

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL

T/PV.1193
6 July 1962

ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE ELEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 6 July 1962, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Mr. BINGHAM

(United States of America)

1. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Nauru [3c, 5a]
(continued)

2. Report of the Secretary-General on credentials [2]

3. Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi [3a]

4. Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the
International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories: report
of the Secretary-General [9]

5. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for
inhabitants of Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General [10]

6. Examination of petitions concerning Trust Territories in general [4]

Note:

The Official Record of this meeting, i.e. the summary record, will
appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.1193
and will be subject to representatives' corrections.

AGENDA ITEM 2

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS (T/1598)

The PRESIDENT: The Special Representative of Australia having requested a little more time for the presentation of his closing statement, which will be made at a later stage this afternoon, we shall proceed to the second item on today's agenda, which is the "Report of the Secretary-General on credentials" contained in document T/1598.

I invite any comments on that report.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with the Report of the Secretary-General on credentials which has been submitted to the Trusteeship Council, the Soviet delegation should like to call attention to the fact that this report contains under the heading "China" the names of people who have no right to represent China and who are simply trying to usurp this right in the Trusteeship Council and in other bodies of the United Nations. The Soviet delegation feels it is its duty to declare that it does not recognize the rights of these people here. I should like to emphasize that the only legitimate representatives of China in the United Nations can be only those representatives appointed by the Central Government of the Chinese People's Republic.

Thus, the Soviet delegation will abstain in the voting on this report.

Mr. KIANG (China): I do not wish to dignify the slanderous remarks just made in upside-down language. I merely wish to state for the record that the Government of the Republic of China, which I have the honour to represent in this Council, is the only freely and legitimately constituted Government of China which alone can speak in the United Nations for the Chinese people.

Mr. NOYES (United States of America): My delegation regrets that the representative of the Soviet Union has seen fit to raise this matter. The position of my Government on this question has been enunciated quite clearly in the United Nations and, as recently as last December, the General Assembly devoted a number of meetings to discussion of this issue. My Government wishes to emphasize that the Government of the Republic of China, and only the Government of the Republic of China, is entitled to representation in this and other United Nations bodies.

Mr. KIDWAI (India): As in the past, our policy is very well known. We recognize only the Central Government of the Republic of China and China and that is the only Government which, in our view, represents China.

The PRESIDENT: If there are no further comments, the Council will vote on the adoption of the report of the Secretary-General on credentials (T/1598).

The report was adopted by 6 votes to none, with two abstentions.

Mr. SANKEY (United Kingdom): With your permission, Mr. President, my delegation would like to make a short statement of explanation of vote at a later stage in this meeting.

The PRESIDENT: If there is no objection, I shall give the representative of the United Kingdom an opportunity to make a statement in explanation of his vote at a later stage.

Without formally closing this item on the agenda, we shall proceed to the next item.

AGENDA ITEM 5a

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF RUANDA-URUNDI: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (T/1583, 1592)

The PRESIDENT: If I may make a suggestion, in view of the independence of Rwanda and Burundi on 1 July and the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, it seems to me that there would be no purpose to be served in the Council's examining the annual report for 1960. It has been suggested to the Chair that the Secretariat might prepare a short draft for inclusion in the report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly which would summarize the recent General Assembly resolution on Ruanda-Urundi. Is there any comment in this connexion? Is there any objection to the procedure which I have suggested? If not, it will be so decided.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 9

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM IN TRUST TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (T/1593)

The PRESIDENT: Does anyone wish to make any comments on the report?

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We have read the report of the Secretary-General on the dissemination of information on the United Nations in the Trust Territories and, judging by the data set forth in this report, from a formal point of view, the situation has improved somewhat. In paragraph 8 it is said that approximately 118,000 copies of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples have been distributed, as well as a number of other United Nations publications. Thus, at first glance, it might appear that the situation has improved; but in fact there is considerable evidence that this United Nations

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

material does not actually reach the populations of the Territories. The documents are sent from United Nations Headquarters -- not in large quantities -- and then just left lying around without actually reaching the populations.

