argue that mere figures of expenditure is necessarily an index either of the quality or the volume of education. It may well be that conservation in the resources of the Administration have taken place and that for the same or lesser amount of money better results are produced. That is one of those things which administrations always look to and we do not want to jump to any conclusion on this matter. But I hope that in the reply which the special representative makes, we shall be enlightened as to the progress, the increase in volume or the improvement in the quality for education in the area.

Another feature of the educational system is the numbers of students who appear to be sent to neighbouring Territories for higher education. My delegation would like to know whether in the future, despite the scattered nature of these Territories but having regard to the fact that some day they must provide their own services, both social and administrative, the facilities will become open to them in their own country. Some of these places are far away and we are happy to note that twelve of these students have come to the Administering Authority's own Territory and that one scholarship is provided by the United Nations.

I have just been handed a report on the observations of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on educational conditions and we are glad to note the interest taken by UNESCO in the matter and to see that on the whole it is a report which welcomes conditions in the area.

With regard to public health, the Administering Authority is in the happy position of being able to apply prophylactic medicine effectively, because there are these large numbers of islands where the populations can be rounded up and they can be treated effectively without any escape. But I think it will be a good example or inspiration for other Administering Authorities to note the large number of health institutions in this area.

There are seven hospitals and 115 dispensaries to deal with a population of 57,000 people. Equally there are maternity and child health clinics and other health centres that have been open, and a considerable amount of survey has been carried out. The World Health Organization has commented favourably on the integrated curative and preventive health services established for mothers and children in this area. The same applies to dental and medical practitioners and their work in the central and medical school. We are happy to note that a school for the training of auxiliary personnel was established in 1953. But at the same time this health situation also shows a similar picture, in so far as the expenditure is concerned, as the one to which I referred when dealing with education.

In the financial year 1952 the Administering Authority spent \$641,329 on health services. In 1953 it went up to \$715,951, while in 1954 it has fallen to \$610,000. It is quite likely that the year 1953 was one where expenditure was devoted to capital purposes or new equipment, or it may be that economies have been effected in the services. But since the Trusteeship Council should have some picture of the situation as it is, we hope that the special representative will throw some light on these matters. I make these observations not by way of adverse criticism but only to complete the picture.

Then we come to perhaps the most important part of the life of these people, namely, that aspect that relates to the sustenance of the people. Like most of these islands, with a civilization and a social organization which is comparatively rudimentary, the main energies of the people and their sustenance depends upon agriculture. I notice that the annual report speaks of experimental stations and improvements in plants, stock, rotation of crops, erosion control, and reafforestation. I am bound to confess that the general standard of agricultural development does not show the degree of marked improvement that would be inferable from these projects to which reference has been made.

The main problem that besets the people of this Territory and which has occupied the attention of the Administering Authority, but which still appears to be stubborn and not to yield to treatment, is the question of land. There are two matters in connexion with this to which I wish to draw attention.

One of these matters is the disproportionate area of land that is taken over by the Administering Authority compared to the land that is available to the people. I do not wish to take the time of the Council by quoting extracts, but it is shown in the report that a large amount of the Territory has been appropriated by the Administering Authority; this stands in the relation of two to one in one place, and in another area, where the land had been taken over by the Japanese, one-third of that land has still not been returned. In the report of the Visiting Mission it is stated:

"Although the principal complaint heard in all Districts except Yap concerned the slowness of the Administration in acting upon these claims, a further source of grievance in the Saipan district is that in most cases where a preliminary determination has been made land has been returned only on the basis of a revocable permit pending the outcome of further investigations."

I should like to say, coming as I do from a country where this agrarian problem is so acute, there is nothing so damaging to the agrarian problem than this degree of uncertainty of tenure of land. It is a kind of Damocles sword that hangs over the head of the cultivator. We are told here of a revocable permit, a revocable permit that is the instrument of political authority. The Visiting Mission went on to state:

"This is due in part of the difficulty of accurately determining boundaries and in part to the fact that in the Saipan District, and to a much lesser extent in other areas, some of the former agricultural land has been rendered useless owing to wartime installations..."

This is quite an understandable situation, and all we can hope is that the Administering Authority, with the enormous amount of technical, economic and other resources at its disposal, will be able to speed up this process. The Visiting Mission further stated:

"An especially severe example exists on Saipan Island where out of a total of 21,200 acres of formerly arable land only 13,815 acres are now available for agricultural use."

I think it will be clear to the Council that, in dealing with this Territory where the arable land is limited, this acreage represents a considerable volume of land.

"Where the land formerly owned by them cannot be returned, claimants are granted compensation" -- by the Administering Authority -- "in the form of equivalent areas of public domain. The Mission was told, however, that the lack of security of tenure created by the revocable permits prevented the people from making improvements, or planting slow maturing crops the benefits of which they felt they might not reap."

That is a universal problem in all agricultural countries, where no land sees any improvement until the cultivator knows that no one is going to take it away from him.

"On the other hand, the Mission was assured by the Administration that in most cases their possession of the land would be confirmed."

I have no doubt at all that this is the wish of the Administration, but the cultivator, being of the conservative section of the population, goes by what he has in his hand rather than what he is promised. The Visiting Mission has made certain recommendations in connexion with this, and I hope that the next time the Council deals with this matter we will have a different situation before us.

In the working paper it is stated:

"In a total of 687 square miles of land the indigenous inhabitants held in 1951 an area estimated at 250 square miles and the public domain including land used by the Administration covered 434 square miles. The Administering

Authority stated the most frequently expressed land problems centred around the slow process of returning lands expropriated during wartime, and resolving damage claims arising from the same source."

The annual report also stated:

"In general the inhabitants desire the return of land to the original owners, however, they recognize the equity of previous title transfers and in many instances willingly honour them."

This land problem was noted by both the 1950 and the 1953 Visiting Missions. It is important in the sense that this economic question is very near to the hearts and minds of these people, and it has a relation to one of the most outstanding problems of this Trust Territory. Now I come to deal with the results of the Japanese occupation. The Visiting Mission states in its report:

"In its annual reports on the administration of the Territory for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52, the Administering Authority stated that plans for the reimbursement of the inhabitants for the Japanese currency which they had surrendered were under study and that arrangements for the settlement of other claims were receiving active consideration ...

"The Mission fully appreciates that these claims do not represent a legal responsibility incurred by the Administering Authority. Yet, in view of the misunderstanding which has arisen among the indigenous people and considering that they have anticipated reimbursement over a considerable number of years, the Mission believes that some final action should be taken at the earliest opportunity ..."

At its twelfth session the Trusteeship Council noted that the delay in the settlement of claims in respect of Japanese currency, postal savings, and bonds constituted a source of dissatisfaction amongst the indigenous inhabitants. It appears to be the policy of the Administering Authority to deal with these matters and settle them. Following a study on these islands undertaken by the Harvard University, the investigators asked the question: who is responsible for the situation?

"Japan? Certainly to some extent, as one facet of her war guilt, but from a practical point of view how can she be made to underwrite the Micronesians' economic recovery?

"The United States? Certainly not in the sense that she precipitated the series of events leading up to the situation, but the United States inherited the problem and does not seem eager to turn it over to someone else."

The report goes on to conclude that it is compelling that so long as the United States Government restricts Micronesian freedom of complete choice in any way and does not choose to share the assets of Micronesia along with its liabilities it cannot escape from the full consequences of guaranteeing the Micronesians' economic well-being. Its obligation to them, the report stated, was even greater than to its own citizens, who, in the final analysis, enjoy a much greater freedom of action.