We should like to point out in this connexion that the basic responsibility for this abnormal situation rests primarily upon the Administering Authority. However, this does not relieve the United Nations Secretariat of an obligation to undertake more energetic steps to distribute this literature and to bring it to the attention of the populations of the Trust Territories, such literature being concerned with the major decisions of the General Assembly on colonial questions. A special decision was adopted in the General Assembly on this matter, providing that the Secretariat of the United Nations was to accelerate its efforts to improve the situation.

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

We feel it necessary to make these remarks primarily because of the information which was obtained by members of the Committee of Seventeen in the course of their trip to Africa this year. It became apparent from direct contacts with the inhabitants of present and former Trust Territories as well as Non-Self-Governing Territories, that United Nations documents are not reaching the populations of these areas. The Administering Authority does everything possible to prevent this material from reaching the population. Although they are forced to accept it from the United Nations, they do all in their power to prevent the population from becoming acquainted with it. These are the few remarks which we felt it necessary to make with regard to the Secretary-General's report.

Mr. SANKEY (United Kingdom): I merely wish to say very briefly that I had the honour of being Chairman of the Visiting Mission to New Guinea and we had the opportunity of meeting Mr. Dajani, who has been appointed as the Director of the Information Centre in Port Moresby, on our travels.

If I may say so, I think he was an excellent choice. He has now established himself in excellent quarters, with the assistance and co-operation of the Administering Authority, for which he has expressed his gratitude. I am sure that he has made a good start in the work which he is undertaking. It was good to see practical evidence both of the energy of the representative of the United Nations, who was recently appointed, and of the full co-operation extended to him by the Administering Authority in the centre which we visited.

The PRESIDENT: Are there any other comments on this matter?

It has been suggested that, in order to dispose of this item on the agenda, it is sufficient for the Council to take note of the report. The Secretary-General will submit a report on the same subject to the General Assembly, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1644 (XVI). If there is no objection, it will be ordered that the Council take note of the report.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 10

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (T/1596)

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We should first like to point out that the Secretary-General's report on the offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories, document T/1596, is unfortunately incomplete. There is no mention or summary data regarding the total number of scholarships granted by Member States of the United Nations, nor is there any summary data on the number of scholarships which have actually been utilized.

We feel that such data is of particular importance because, judging from the experience of past years, we may assume that the Administering Authorities do not take the necessary measures in order to ensure that all the scholarships which are granted by Member States of the United Nations are utilized.

At the time that a similar report was discussed last year, certain delegations pointed out that, of the 155 scholarships that were made available by Member States of the United Nations, only forty-three were actually utilized. Thus, the greater part of these scholarships was never used.

The General Assembly has adopted resolutions in this connexion and continues to adopt such resolutions which call upon the Administering Authorities again and again to take all necessary measures to ensure that all available scholarships are actually utilized. These resolutions also urge them to make the information regarding these scholarships available and to help students to use them by making available expeditiously such things as exit documents and passports.

In this report we see that, for various reasons, throughout the whole report period not one request for scholarships was received from any of the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, Nauru or New Guinea. Anyone not acquainted with the situation in these areas might think, from reading this document, that the educational situation in these Territories is so satisfactory that their inhabitants have no need of scholarships for study abroad. But all members of the Trusteeship Council know full well that the situation is far from being good in the Pacific Islands and in New Guinea. Therefore, it can only be a matter of surprise that the Administering Authorities in these Trust Territories fail to take

(Mr. Oberenko, USSR)

the necessary measures to assist students in those areas to use the scholarships which are offered to them.

Unfortunately, neither at the previous sessions nor at this present session, have we seen in the Secretariat's report any explanation of the reasons why these scholarships are not utilized, nor of why it limits itself to registering events from year to year, nor can we see any the number of scholarships which are never utilized. We feel this to be an abnormal situation and believe that both the Administering Authority and the United Nations Secretariat should make a special attempt, in the first place, to disseminate information regarding these scholarships and United Nations programmes in that field among the populations of these Territories. In the second place, the Secretariat should take steps to make it easier for the populations of these Territories to utilize the scholarships.

Finally, we should like to request the Secretariat, through you, Mr. President, to make certain corrections in the record which was submitted to you. I refer to the annex of this document, the section which relates to the granting of scholarships by the Soviet Union. Almost everything in this section is correct, except that in the column which is headed "maintenance and allowances" the word "fees" is included.