Now, with great respect, that appears to be the view of the Administering Authority, but what these people are seeking is the implementation of this policy.

Now we come to the problem of labour and administration. In line with the observations we made in regard to the other Pacific territories of Nauru and Western Samoa, we consider that any kind of political advance has its reflection in practical terms in the degree of association in the day to day administration by the populations. The Administering Authority's claim is that American employees are being replaced by the islanders, and we welcome that statement. However, this is clearly at variance with the data. On 30 June 1949 there were 117 United States citizens and 1,555 Micronesians employed by the administration. On the same day in 1952, there were 301 United States citizens and 1,564 Micronesians. On the same day in 1953 there were 283 United States citizens -- they had been reduced by 18 or so -- and the number of Micronesians had dropped to 1,543. The figures, therefore, do not show any great increase between 1949 and 1953, but there is an increase of 130 per cent in the employment of Americans.

The increase of United States citizens is 166, while the Micronesians have decreased by 14; that is between 1949 and 1953. If you take the two years of 1952 and 1953, the United States personnel has decreased by 18 while Micronesian personnel has decreased by 21. Over and above that, in examination of this problem of the Administration, as in the case of other territories, one has also to look into the kind of posts that are held by the indigenous inhabitants and what posts are held by the Administering Authority. From such inferences as one can make superficially and from material available, it does not appear that the Micronesians are in positions of great importance or relatively great importance as compared with the personnel of the Administering Authority.

From administration I should like to pass briefly to the structure of government, and here again one falls back on the Visiting Mission. The Visiting Mission refers to the establishment of a territory-wide legislature being envisaged by the Administering Authority as part of a long-range policy. It is important to remember that it is only part of a policy. It states:

"It will be recalled that the Trusteeship Council, at its seventh session, endorsed this proposal and recommended that the Administering Authority press forward with its plans to establish such a body." (Report on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1953, paragraph 41.)

But the annual report of the Administering Authority states in a promulgation of a code of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, dated 22 December 1952, that the Legislative Advisory Committee has been discontinued. However, for some reason we are not able to understand this -- I have read this report backwards and forwards on this particular matter -- and the Visiting Mission reports the establishment of a Legislative Advisory Committee in 1953, and expresses the hope it will provide the nucleus of a territorial legislature. There is some mystery here. I hope that we shall be afforded a solution of this matter as between the representatives of the Visiting Mission and the special representative. On the one hand, the report states that the Advisory Committee has been discontinued and the Visiting Mission says that the Legislative Advisory Committee was there. It might have been a projection of policy which

has not materialized and it may be some error either in the gathering or the giving of information. At any rate, the main point is not that there is an error but the fact is that there seems to be not much progress in this direction, and when we study the organs we find that the only organs in existence of a popular character such as the legislature are on the municipal level. My delegation takes into account the fact that there are thousands of these islands and the populations on them are very small. We cannot think of them in terms of parliamentary or other institutions. There are administrative difficulties. It is a strategic area and part of it is under the administration of the United States Navy. But, having taken all that into account and since the policy of the Administration is as is shown in its various reports and judging by public opinion in the country of the Administering Authority represented in the literature and studies of various learned bodies in this country, one feels that the object of policy is to establish national bodies; but there is no evidence that these have come into being. That completes for the time being our survey of the Administering Authority's position in these islands.

I should like to conclude by saying that it is an onerous task to have the administration of this far-off territory for a big country accustomed to dealing with things in a very big way; this country has a large population with very high standards of life. Then you have these scattered islands with people belonging to a totally alien civilization and whose attitudes and desires are probably not easily understood. Therefore, while making these criticisms, one takes that into account -- and I have no doubt at all that the Administering Authority will take these criticisms in the spirit in which they are made.

That takes us to the more controversial aspect of this problem. This Territory comes under United States administration. The Japanese first had the mandate and the islands were fortified against the mandate provisions. After the defeat of Japan the trust of these territories came to the United States, and here we have the Trusteeship Agreement. It is one of those cases where a very close look at the Trusteeship Agreement will be necessary in dealing with the next question because we have before us two resolutions one introduced by the Soviet Union and the other yesterday by the United Kingdom; and now by Belgium, France and the United Kingdom. It is not at all an easy task for us to deal

with the situation because with some parts of these two resolutions my delegation is in sympathy, but I want to preface my observations on this question by saying that it is not the view of my delegation, nor is it to be regarded as the purpose of the Trusteeship Council to go into the question of the use of nuclear or thermonuclear weapons. That is to say, we are not a disarmament commission nor are we the Assembly of the United Nations. My delegation is not concerned here with the rights and the wrongs of the use of the atomic weapon. We are not here concerned with the proportion of the holdings of these weapons by one country or another. We are not here concerned with the various other controversies that have arisen around this matter, but we are concerned about one thing: that is whether this Territory for which we have some responsibility can be a receptacle for this or not, that is the only concern. I want to separate those issues. We do not want to be part of a controversy in this Council on the merits of the atomic weapon or otherwise. Naturally we have to talk about these weapons and about their consequences in relation to the people of this country. We are concerned about the effects of the use of this Territory for this purpose and whether this use is legitimate or otherwise and what has to be done about it in the future.

The resolution of the Soviet Union deals with the question as a whole on which we might agree or not agree in another place. Therefore, as it stands, we are unable to record our assent to it; as regards to its effects on people, we agree.

Then there is the other resolution which has been submitted by the three Administering Powers which, at the appropriate time, we shall seek to amend. We shall seek to amend it by retaining the first four lines and substituting for the remainder a text that we think more suitable.

Before commenting on these resolutions, may I deal with matters from the point of view of the Trusteeship Agreement. The United Kingdom resolution says in the first instance:

"Bearing in mind the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement for this Territory, and in particular that in Article 1 of the Agreement, the Territory is designated as a strategic area." (T/C.2/L.102/Rev.1)

Even though I take it out of order, I should like to deal with this matter and dispose of it first. The fact that this is designated as a strategic area has nothing to do with this problem that you are dealing with. No one questions this as being a strategic area. The Trusteeship Council would thus have no authority; in our opinion, to object to the closure of these areas under the sanction of the Security Council, but the question of proving of whether this is or not a strategic area are two different questions. You cannot cover two different ideas separately by the use of a word over the one to which it is inapplicable. The proving of these weapons in this particular territory, causing the destruction and all the consequences of it on the people, is not a strategic exercise. A strategic area in terms of United Nations Charter is a strategic area in terms of the competence of the Security Council over it as an area where fortifications are to be erected or whatever may be there for the protection of that particular territory or for the protection of the Metropolitan country. It cannot be stated that using that territory as a proving ground for highly explosive weapons is a strategic exercise.

It is a misconception of the strategic position of this place. Secondly, the discussion of this in the Trusteeship Council cannot be regarded as ultra vires for several reasons.