It is a well-known fact that in the Soviet Union, as in other Socialist States, there is no fee for education. Therefore, it is not correct for the Secretariat document to indicate that there are some fees for education. We should like to ask the Secretariat to make the proper corrections on that point.

The PRESIDENT: The Secretariat will take due note of the suggested corrections in the document.

Are there any further comments on this report? If not, The Chair again suggests that the Council take note of the report. Again, the Secretary-General will submit a report on the same subject to the General Assembly, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1643 (XVI). Is there any objection to this procedure?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 4

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS CONCERNING TRUST TERRITORIES IN GENERAL (T/PET.GEN/L.4)

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the next item on the agenda, which is the examination of petitions concerning Trust Territories in general. I call the Council's attention to the petition contained in document T/PET.GEN/L.4.

The Chair suggests that if no member has any suggestion for an appropriate island to be offered to the petitioner, the Council need take no action on this petition. If there is no objection, that will be the disposition of this item.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 2

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS (T/1598) (continued)

The PRESIDENT: I give the floor now to the representative of the United Kingdom for explanation of vote in connexion with the report on credentials.

Sir Hugh FOOT (United Kingdom): Mr. President, I wish to express my apology to you for being late in coming to this meeting. I like to maintain a standard of punctuality, but on this occasion I am afraid I was misinformed as to the time of the meeting, and that is the reason for my having been late.

In regard to item 2 before us, which was dealt with before I arrived, I would merely wish to make a standard reservation which my delegation has made before in this regard and which I wish to put on record, that in approving the report I do so solely on the grounds that the credentials concerned are considered as documents in order, and that this approval should not necessarily be construed as implying recognition of the authorities by whom the credentials were issued.

The PRESIDENT: With the statement of explanation just made by the representative of the United Kingdom the item on credentials is disposed of.

AGENDA ITEMS 3c AND 5a

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NAURU (continued)

- (a) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (T/1589, 1599, 1600; T/L.1039)
REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NAURU, 1962 (T/1595 and Add.1)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative for Nauru under Australian administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

Mr. McCARTHY (Special Representative): At your request, Mr. President, and to assist this Council to expedite its work, this closing statement has been prepared in much less time than is normally made available for the preparation of such closing statements, the general debate here on conditions in Nauru having concluded only yesterday. I therefore ask your own understanding and that of the Council for those marks of haste and incompleteness which may appear in this statement.

The Trusteeship Council's consideration of conditions in Nauru has centred this year mainly on the report of the Visiting Mission. This has seemed proper to me because here are the observations of competent people, animated, as I observed in my opening statement, by the ideals and purposes of the Council to which they belong, people who, setting out to learn the facts of the circumstances and conditions of Nauru, have themselves seen and heard everything they wished to see and hear bearing on the situation there. In so doing they were assisted, by every means in its power, by the Administering Authority which, despite a suggestion that it has attempted to utilize the Visiting Mission, has literally laid bare to the inspection of the Mission the visible results and expressions of its activities and faithfully placed before that Mission a record not only of its

(Mr. McCarthy,
Special Representative)

achievements, but of its views and purposes. The Visiting Mission has therefore seen and heard whatever it wished to see and hear, thus fulfilling the exact primary purpose of such a mission.

So this year this Council has rightly chosen to consider the conditions and circumstances of the Trust Territory of Nauru on the basis, largely, of its Visiting Mission's report, free, of course, as far as I am aware, to accept or reject the views and conclusions of that Mission and generally -- it would seem to me, listening carefully to every word of the debate -- accepting those views and observations. This has been a departure from the processes by which this Council has concerned itself with minute details in this field of administration or that, a method which has marked its work within my own limited experience. Thus, I believe it has been able to develop a well-rounded and clear picture of the island and its problems, not on the basis of theories formed without examination as to the extent of their applicability to the particular circumstances obtaining there, but on the basis of facts and informed, first-hand observation. This seems to me to be most important because of the necessity in any sphere for guarding against the development of theories of a general kind and then forcing the facts of one situation into the mould of such theories, formed possibly in the first place by facts and circumstances which, whatever their applicability elsewhere, might be completely unrelated to many of the important facts and conditions of the particular situation under examination.