The United States has, very generously, submitted the whole of this Territory for consideration by the Trusteeship Council. The Security Council, under the Charter, is bound to take the advice of the Trusteeship Council; it is mandatory. The Assembly has the authority in this matter. But, over and above all this, the Trusteeship Council is concerned with the political, economic, social and educational conditions of this Territory. How can there be any political progress, how can there be any economic progress, how can there be any social progress, how can you educate people if they are destroyed? You cannot politically advance a Territory that is annihilated. You cannot educate a people that are destroyed. You cannot economically advance a people whose health is devitalized by certain exercises. And, therefore, apart from everything else, if we have to perform our duties of the examination of the political, economic and educational conditions, then it follows logically that the Territory must be there, that what was done there does not, by definition, militate against us. Therefore, the first part of this United Kingdom draft resolution, in our opinion, is a red herring and is inapplicable; I withdraw the word "red herring". It is inapplicable to the situation and has nothing whatever to do with the argument because the words "strategic area" usually create a confusion of thinking. A strategic area has nothing whatever to do with the situation. Subject to correction, I think that if conditions of international security as defined in the Charter are not secure in one country, and international security or whatever is concerned is in danger, and the Security Council so ordains it, the Administering Authority will be entitled to take whatever steps it wants to take, but not the step of proving an experiment for the improvement of its own weapons. I think the provisions of the Charter should be uppermost in our minds, and I would refer the Council to the debates of San Francisco, Volume X. Regarding strategic areas,

"The Committee recommends that provision be made for the designation in the Trusteeship Agreement of a strategic area or areas. The Committee also recommends that functions of the Organization relating to strategic areas should be exercised by the Security Council."

This is not a function relating to a strategic area. But this part is more important:

"The basic objectives of the Trusteeship System will be applicable to the people of each strategic area, and the Security Council should, without previous considerations, avail itself of the Trusteeship Council..."

Now, the Administering Authority has made no difficulties about this. It took part in discussions in the Security Council three or four years ago and subsequently, and, so far as examination of this question is concerned, it has been turned over to us.

Reference is also made to article 5:

"In discharging its obligations under Article 76 a and Article 84 of the Charter, the Administering Authority shall ensure that the Trust Territory shall play its part, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, in the maintenance of international peace and security..."

I have heard it argued and stated in various places that article 5 covers the present question; and I submit that it does not because the obligations under Article 76 a. are the obligations to further international peace and security and, under Article 84, "It shall be the duty of the Administering Authority to ensure that the Trust Territory shall play its part in the maintenance of international peace and security. To this end the Administering Authority may make use of volunteer forces, facilities, and assistance from the Trust Territory in carrying out the obligations towards the Security Council undertaken in this regard by the Administering Authority..."

Article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement lays down:

"...To this end the Administering Authority shall be entitled:

- "1. To establish naval, military and air bases and to erect fortifications in the Trust Territory;
- "2. To station and employ armed forces in the Territory; and
- "3. To make use of volunteer forces, facilities and assistance from the Trust Territory in carrying out the obligations towards the Security Council undertaken in this regard by the Administering Authority..."

The article says: "To this end the Administering Authority shall be entitled" to do A, B, C and D. It does not even add a covering provision saying: Such and such other things as may be required from time to time.

What is more, it is limited strictly to establishment of these bases, the arming of people, and the carrying out of obligations towards the Security Council. There is no evidence whatsoever that the Security Council, at any time, ordered the use of these places as proving grounds in the interests of civilization.

It should have gone to the Security Council. If the Security Council had ordered that this strategic area, in defence of the peace of the world, should have part of its area destroyed, then that would be so. The use of this place does not come under these provisions, but under the general idea that it is an integral part of the Administering Authority's dominion. And that is a situation to which it is difficult to subscribe.

Article 6, in all its details, is set out in the Trusteeship Agreement, and the Administering Authority, with great willingness and imagination, and with open eyes, accepted the Trusteeship Agreement, with its provisions relating to self-government, administration, and the protection of the inhabitants against the loss of their lands and their resources.

When two islands disappear physically you cannot say that their land and their resources are protected, nor that their means of transportation are improved. It is quite clear that there was no thought in the mind of anybody, it was not the intention of the Trusteeship Agreement, it was not the intention of the Administering Authority, it certainly was not the intention of the Charter, to warrant the use of these territories, as though they were the soil of the Administering Authority, for proving purposes. In other words, my submission is that the use of the Pacific Islands by the Administering Authority in the same way as -- shall we say? -- Mexico was used, is illegal. That is my submission; that is to say, it is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charter. I am not dealing at the moment with the question of compensation; that is a subsequent matter because, once the thing is placed in trust and the authority over it does not entirely reside in the persons who have the government of the Territory, the right to destroy it does not exist.

The same article says: "...protect the health of the inhabitants". You cannot protect the health of an inhabitant who is subject to radio-activity. It is not done with evil intent -- that is not the point. The point is, what is the result of all these things? And it is in contravention of article 6.

Therefore, we come to the question of what is the basis of authority in power. It has been contended, I believe, by the Australian delegation at one time that the interpretation of the doctrine of sovereignty is that the Administering Authority is sovereign in these territories. I do not suppose that there is a jurist anywhere outside of Australia who would support that proposition. Whatever may be the definition of sovereignty, it does not mean that the total possession of a Territory is in the hands of an Administering Authority. The very fact that a country is called an Administering Authority -- not a sovereign country, nor a metropolitan country--means that the relation of an Administering Authority of a Trust Territory is not that of a metropolitan country to a non-self-governing dominion or a Non-Self-Governing Territory and, therefore, whether the actual conscience of government exists in the authority or not, it cannot be contended at any time that the authority is sovereign over the Territory because the essential attributes of that sovereignty do not exist in them. It is definitely laid down in the Trusteeship Agreement that it is not for the Administering Authority to change the status of a Trust Territory except by consent, and, therefore, that degree of monistic authority that should exist where a decision can be taken unilaterally, does not exist in the Administering Authority. The status of a Territory cannot be changed. Would it be open to the Administering Authority, for example, to sell one of these islands to another sovereign State, or to conclude a treaty whereby it would become a colony of some other country? We have contended, when considering various other legislatures and places, that an Administering Authority has no power to give its citizenship -- a position that is somewhat contended by some Administering Authorities. That is, so to say, the Administering Authority is not sovereign in the matter of changing a status. It exercises very powerful functions. My delegation would hold a position, contested by Australia, that they are only agents. But there is one thing certain, and that is that there is no absolute, undivided, indivisible authority resting in the Administering Authority. Latent sovereignty, by all conceptions of modern civilization and by the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, rests in the people. I confess that at the present moment it is latent. It rests in the people, but it has to come out some time. The fact that it is not active, however, must not destroy it.

The essential attributes of that sovereignty, that is a capacity to change the status of the Territory, does not exist. It is definitely laid down in the Trusteeship Agreement that it is not open to the Administering Authority to change the status of this Territory except by consent, and therefore that degree of monistic authority that should exist, that whereby a decision can be taken unilaterally wherein no other consent is to be sought, does not exist with the Administering Authority. The status of the Territory cannot be changed.

If its status cannot be changed, included in the status is the attribute of physical existence. And would it be open to the Administering Authority, shall we say, to sell one of these islands to another sovereign State, or to conclude a treaty whereby it would become a colony of some other State?

We have contended here and in various legislatures and other places that the Administering Authority has no power to give its own citizenship. On this question, which was somewhat contested by some other Administering Authorities, that is to say, on the change of status, the Administering Authority is not sovereign. It exercises very powerful functions in virtue of the Trusteeship Agreement. But my delegation holds the position, contested by Australia, that they are only agents. For whom, I do not know. That is to be proven in the future.

But there is one thing that is certain, and that is that there is no absolute, undivided and indivisible power resting in the Administering Authority. Sovereignty, by all conceptions of modern civilization, by what is basic in the Charter and in human rights, rests with the people. Ultimately it rests with the people; it has to come out sometime. The fact that it is not so at the moment does not destroy it. It is capable of animation, and once it is capable of animation it means that the part of life called sovereignty rests in those people and that it cannot be taken away by the Administering Authority. If the Administering Authority is not sovereign, then it has no right to destroy it. Its destruction can only be partial destruction, which does not go to the root of the problem.

It can cut down forests, it can cut through mountains or make channels in rivers. If there were a particular disease with a great deal of infection in a certain place, it may be that it can destroy the whole of the vegetation for that purpose. It is an attribute of the quantity which makes a difference in the quality. But if islands are completely destroyed, that is a situation which concerns the property, and the corpus of this question is being dealt with as though the people do not exist. That takes us to the actual situation that has arisen.

We have in many places heard and dealt with the vast effect of these explosions in these areas. Whatever observations we make on this question must be taken in the background of the submission I have already made. We are not discussing the merits of the question of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons. There is another more appropriate place for that discussion. We are here only discussing whether they can be used in this area.

For the proper understanding of this, we must have some conception of the enormity of the impact that is made on these islands. We are told that the bomb used in 1952 had the explosive power of 5 million tons of TNT. It tore out one island and replaced it by a mile-wide crater, 175 feet deep. That is to say, in place of an island we have now a subterranean or underwater lake, as I suppose it would be called. That certainly is not the homeland of these people.

Taken from the point of view of a Trust Territory, what is in trust? The land, homes, life, opportunity, the civilization of these populations.

Furthermore, we have it from very responsible citizens of the Administering Authority that the consequences of these explosions cannot be strictly calculated. I believe that we are quite justified in quoting the supreme head of the Government of the Administering Authority, President Eisenhower. He appears to have said that it surprised and astonished the scientists. One set of people in the world who should not be astonished or a bit surprised are the scientists, because surprise is not a part of a scientific sequence. The essence of a scientific sequence is the submission of cause and effect. When a scientist is surprised, something has gone wrong somewhere.

The Secretary of Defense of the United States, Mr. Wilson, has said that it is unbelievable, though that is not a very scientific expression.

The estimated casualties from the first reports came in from 14 miles outside the safety zone. That means that, even admitting just for the sake of argument that there was some legal basis for cordoning off a place and making it over for these purposes, the degree of what a lawyer would call the amount of caution that was used and the provision that was made against mishaps, do not seem to have been effective. The first reports indicated that the blasts were 14 miles outside the safety zone.

Furthermore, in these activities not only were the inhabitants of the Trust Territory affected, but the effect has also been upon other populations, citizens of States not represented in the United Nations. My Government, in making representations in this matter to other organs of the United Nations, has made the point that in the adverse affects this has had on the Japanese population the United Nations carried a special responsibility because they are not represented here. Japanese fishing ships with their crews have been affected by this action. We note also that 28 Americans and 236 Marshall Islanders who were 175 miles away and who were thought perfectly safe, were exposed to atomic radiation.

I shall not at this time go into all the information available concerning radioactivity in Calcutta or South Africa or any of those places, as that would form part of another inquiry into this altogether. The general view is that this radiation could affect some 10,000, 15,000, 20,000 or 30,000 square miles of space. We are even told that it shook an entire island 200 miles away, and that radiation has travelled nearly 1,000 miles. It contaminated eight fishing craft 1,000 miles from the scene of the explosion.

The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of the United States made a very significant statement. He said: "Winds do not blow in only one direction at a given time and place. At various heights above the earth, winds are found to be blowing frequently in opposite directions and at greatly varying speeds."

All of this shows that when an area is made the place where this proving takes place, the consequences are not confined to that particular area. Therefore, those people who were responsible for the use of that place and for the consequences, are bound to produce their observations.

With regard to the Trust Territory itself, the figures I have before me, subject to correction, are that 82 persons from Rongelab and 154 persons from Uterik, making a total of 236 persons, suffered ill effects. We have no figures of actual deaths, but these are the people who suffered the effects of atomic radiation, effects including the lowering of blood count, burns, nausea, the falling of hair from the head, and no one can promise their complete recovery with any degree of certainty. Only 154 of the people affected have returned; 82 have to wait one more year.

In this connexion, I believe I am entitled to refer, and I think it is more in the spirit of constructive criticism that I do refer, to observations made by responsible citizens of the United States who are members of the legislature. I have before me the observations of Mr. Mansfield, House of Representatives, United States Congress.

"The average person does not realize the vast power of these weapons, but the most recent tests have brought the consequences a little closer to home. The March 1 hydrogen explosion in the Marshall Islands surpassed the expectations of the United States scientists who devised it, and 379 Americans, natives, and Japanese fishermen were exposed to radiation in this blast. The explosion was from 600 to 700 times greater than that of the atomic bomb that killed 60,000 persons at Hiroshima in World War II.

"Damage to the Japanese fishing industry and the harm caused to those affected by radiation may have been exaggerated in some cases, but at the same time it makes one stop and think about this newest of scientific explorations into the unknown areas of massive destruction. The next series of tests may prove to be far more destructive.

"The people of the Marshall Islands have appealed to the United Nations for action to halt future tests in their area of the Pacific because some of their people have been exposed to radiation and there are a number of their people who have been moved from their home islands."

I think it would be unfair and disproportionate and would not assist the matter at all if we did not take the official view of the United States in this matter as communicated to the world and, I hope, to the appropriate organs of the United Nations by Ambassador Lodge -- although, of course, I submit with great respect that any assurances given to these people in regard to their suffering or their relief would have to come from the United States Government and not merely from the Ambassador of the United States to this Organization.

"Ambassador Lodge's statement before the United Nations"

-- goes on Mr. Mansfield -- "has done little to console the Marshallese... The fact that the Atomic Energy Commission has concluded its tests in the Pacific for 1954 is no assurance that they will not resume similar tests in 1955 and again place the lives and homes of the islanders in jeopardy.

"How can the people of the Marshall Islands place any faith in the assertions that the scientists 'will do everything possible to prevent recurrences'?"

And here, I think, the Marshallese have something to say, because assurances were given by the United States representatives before, and it has been pointed out that these were given by junior men and were not endorsed by the Government afterward.

"A sudden shift in the wind, as occurred in the March test, can cause radioactive contamination far beyond the danger zone.

"We should be assuming a responsible attitude toward the damage that has been done, but instead we have sought to minimize the situation. How can anyone assure any of these people that there will be no after effects on their general health because of the falling of radioactive material, while at the same time they are suffering from a lowering of the blood count, falling out of hair, burns and nausea?

"The American heritage is based on the protection of the rights, lives and property of individuals."

We believe that.

Mr. Mansfield goes on to say:

"We are assuming the shameful position of denying individual rights to the people of the Marshall Islands, whom we are obligated under the Trusteeship Agreement to protect."

I am sure the Council will endorse the last part of that: "whom we are obligated under the Trusteeship Agreement to protect".

Then he asks to have this printed in the Congressional Record.

I said a while ago that the record would not be complete and that we would be open to criticism if we did not read out at the same time what Ambassador Lodge has to say -- and I am happy to say that it is an acceptance of responsibility. He said: "The United States Government --"

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): A point of correction: that was not Senator Lodge. I believe the representative of India is referring to Senator Mansfield and not to Senator Lodge.

Mr. Krishna MENON (India): I think there is some confusion. Everything I read out was from Mr. Mansfield. I said that now I am going to read out what Ambassador Lodge had to say about this question, because it is necessary that we should have the official view of the United States Government as far as it has been communicated to us, especially as it is in very many aspects an acceptance of responsibility.