This leads me now to consider briefly what might be the most important facts and issues of the Nauru situation, to what extent these may or may not set Nauru apart from a situation or situations elsewhere. These following facts have seemed to me to be of particular importance.

First, there is the often-stressed and unavoidable fact of isolation. I will not labour this.

(Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative)

It is important, however, to note that this has been lessened, or perhaps in some aspects actually eliminated, only through the development of the phosphate industry. Without the existence of phosphates, at once productive both of prosperity and of problems, Nauru would indeed have been, like many other points in the vast area of ocean in which it is situated, touched almost by only one movement, that of the endless tides of the Pacific itself, or the mere ripples of human purpose set up by missionary endeavour and similar altruistic ventures.

Stemming from the existence of the phosphate deposits has been a lessening of this isolation in perhaps two main ways: by the provision of a whole new world of experience which has been opened up to the Nauruans and by the provision of the physical means of communication through regular and frequent shipping services. The next fact to consider might well be the similarly often repeated fact of the smallness of the population. In 1910, that is, when the phosphate operations were only just developing, there were only 1,250 people on this island. Now these numbers have almost exactly doubled -- and this, in spite of the check in population growth brought about by the war of 1939-1945, which not only grievously interrupted the progress and development of the Nauruan people but, through suffering and death, equally grievously reduced the the physical figures of their population and, by obvious extension, severely checked some of their increase. In this increase, the development of the phosphate operations has probably been the biggest factor, leading as it has done, both directly and indirectly, to that state of prosperity which provides such soil as that in which populations thrive and multiply. But still the Nauruan population, as a single unit, remains very small by world standards.

This, in turn, leads me to what I consider to be an important third factor in the situation. Despite the smallness of their population, none should underestimate the importance of this population in human terms. For they are people each with the hopes and fears and the just rights of, for example, each individual around this table who is representative of a larger and more powerful population group -- some of them representative of the largest and most powerful of the world's nations.

(Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative)

Next is the existence of the Nauruan identity, an identity very properly dear to the Nauruans themselves. In the creation of this identity, the phosphate operations have played no small part and indeed might well have played the most significant part. For a national or group identity does not spring into being ready-made. It springs from many sources, and not the least important of these is the sort of economic and social effort which has gone into the making of the other nations of the world: this vast United States in which we find ourselves; the Soviet Union, here also represented; my own country, which, from a group of convict colonies consisting merely of a strange assortment of individuals, many of them unfortunate, has grown through shared enterprise and aims into a small but robust nation.

Yet another fact of importance in the Nauruan situation relates to the lives which the people have learned to live and which have now become their own. Here is, on a small scale, an industrialized people who can look no longer to the sea and the coconut palm to fulfil their wants. Their work satisfaction, their work incomes, come from the manipulation of machines, from the application of modern mechanical skills, from the application of their mental processes to their own problems of trade and government, from the modern practice of teaching and the arts of medicine, and through similar means in other fields. Here is a people on whom are all the marks of modern development.

Yet another fact for consideration, I believe, is that of the origin of these and similar things. There seem to me to be two main reasons: first, the result, direct and indirect, to which I have referred, of the phosphate operations; second, the result of good administration. In relation to the latter, I would refer to the report of the Visiting Mission with regard to the development of so many of the marks of good administration, and to the observations, in their thoughtful contributions to the debate, of most of the delegations here represented. I would refer also to such facts as that briefly touched upon by the Mission: that in a public meeting on the island, where each Nauruan citizen was free to stand and voice whatever criticism was in his mind, to demand the answer to, or consideration of, any matter which vexed him, virtually no matter of more than parochial substance was revealed. That leads me to remark on the most vital point of good administration as we see it, that which develops and safeguards

(Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative)

the right which we in our system of government cherish above all others -- the right to question, to criticize, to stand up as free men and voice whatever thoughts for or against the government are in our minds; the recognition that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance; the general development of a government and administration which reflects these things, a development we believe we have brought freely to the Nauruan people without struggle on their part but to which we ourselves have had to progress not without great labour and privation.