Ambassador Lodge said:

"The United States Government is very sorry indeed that some inhabitants of the Marshall Islands apparently have suffered ill effects from the recent thermonuclear tests in the Pacific proving grounds..."

That is an important phrase: "Pacific proving grounds". These are the homes of these people.

"This is a matter of real and deep concern to the American people and Government, who take very seriously our responsibilities toward the inhabitants of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands."

From the initial observations that I made in regard to administration, it is clear that my delegation accepts that view.

"I can assure them, as well as the Members of the United Nations, that the authorities in charge are doing everything humanly possible to take care of everyone who was in the area affected by the unexpected falling of the radioactive materials caused by a shift in the wind during the March 1 test."

On that paragraph, I would comment that the subsequent facts now bear out this assurance.

"The 236 Marshallese citizens in the affected area were immediately given the same medical examination as the American personnel of the test group..."

"The United States Government considers the request and the suggestions of the petitioners both reasonable and helpful; the restraint and moderation with which they have been presented evokes admiration and sympathy." That is with regard to the petition that is before us...

"... It will be recalled that, pursuant to the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement which designate the Trust Territory as a strategic area, the United States notified the United Nations on 2 April 1953 that the area of the Pacific proving grounds was being closed for security reasons in order to conduct necessary atomic experiments."

I want to draw the attention of the Council to that paragraph. What the United States Government did was to notify the Security Council -- and the matter was received and noted by the Security Council -- that it was closing the area as a strategic area, which it is entitled to do. But, as I said at the beginning, the use of the Territory as a proving ground is not a strategic purpose. It does not come under any of the provisions of the Charter, under any of the clauses of the Trusteeship Agreement. It does not turn on the merits of the proposition that it is either for the defence of the territory of the United States or for the defence of these islands. It so happened that they were more convenient than any part of the home territory. But I repeat that my delegation is not at the present moment concerned with the merits of the use of this weapon: that is another matter.

Mr. Lodge's statement went on:

"The United States Government is taking and will continue to take 'all possible precautionary measures... before such weapons are exploded', as suggested by the Marshallese citizens."

And then he goes on to assure us about the desire of the Government in this matter.

There are also first-hand reports from a correspondent who visited the area. They have been printed in the newspapers of this country and have not been contradicted, and I believe that they have now been printed in the Congressional Record. I do not know what the value of that is, but I would certainly regard it as meaning that these reports are not to be looked upon as spurious inventions.

These are the results of the recent explosion as printed on 20 June of this year, reported by William J. Waugh, Associated Press correspondent, who went from Honolulu to the Marshall Islands and spent ten days interviewing injured persons and their leaders and also personnel who run the atomic tests. His stories were delayed by censorship -- that is only to be expected -- but only minor deletions were made in the original copy. The article which I am about to quote was written under date of 29 May and reads as follows:

"They call themselves the poisoned people. They are the 82 natives of Rongelap Atoll who were showered by radioactive ash from the March 1 explosion of a hydrogen bomb..."

The expression "showered" is not mine. I do not think it means that anybody did that with bad intent: these people were the victims of the showering of radioactive ash.

"One of them, John Anjin, said the ash rained down for twenty-four hours.

"'It looked like salt', he said. 'It came down like a light rain. You could feel it strike your skin. It burned when it touched'.

"Some of the poisoned people lost their hair. Others were burned. Almost all of them are cured now -- but they have been banished from their homes for a year. They are among the Marshall Islanders who have petitioned the United Nations...

"The Marshall Islands, midway between Hawaii and the Philippines, came under United States control in the war ten years ago...

"Natives of Bikini and Eniwetok atolls were uprooted in 1946-47 to make way for atomic experiments. In the March 1 blast the 82 persons on Rongelap and 154 on Utirik were exposed or endangered to such an extent that they were removed from their home atolls. The Utirik people have gone back, but the Rongelapers must wait a year -- until their atoll is considered safe."

Then they go on to describe the explosion, which is of no importance in our thinking on this matter, except to refer to the anguish of these people. Then the report goes on to say the following:

"One man, 39 years old, still had a burn on the back of his right ear three months after the explosion. He was fishing in a canoe when the ash began falling.

"Some were frightened," said the medical aid in the place. "By night children were crying. Many adults were sick."

"A few days after exposure, some of the residents began losing their hair. Three days after the blast a destroyer arrived to evacuate the residents... The evacuation... was completed in two days. The affected people received medical assistance."

Then the report says:

"There is an anger among some people," said one of the inhabitants. "I think it will disappear if we get back home. They trust the American people."

"Americans in the area felt a personal responsibility for the natives brought to this place. Mrs. Percy W. Clarkson, wife of the commanding officer of the task force, rallied wives of Naval personnel in a clothing drive for the women and children" -- that is to say, that so much relief work is being done... But there is a certain amount of sadness among the people of this place."

Then we get the psychological aspects of this matter. The people who have been evacuated from Bikini are part of this community and their fate is still not very agreeable, so it gets around. So these new people who have been affected say:

"My people don't feel good about not going home. We fear we may have the fate of Bikini."

"The 200 Bikinians, moved from island to island, are now on isolated Kili, inaccessible many months of the year ..."

Then the correspondent asks a 38 year old man, who spoke in Marshallese, whether there is any message for the American people, and this man says:

"Please tell them not to do the same thing again -- throw the bomb.

We didn't do anything wrong."

That seems to be a very simple reaction of a man who is hurt. The correspondent goes on to say:

"The Marshallese are scared. After talking with them for ten days, I feel that they are most concerned lest the atomic tests force them to lose their home lagoons. They have put the gist of their fears and hopes into the petition they sent....

"We spent a month working on it," said one of them.

I am glad to see that some of the administrators in this place seem to have given their free time to organizing this opinion and, as we have seen Ambassador Lodge's statement, we welcome the fact that the petition has been sent. I assume I am reporting the sentiments of the Trusteeship Council when we say that it is a matter of gratification for us that these petitioners have felt free to come here and have had the assistance of the United States authorities coming to present their case.

Then the report deals with the explosions that took place afterwards. I do not want to weary the Council by reading very much more of it, but before I make the concluding observations and submit our proposals on this matter, I think, painful as it is, that it is necessary for us to refer to the fate of the people who have been dealt with before, and that is Bikini four years ago. Mr. William Waugh has been there. His interviews with people are recorded and he says:

"This is the island of hungry people. The inhabitants are Bikinians" -- this is the place where the Bikinians have been evacuated -- "200 Marshallese whose home atoll of Bikini was taken over eight years ago for testing of atomic weapons."

The man goes on to say, the local inhabitant:

"When big waves come in we say Kili just like Calaboos" -- whatever that means -- "We say it is a jail and hunger place."

His report then states the following:

"Ever since they left home, the leader said, his people have seen 'promises vanish' -- their leaders speak in English in this place.

Another man said:

"Our clothes are falling off and we are hungry. We look up to you, the United States, to do something."

Then the correspondent refers to the projects for rehabilitation:

"The first project to assist these people to adjust themselves was started only this year" -- that is seven years after the explosion -- "An agricultural project budgeted at \$2,800 is designed to give the Bikinians crops of Taro, an edible root. It will be at least a year before the project starts producing food."

One can only think that the rehabilitation schemes there cannot absorb any money, because \$2,800 is not a vast sum for the United States. Again, the report says:

"Using hand knives" -- and apparently there is no technical assistance also -- "and three axes, the Marshallese have cleared nine acres of dense tropical jungle as a start. Kili is a flat oval island of about 120 acres, lushly overgrown.

"These people's old home, Bikini, is about ten times as big -- an atoll of 36 islands surrounding a lagoon abounding in fish. Fishing was the primary occupation there. On Kili, there is no fishing seven months out of the year, when high surf makes it almost impossible to land on the island." Then he talks about himself as being the first newspaper man to visit Kili, and he goes on to describe the following about a man who calls himself "King Juda":

"'King' Juda, magistrate and leader of the Bikinians, said his people left Bikini 18 March 1946. They were moved to Rongerik atoll for two years. Hunger finally drove them from there and the United States Navy placed them temporarily in the Kwajalein atoll. Most of their first dealings were with the Navy which, presumably, was an agent for the Atomic Energy Commission formed in 1946. In 1951 the Marshalls were placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior.

"With Tobin as interpreter, Juda was asked if his people were told anything when they left Bikini" -- and this is the part to which I would like to draw the particular attention of the representative of the United States as I am sure there is some hiatus in the Administration -- "He said: 'They said many things: 'You Bikinians stand on big sand bank as children of America. We can never forget you. You gave up atoll so America can go ahead of everyone in world.' The Americans themselves gave me new name. They called me King Juda. They said anything need, come back to Kwajalein and they will give me.

"Did he ever ask for anything?", asked the correspondent.

"Yes" he said. "Went to Kwajalein when hungry and they did not give me food after they promised. After I went back to Rongerik, Mason (Dr. Leonard Mason of the University of Hawaii) came and saw we were suffering. Then they took us to Kwajalein and they gave two papers to us for voting for Kili or Wotto."

"Wotto is a small atoll west-northwest of Kwajalein. Juda said there were thirty persons on Wotto, and although his people would have half the island they would be under the rule of the Wotto people.

"We refused. We wanted to be by ourselves. That is the reason we chose Kili."

"Juda said the health of his people is 'very bad'. Much of the time the only food is coconuts or copra.

"Tobin, the District Anthropologist, said Kili never was a home island for neighbours. The Germans first established it as a plantation and the Japanese later kept it going. He explained: 'In those days natives were brought here as workers. They did not have to worry about food.'

I missed reading out some of this because it is very long. But all this is an indication that in the sight of suffering, the local officials must have promised them relief. Then there seems to be a hiatus in the carrying out of all this business, with the result that there is a great deal of distress and misery among these people. They have lost their homes and they still seem to be in physical and material need, as well as psychological fear. When asked

about any hopes to return to Bikini some day, this man again said:

"Many people want to go back. I don't think about it. Gave United States use of Bikini. Many many people want to go back because they are Bikini people and that is their ancestral land and they are homesick for it. I want America to help us with more food goods. We helped America and want them help us now. The Government should help us and give us things we could sell to other groups and then use money buy medicine and food. We make coconut syrup and handicraft but it is not enough, so will have to have merchandise sell other people."

"Juda's only show of bitterness was in reference to a paper a Naval officer asked them to sign in 1951."

I do not take responsibility for these statements; I am only quoting what has been printed here and which is now part of the Congressional records. He says:

"The paper gave away their claim to Bikini in exchange for Kili and three small islands in the Jaluit atoll thirty miles to the northeast."

If there is any truth in this, I am sure it is a matter which the Administering Authority will investigate, because nobody has a right to sign over any of these islands to anybody. Then it says:

"Juda and three others finally signed 'because the man lied to us' -- and then there are some bad words and I will not read them -- "He said: 'I will come here Friday and give you chickens, clothes and other things'. He did not come."

"As long as we have been here we have seen the Navy promises vanish.

There is no way we can make up for broken promises."

There is much more of this: I will pass it on to Mr. Sears after the meeting.

Now what I have read out shows the effect of these explosions as far as people are concerned, and there are two problems arising from this. One is the basic question whether this Territory, which is a Trust Territory, can be used for these purposes. I submit, and I do not withdraw from this position, that neither the Trusteeship Agreement nor any reference to strategic areas confers any authority for the use of this place for these purposes. Certainly authority is conferred for strategic purposes -- the building of fortifications and all the other things which I read out -- but not for the use of the Territory as a proving ground, not, that is to say, for any purpose that will result in the extinction and disappearance of these places. Those are two separate propositions.

I am sure that this aspect of the matter has not, perhaps, been taken into account, but we have a duty here, as members of the Trusteeship Council, to point out the situation as we see it. There is also the obligation placed upon the Administering Authority for the preservation of resources in this area. Again I refer back to this Harvard study of these islands. The study of this learned body refers to the conservation of resources, and goes on to say:

"In a particular sense the main purpose should be to conserve the human resources of Micronesia. For every section concerns itself either directly or indirectly with this problem. It goes without saying that there is general acceptance of the ethical doctrine that the Micronesians have a right to survival but, even leaving ethics aside, there are scientific grounds for desiring the conservation of human resources in Micronesia. These natives constitute a portion of the general reservoir of human variability. The future adaptability and improvement of the human species are dependent upon the maintenance of a high degree of variability, and no one can rule out the possibility that Micronesians may possess traits of ultimate value to all mankind."

With great respect I would point out that this is the kind of thing that we have said about the Nauruans.

"For these, as well as for the equally important ethical reasons the Administration must guide its conduct of resources which may now, or eventually, be useful to the natives. These considerations point to the urgent need for campaigns to reverse the downward trend of population."

I read this in this connexion because what is being done here is exactly in the direction of forcing this downward trend, since with the radioactivity -- the direct consequences thereof and, what is more, the psychological consequences -- there is the possibility that we are working contrary to the conservation of human resources.

Before I leave this particular point, may I refer to another aspect which is of interest to my country and, if I may say so, to me personally? It is the preservation of the historic monuments of this place. As I said in the course of my observations in connexion with Western Samoa, this is part of a great Pacific civilization which has seen the depredations of nature and of mankind for many, many millenia. There exist great and wealthy monuments in Micronesia which are the legacy of humanity.

"Micronesia", says this Harvard report, "contains many historic monuments which will undoubtedly attract scientists and travellers to the Islands and, consequently, add to native income."

Of course, that is not the aspect from which I look at it.

"Archaeological remains are among the many sites that should be preserved for posterity ...", and so on.

Surely these explosions, where islands disappear, cannot preserve these monuments -- apart from the human resources.

So, for all these reasons, I believe that this aspect of the report of the Administering Authority, allied with the petition which is before us and which puts the problem on our agenda and brings it to our consideration, is one which should arrest our attention, and I would appeal to this Council to examine this purely from this aspect -- namely, whether the purposes and provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement and the provisions of the Charter as to what may or may not be done here are in consonance with the explosion of nuclear, thermonuclear and other things in this place.

I would beg the Council not to mix up this discussion with the other big problem and the general contention as to whether they should count the weapons first before they destroy them, or whether they should destroy them and see how many have been destroyed afterwards. That is an argument and exercise that goes on in the Disarmament Commission, and we do not want to be drawn into the East-West controversy on this matter, but merely wish to confine ourselves to this question of the explosions in these areas. Therefore, on behalf of our delegation, we submit an amendment to the joint draft resolution submitted by the three Administering Powers, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom. In order that it may be on record, whatever happens to this amendment, I should like to point out that my delegation feels that it is entitled to ask that these proposals be included in the report so that when it comes up for debate before the Assembly they will be on the map. We hope that the amendment will be accepted, but if it is not then, since suggestions are of a character that can be operated on by the General Assembly, we would like it to go before the Fourth Committee and that would be easier if it were part of the record.