I would not say that we came to Nauru with these and the many other answers which it is necessary to find already then developed to the degree to which they have now developed and from which they will develop further. Our own developing capacity to absorb and apply the lessons of experience is reflected, for example, in the increasing returns to the Nauruans from the phosphate operations, to which the Visiting Mission has made significant reference, returns which I myself have no doubt will continue to increase according to where justice to all the factors involved will seem to lie. And, while asserting this fact of good administration, I do so with the certainty that the Nauruans themselves agree in general terms with that assertion while reserving the right of free men to differ vigorously at this point or that, or with regard to this aspect of policy or that, as they have done in the past and as they will properly do in the future.

These and other related facts your Mission has recognized directly or by implication -- through observation and questioning and against the background of its own purposes, which, I repeat, are the purposes of this Council. At the same time it has pointed the way in which these improvements may be effected in this direction or that. There is no room for marked differences between us here. In general terms, and even on most points of detail, I myself believe that there are few difficulties in relation to those matters and attitudes which the Visiting Mission considers important.

(Mr. McCarthy,
Special Representative)

Indeed, disadvantageously placed as the Australian Government has been through the inevitably late receipt of the Mission's report, it has already been possible to refer to agreement and decision on some of the matters raised by that Mission. There is, for example, the matter of a standard working week. I have already announced to this Council that, whatever the rights or wrongs may have been of the situation which has obtained up to the present and to which this Council has previously invited attention, the present situation is that a standard working week is being implemented in both the phosphate operations and the Administration.

There is the matter, also, of the closer association of the Nauruan people with the phosphate operations through the means which the Council's Mission has suggested. The Council has been informed that my Government has no disagreement here with the immediate means suggested by the Mission.

There is the matter of fuller participation by the Mauruans in their own Government on the Island of Nauru, regardless of whatever developments the future may bring in relation to the future home. I do not see any disagreement arising here. It is well known to this Council that the general philosophy of Australia's policy in relation to Non-Self-Governing Territories has been and continues to be to bring the people of those Territories into increasing participation in the management of their own affairs.

There is also the integration of the school system of Nauru, which not only this last Mission but also previous sessions of the Council have directed particular attention to. Not only is there no conflict of policy here, but there is clear agreement on the principles involved and steps are being taken in this direction.

Earlier I referred to both facts and issues. I have attempted briefly to traverse some of the facts of the situation. Now, what are some of the issues in the existing situation? One is the matter of increasing returns from the phosphate operations. As I have said, the Council's Mission has referred to the increasing scale of the Nauruan share from these operations. The Australian Government sees this as a matter for continuing negotiation between the Mauruans, the Phosphate Commissioners and the Governments -- negotiation which it has sponsored and in which it has participated in the past, and which it will continue to sponsor and further along the lines suggested by the Mission.

(Mr. McCarthy,
Special Representative)

A second important issue has been that of working conditions. In this the most important factor has related to the matter of hours of work. I have made this Council aware of the recent very significant decisions in this connexion.

Yet a third issue relates to wages. We have brought the information available to this Council up to date almost to the very day of its own study here of conditions on Nauru by our references to the recent inquiry into wages through which, I am confident, it will be seen in due course that full weight has been given by the independent commissioner who conducted the inquiry to all the new facts of the situation and to the representations which have been made by the Nauruan workers.

Another issue still is related to education and its implications. Here has been revealed the story of steady progress which will result in increasingly high achievements by the Nauruans and an increasing entry into those positions of consequence and reward which the most talented and vigorous among the Nauruans may seek.

A further vital issue relates to the matter of increased powers for the elected representatives of the Nauruan people. On this I have made the Australian position clear, I believe, and this Council may be sure that Australia's sense of responsibility for bringing the people of its territories into more and more active positions in the control of their own affairs will not be found lacking here.

The final issue to which I would refer as such -- and, for obvious reasons, as a separate issue -- is that relating to the future home. It is not my purpose to make a speech in any formal sense on this subject. I personally have been and am closely involved, on the one hand as a servant of the Australian Government, on the other hand as a friend of the Nauruan people. I believe that I have given more thought and time to the details of this problem than any other individual at the working level. If, therefore, I perhaps reveal slight warmth on this subject here or there I ask the understanding of this Council. It will be a warmth springing not from partisanship but from a deep appreciation of the human problems involved at all points and from strong personal feelings for the Nauruans in the difficulties of the decisions which face them. My approach to this aspect of this statement is, therefore, almost one merely of thinking out loud.