We would, therefore, ask that everything be deleted from the Three-Power draft resolution after the first paragraph beginning "Having examined", and that the following be inserted in its place:

"Noting with regret that the lethal effects of the explosions have already affected the inhabitants at least of the two atolls in the Marshall Islands, namely A and B, and that these inhabitants state that they are suffering in various degrees from the lowering of blood counts, burns, nausea and the falling of hair from the head, and that their complete recovery and complete restoration of normal conditions cannot be assured;

"Noting further that the Marshallese people are not only fearful of the danger to their persons from the unpredictable consequences and the effects of the explosion of these deadly weapons, as stated by the petitioners, but are also very concerned about the increasing number of people who are being moved from their homeland, that the people of Bikini have not been settled so far in suitable homes, and that the people of Rongelap Atoll have now been moved from their homes and cannot return there for at least one year;

"Bearing in mind that the petition states that land means a great deal to the Marshallese -- it means more than just a place where they can plant food crops and build houses, or a place where they can bury their dead, but is the very life of the people and integrally related to their beliefs and their way of life;

"Noting that the explosions have resulted in the total disappearance of two islands in the Trust Territory and in the elimination of part of the Trust Territory;

"Considering that the calculations and estimates of the possibility of the control of after effects of these weapons are still, at best, a matter of speculation;

"Considering, further, that the use of the Trust Territory as a proving ground for thermonuclear or any other weapons of mass destruction, with all their consequences, including the disappearance of part of the Trust Territory, is not compatible with the basic objectives of trusteeship, and that the legality of such use and the responsibility of the Administering Power in respect of the consequences and the effect on the Territory and the people should be determined by reference by the General Assembly to the International Court of Justice under Article 96 (1) of the Charter;

"Recommends the General Assembly to take into consideration the problem of thermonuclear tests being carried out in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and their effects and to receive the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice under Article 96 (1) as regards the legality of the use of the Trust Territory for purposes which result in the destruction or disappearance of part of the Territory itself and have very adverse effects on the health of the population;

"Expresses sympathy with the inhabitants who have suffered from these explosions, and in particular from Rongelab, Utirik and Bikini;

"Notes that the Administering Authority has expressed its own concern and desire to speed up methods of amelioration and relief;

"Recommends that no more tests of atomic and hydrogen weapons should be carried out in the Trust Territory pending the ascertainment of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice;

"Recommends, further, that the Administering Authority should take all steps forward to relieve the suffering of all those affected and to rehabilitate them."

We have tried to put forward these proposals not by way of condemnation, or on the basis of the merits of the question of atomic weapons, or, indeed, by way of precipitate action. All of these arguments are based upon the fact that there is a misconception of what is competent, and the Charter provides in all these cases that reference shall be made to the International Court of Justice. Under the rules of procedure and the general working of the Trusteeship Agreement I understand that the position would be that any decision taken here at this debate would be communicated to the Security Council. Of course the Security Council might decide that it was possible to make use of this Territory in this way on the basis of a strategic area. Then a different situation arises, and whether it can make such a decision would, again, also be a matter for the International Court of Justice.

Therefore, in all the observations we have made we have not sought to impugn motives or to go into questions of policy in regard to other matters. We have a responsibility with regard to these Territories. There is one principle that has been constantly brought up here, and that is that Territories in trust are Territories in trust, and that the basic purpose of the Trusteeship Agreement is the welfare of the indigenous inhabitants. There is no one at this Council table, there is no one anywhere in the world, who can say that the interests of the inhabitants are promoted by their extinction.

It is possible to argue that the interests of the world may be advanced. That is possible, but I do not say it is right. However, no one can say that the interests of the inhabitants of the Pacific Islands are advanced, or that their political, social or economic future is improved or enhanced by the destruction of their homes and by their being rendered homeless. As my delegation said in the case of Nauru, we as a people will never accept the idea that any authority or anybody has the right to dispossess people from their homes and merely rehabilitate them. We should apply the same doctrine to ourselves and, therefore, even rehabilitation is second-best.

The submission we have made will, we hope, commend itself to the Administering Authority. What we have suggested is the use of the machinery provided by the Charter, the use of the judicial channels of investigation. We deeply regret that we are not able to give any support to the proposals put forward by the three Administering Powers. These, in our view, are a contradiction of all the submissions I have made on behalf of my delegation, that is to say, there can be no defence of the position that these Trust Territories can be used for this purpose. If it can be accepted for this Trust Territory, the logical consequence is that it can be accepted for any other. I will not mention Territories by name, because that would cause offence, but in that case it could apply to Territories in Africa, it could apply to Territories in the Caribbean, it could apply to Territories anywhere, not only for nuclear purposes but for any other purpose.

Who is to decide what is necessary? Who is to decide what one nation or what a group of nations considers necessary for civilization? That is why this Organization was founded. Therefore, I say with great respect, whatever may be the feelings aroused, here we are dealing with a problem that goes far beyond the Marshallese Islands, far beyond what our individual political predilections may be. We have established the fact that these people are, as is set out in the Charter and as has been said here a hundred times over, in trust for civilization.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I must say that I see a procedural difficulty here. The representative of India has moved an amendment to a draft resolution which has been submitted to the Committee on Petitions. It seems to me it would be preferable if the representative of India introduced a draft resolution to this Council, since we are not the Committee on Petitions and the resolution submitted by the three Powers has been submitted to the Petitions Committee and not to the Council.

Mr. LOOMES (Australia): In the course of his statement the representative of India referred to a statement which he said was made by a spokesman of the Australian Government. As I understood it, this statement was to the effect that an Administering Authority has sovereignty over a Trust Territory under its administration and has the power to change the status of such a Territory. For my part, I am not aware that any such statement was made. The representative of India will remember, of course, that Australia was a party to the declaration made in 1946 that acceptance of trusteeship was in no way to be regarded as annexation. I would be very grateful to the representative of India if he could give me some indication of the source of his information as to this alleged statement of Australian policy.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I will not take time at present to go into the legalities of the United States administration and what we believe we have a duty to do in the Pacific, except to say that no humans have been destroyed and no lives lost.

The representative of India knows well that we cannot conduct this large-type experiment elsewhere, much though we would like to. But I do want to say this: I listened very carefully to his speech. As usual, at least in my opinion, it was a very interesting one. I also understand he is about to leave us, but I hope not for long, because he has certainly added much to the life of this Council.

As to the essential substance of his speech, he told us we have no right to conduct these nuclear experiments, which everyone knows we must continue so long as the Communists continue theirs. However, that is his opinion, and he is entitled to it, but, having taken the side he did, let me make a careful statement.

I am truly sorry that in doing what we consider to be in defence of his own country as well as of the rest of the free world, it has not met with his understanding of the realities of the present-day world.

Mr. Krishna MENON (India): I am grateful for the advice on the procedural aspects of the matter, and we have no objection to submitting this draft resolution to the Council.

With regard to the observations of the representative of Australia, happily there will be a record of what I have said. I did not say at any time that Australia had said it could change the status of any Territory. The Australian view put forward in previous proceedings -- and the representative of Australia can verify this if he will take the trouble to read the record -- is that they have contested the position that the Administering Authority was not in the position of an agent. Their view has been that they were the sole authority of the Territory, and if it will help the representative of Australia I will send the references to him. I want to make it quite clear that at no time have I said that Australia had contended it could change the status of a Territory.