(Mr. McCarthy,
Special Representative)

No dispute now exists with regard to the necessity for the development of a home elsewhere than Nauru -- with due regard to the well recognized fact that a core of Nauruans may always remain on the Island which is now theirs. Basic also to this problem is much to which I have referred in the earlier part of this statement in discussing the facts of the situation as I see it on Nauru. Now, against that background, these factors seem to me to be, perhaps, particularly relevant, not exclusively so:

A new home could be developed on an island. But such an island home would have many disadvantages which would increase both in number and in complexity with the distance of such an island from a developing metropolitan area. Conversely, they would decrease in so far as such an island home was situated in close proximity to a metropolitan area -- but even then many would remain, obvious among them being problems of communication, the difficulties of developing a satisfactory economy on any possibly available island for a twentieth century people, and the difficulties of access to all the institutions, both economic and social, of a country which has already gone through many of the long stresses of development.

A new home could be developed on the mainland of Australia. The Australian proposals with which this Council is already familiar show one way in which this might be done. Another way is indicated by the Visiting Mission.

I believe that what the Nauruans are really seeking is a sort of combination of both of the foregoing, and by "both of the foregoing" I mean an island and advantages in a metropolitan area. In this connexion I would refer to discussions between Nauruans and the Australian Government which took place earlier this year as a result of which the Nauruan leaders paid me the compliment of asking me to express briefly to the Government -- to my own Government -- their desires in this connexion. I have already quoted in this Council the relevant document which the Nauruan leaders then agreed expressed in thumbnail form what they had in mind, but I should like to quote it again. It reads:

(Mr. McCarthy,
Special Representative)

"As a result of discussions regarding a future home for the Nauruans which have proceeded over the past three days by direction of the Minister between a Nauruan delegation (Head Chief Hammer de Roburt, Councillors Gadabu and Detsimea) and Officers of the Department of Territories (Messrs. McCarthy and Swift) it now appears:

"(a) that, having physically examined Prince of Wales Island and Fraser Island, the Nauruan leaders feel that neither of these is suitable for the future home plans which they themselves have in mind (although they consider Fraser Island potentially much more suitable than Prince of Wales Island);

"(b) that the Nauruan leaders still feel that their best hope for a future home lies in the development of some island adjacent to the Australian coast as a future Nauruan home;

"(c) that, feeling this, they would like:

- (i) assistance to enable them to prepare a detailed plan whereby such an island (if one is found to be available) could be developed as a Nauruan home where the Nauruans could have control of their own affairs to the greatest extent practicable;
- (ii) the necessary assistance from the Australian government to enable them to examine other islands off the Australian coast (in addition to Prince of Wales and Fraser Islands) and test their possibilities for the development particularly of the fishing industry.

"The Nauruan leaders feel that, following the development of action as indicated above, they would then be in a position to put positive proposals to the Australian government for that government's consideration."

(Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative)

Against that background I would like to stress the following. The assurances of the Governments -- and I mean the three Governments -- regarding the vital importance which they attach to the wishes of the Nauruan people in this matter stand and will continue to stand. That, however, cannot affect this important fact: there is no solution to this problem which does not affect a group or groups of people other than the Nauruans themselves. The Nauruans would be the last to deny that. Generous and thoughtful as they are, they would be the last to demand that proper weight should not be given to this consideration.

As I have said, in our philosophy no one group of people is more important than any other group with regard to fundamental freedoms and entitlements. So a just solution to the problem of the future Nauruan home means both justice to the Nauruans and justice to whatever group or groups of people may be involved. And I think it most likely -- as, I believe, do the Nauruans -- that the other group which will most probably be involved will be the Australian people. I think, also, that the Nauruans hope for assistance from Australia and access to facilities of all kinds in Australia, which necessitates the development of a very special kind of relationship that will demand most thoughtful and far-reaching consultation and agreement.

This brings me to the latest of the Nauruan proposals, with which the Trusteeship Council has been made very familiar. In this connexion I think it important to refer to the points properly made by Sir Hugh Foot in yesterday's debate. He emphasized that these proposals are dependent on finding a suitable island elsewhere and he stressed the answers to his direct questions made by Head Chief Hammer de Roburt.

In addition, I should myself like to emphasize this: These proposals are in fact at this stage what the Nauruans themselves have called them: proposals. They do not and cannot at this stage constitute the last word by anyone on this matter. They will be discussed and examined in the further and vital negotiations which are entering another phase. At this stage they are no more final in detail than earlier Nauruan proposals for an island which have been spelled out in the Trusteeship Council and which the Head Chief himself has made clear represented the ideal at which the Nauruans were very properly aiming -- not an ultimate in every sense which alone they were prepared to consider.

Finally, I would refer briefly to the appendices to the Visiting Mission's report, and most particularly to annex IV in document T/1595/Add.1. This paper is an exercise of the right, which we will protect, of the Nauruans to express whatever might be in their minds. It was presented to the Visiting Mission and given full consideration by that Mission in the preparation of the report itself. The substance of it was considered in the light of the Mission's own observations and close examination of the conditions on Nauru, and its examination of the matters raised in this paper.

With regard to those matters I would first refer particularly to matters which are stated to be "still a source of realistic grievance to us". In this connexion, I have covered the matter of salaries and wages and working hours in a way which indicates a rapidly changing and developing situation. The position with regard to the housing shortage referred to is that the Minister for Territories earlier this year personally received representations from the Nauruans, as a result of which he took vigorous action to develop planning provisions to meet the Nauruan requirements. For his part the Head Chief then undertook to develop specific proposals which are, so far as I know, still in the actual course of preparation by the Nauruan Local Government Council.

With regard to the provision of electricity, an agreement was concluded at the end of May between the Phosphate Commissioners and the Local Government Council for the supply of electricity in bulk to all Nauruan homes. Work on the installation of the additional and generating plant and associated facilities required has proceeded to the point where sufficient power to provide electricity to all Nauruan districts should shortly be available. The work of developing the necessary transmission lines, sub-stations and so forth will be pressed ahead.

In connexion with the construction of new houses, particular attention is being given to the matter of water supply -- in an island where water is always a problem.

The record of good administration -- even allowing for deficiencies which may be inevitable in any human developments of this kind -- is a guarantee to the Nauruans of the attention which is being given to their interests, an attention which is neither decreasing nor remaining stationary, but daily becoming more comprehensive.

(Mr. McCarthy, Special Representative)

And now, at the conclusion of this hastily prepared statement, I should like to thank you, Mr. President, personally for the assistance which your Presidency of this Council has been to me -- an assistance which has been very real simply through the proper performance of your duties. I would also like to thank other members of the Trusteeship Council for their assistance: the representative of France for his concise and clear exposition of an attitude which has been most helpful, and not only because of its reflection of those qualities; the representative of China for his wise observations based on his considerable personal, first-hand knowledge of Nauru; the representative of Bolivia, whose personal friendship I have come to value highly, a friendship which is strengthened and not lessened by the sharp differences of opinion which have frequently developed between us; the representative of the United States, who has so admirably summed up a point of view which is both helpful and impartial; the representative of the United Kingdom, for whom my feelings of friendship have been a steadily developing thing and whose points of view, based on his great experience with people, I have learned to value greatly even though I disagree with some of them; the representative of New Zealand, whom I have met here for the first time and whose observations of the robust qualities of the Nauruans in relation to the planning of the future home I feel merit close attention; and, lastly, the representative of India, whom I also meet here for the first time and whose balanced objectivity, wisdom and personal qualities have made it a personal pleasure for me to meet him during this examination.

The PRESIDENT: I call upon the representative of the Soviet Union. For what purpose?

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I shall explain when you give me the floor.

The PRESIDENT: I give the floor to the representative of the Soviet Union to explain the purpose for which he asked for the floor.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): At the present moment I do not wish to make any comments on the statement just given by the Special Representative of the Administering Authority. We want to remark only that this statement causes us some anxiety and concern. This is why, once again, we see how the Administering Authority tries to cast doubt upon the proposals which have been advanced by the people of Nauru. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority --

The PRESIDENT: I am sorry to interrupt the representative of the Soviet Union, but I understood that he was going to explain for what purpose he had asked for the floor. This is not, in the understanding of the Chair, a time for further debate on the substance of the item, although there will be opportunity for debate in connexion with whatever report is submitted for consideration.