With regard to the rest, I have very little to add, except to repeat what I have said. I am not here arguing the question of other political issues or the rights or wrongs of using thermo-nuclear weapons. I should like to repeat again, for the benefit of the representative of the United States, that it is not for me to say, at any rate in this Council, that the United States or any

country should not hold experiments of the weapon. All I am concerned with is that my Government is a part-trustee of this Territory. I am only concerned about the experiments being carried out in the Trust Territory at the present time. What is more, it makes no difference who does it. It has nothing to do with the defence of the world or with any other propositions. As for defending my own country, I think we can take care of it ourselves.

As for the rest of it, the position is this, and I do not want it to be confused: it is not a question of whether it is right, whether it is civilized, whether it is peaceful or ethical to use this weapon or the other. I am only concerned with one issue, and that is, am I right in saying these things in the discharge of my obligations on behalf of my Government as a member of the Trusteeship Council, in saying that it is not intended that this Trust Territory should be extinguished?

That is all I have said, and nothing more. This question has nothing whatsoever to do with the other argument, and I ask my colleagues on the Council not to get these two things mixed up. That is why we have not moved a resolution of condemnation. We have not asked for action. All we have said is that we should go to the International Court of Justice and find out what rights anybody has got. If the International Court says that you can blow up the place, we cannot stop you. We are not the guardians of humanity, but in the stewardship we exercise, we have the obligation of finding out, when despoliation is taking place, and of taking the necessary steps, as any court of wards has to do. We seek to carry out that obligation. If the rest of the Council chooses to reject that obligation, we would have discharged our responsibility and we will take it up to the next level and find out what we can do.

I want to make it clear to everybody concerned that what we have asked for is the legal remedy, a clarification of the situation. This is a position which can injure no one. We have asked that, pending this advisory opinion, action should not continue.

The representative of the United States will agree that it is a normal legal situation that when there is an appeal before a court, other action has to be stayed. That is all we have asked for, and I do not see what other course we could have taken in the discharge of our responsibilities and with the views we hold in regard to Trust Territories.

I have limited my observations on the performance of the atomic weapons only very strictly to the degree that is required to show their relationship to the present situation, because otherwise the whole of my argument would have been in a vacuum. I had to relate it to the present situation. I did not read a great many of the papers I had before me, I read only as much as was necessary to prove the case that there had been removal from physical existence of part of this Territory and all the rest of it. I rest my case on that.

Mr. LOOMES (Australia): I should just like to say I am grateful to the representative of India for the clarification which he was good enough to give in response to my inquiry.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I am sorry to hold up the Council, but, looking forward to next week, I think it would be useful to set the dates for our most important items so that we would know how to conduct our work. We have resolutions to discuss and the work of committees to approve, and it would be very useful as regards the most important items to know when these questions will be taken up, questions such as the unification of Togoland which would be taken up on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon, for example so that it would not be deferred because we would have agreed to discuss the resolutions on petitions. I think it will be very important to set dates for the most important items and to stick to them; I think that would help our work.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall endeavour to stick to the items on the agenda as they appear in the Journal as approved by the President of the Council. It is true that we have departed somewhat from the order of work for today but this was due only to the fact that the Council itself had agreed to suspend the questioning period regarding the Pacific Islands, so that we might listen to the statement of the representative of India.

In Conference Room Paper No. 4, you will find a distribution of items as of Monday, 12 July, and the Secretariat advised me that we shall endeavour to follow the outline of this Conference Paper to the letter. On Monday morning, 12 July, there will be no meeting of the Council, but a meeting will be held in the afternoon at 2.30 p.m. The programme of work prepared by the Secretariat is the following:

The first item is the examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The second item concerns resolution 752 (VIII) of the General Assembly and the resolution of the Trusteeship Council of the thirteenth session which refers to the attainment by the Trust Territories of the objective of self-government or independence. The third item is General Assembly resolution 757 (VIII), petitions from the Ngoua-Ekéle Community in the Cameroons under French administration. The fourth item is the examination of petitions, reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions, 81st and 82nd reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions.

A meeting of the Standing Committee on Petitions is scheduled for Monday at 10.30 a.m. There is also a meeting of the Drafting Committee on Western Samoa at 2 p.m. Also at 2 p.m. there will be a meeting of the Drafting Committee on Nauru. I would urge the members of this Committee to attend these meetings since there is only a week left before the end of the Council, and we wish to finish our work within the limit fixed. I therefore ask all members of the Drafting Committee to attend their meetings next week as far as possible.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I propose that we hold a meeting tomorrow to conclude our consideration of the Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Mr. FIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I very warmly and very strongly support the proposal of the Belgian representative.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): It will not be convenient for my delegation to sit on the Council tomorrow as we have many other duties to attend to and as our delegation is a small one. We have to take care of other matters. I cannot support the Belgian proposal and I hope that the other representatives will support me; it is a difficult situation for us.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): I suggest that we start our meetings punctually every day next week. If we do that, I am quite certain we can finish our work.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Let us make an effort to comply with the suggestion of the United Kingdom representative.

We still have before us the Belgian suggestion, seconded by the representative of France, that we should hold a meeting tomorrow. We also have before us the Syrian proposal that this should not be done.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I think the wise suggestion of the United Kingdom representative is the best one under the circumstances, and I hope that our colleagues will agree to it.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I do not wish to insist, but on Monday I should like to have precise data on the items of our agenda. This is essential because it is impossible for a delegation to do its work seriously if we do not know when we are taking up these items, even if there is some delay.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): My suggestion was made with the idea that the members of the Council would be prepared to make their observations, as I am prepared to do, and as we all have a duty to do. There is obviously no sense in holding a meeting tomorrow if there is only one speaker and if the other representatives say they need a few days to prepare their comments.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The sponsor of the proposal to meet tomorrow has pointed out that if only a few representatives are prepared to speak, it would not be worth while calling a meeting.

The representatives of France, Australia, the United Kingdom, Belgium and China have indicated that they are prepared to speak.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): I am perfectly prepared to come to a meeting tomorrow if there is going to be any work to do, but I cannot believe that five of us are going to fill up a whole morning asking questions. It simply means that we shall be brought here for nothing.

Mr. SINGH (India): Apart from having two meetings a day next week, I might also suggest that we meet at 10 o'clock every morning. That will give us an extra half hour.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I have been informed by the Secretary that if only five representatives are prepared to speak at a meeting tomorrow, we might take up the rest of the morning by consideration of other items -- the report of the Committee on Petitions, for example, for which I do not believe representatives need any special preparation.

Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): I was against having a meeting on Monday morning, 12 July, because I wish to attend a meeting of the Petitions Committee at that time, but if it is a matter of questions, I think that one of my delegation could sit here in the morning. I suggest, if there is any difficulty, that the Council should meet on Monday morning as well as the Committee on Petitions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As the special representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is obliged to attend the meeting of the Committee on Petitions, that would constitute a drawback to holding a Council meeting at the same time.

The representative of India has suggested that, beginning on Tuesday, 13 July, we should meet in the mornings at 10 o'clock instead of 10.30.

I think it will now be in order to vote on the proposal of the representative of Belgium to meet tomorrow morning.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): Before the vote is taken, I should like to say that the United States delegation is at the disposal of the Council. In this vote, however, we shall abstain.

The proposal was adopted by 4 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.