I would ask the representative of the Soviet Union to be precise as to the purpose for which he asked for the floor. Is it for a point of order, or for what purpose?

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In order to be entirely clear to our President why we are speaking, I shall state that we are trying to utilize our right of reply since the Special Representative of the Administering Authority, so to speak, very graciously did not mention the Soviet representative, although he did mention all the other members of the Council. We were delighted at this sign of attention and we wanted to make some supplementary explanations, utilizing our right of reply. You, as President of the Trusteeship Council, will give our delegation the right which is recognized in the rules of procedure, to make the supplementary remarks in utilizing our right of reply.

The PRESIDENT: I give the floor to the representative of the Soviet Union to exercise the right of reply. I call attention to the fact, however, that the exercise of the right of reply is not an automatic right but is one to be granted in the discretion of the Chair.

Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): We note that you have granted us the right of reply, although somewhat unwillingly.

As we said, the concluding statement of the Special Representative of the Administering Authority causes us some concern, the reasons being that he is trying here to cast doubt on those proposals which have been submitted to us by the people of Nauru. He has tried to emphasize the difficulties which, as it were, will arise if the problem of Nauru is solved in accordance with the wishes of the people. His whole statement was aimed at proving that, as it were, it would be better for the people of Nauru to agree to the proposals of the Administering Authority, namely, to emigrate to the territory of Australia or to some other new island.

The argument was raised that justice has to be observed not only with regard to the people of Nauru but also with regard to other groups of the population in that part of the territory where the people of Nauru will resettle. I feel called upon to state that the situation is rather queer. On the one hand, the Administering Authority by its policy, because the phosphate deposits are rapidly being depleted in the island, is compelling the population of this island to find some new place to settle. The Administering Authority declares that when the phosphate deposits are exhausted the people of Nauru will no longer be able to live there. When some members of the Trusteeship Council states that it is necessary to look for other ways of creating conditions which will make it possible for the Nauruans to remain on this island, the representative of the Administering Authority says that that will be impossible -- that they cannot maintain the same conditions on the island as exist at present. And when the people of Nauru demand that a more or less equivalent island somewhere else be supplied to them, the Administering Authority states that such an island cannot be found and that "we cannot damage the interests of other groups of the population".

(Mr. Oberemko, USSR)

The result boils down to the old plan, namely, that the population of Nauru be resettled in Australia -- and today's statement, unfortunately, aimed at exactly the same thing. Again and again they are trying to convince us that there is no other way out for the people of Nauru other than for them to agree to the plan of the Administering Authority. But we know that they have rejected this plan. We are sorry that the Administering Authority, which declares that it is basing itself on the interests of the people of Nauru, actually has not agreed to the proposals of the population of Nauru. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority emphasizes very carefully here that these proposals are simply proposals and nothing more; that they are not the last word. Evidently the Administering Authority is hoping to utilize the future in order once again to attempt to impose its plan on the population of Nauru so as to compel them to conform to the plan which they have already rejected.

I think this is a justified cause of concern to the members of the Trusteeship Council if in deeds and not in words they are really trying to defend the interests of the population of Nauru. I, myself, have the great honour to represent a great State -- the Soviet Union -- that is to say, as the representative of the Soviet Union I feel called upon to state once again, as we have declared in the past, we will defend the interests of the smallest people in the world -- the population of Nauru. We feel that these great Powers, who are manoeuvring and supporting the Administering Authority, should also take the interests of the population of Nauru into account.

(Mr. Oberenko, USSR)

Now, we have before us a problem -- the problem of the future of the Nauruan people. The representative of the Administering Authority and his allies declare that they are governed by the interests of the population of Nauru. The Soviet delegation and the delegations of some other anti-colonial States in the Trusteeship Council also declare that their approach to the problem of Nauru is governed only by the interests of the population. Thus, we have before us two declarations. Let us apply these declarations of principle to reality.

We have before us a concrete proposal from the Nauruan people. The Soviet delegation is prepared to state, and does so state, that it supports this proposal fully without any reservations, and we call upon the representatives of the Administrative Authority and its allies to make the same declaration here in order to prove that they are also basing themselves only on the interests of the people of Nauru. We think that this would be the best way to test the sincerity of such a declaration.

I should like to emphasize my gratitude, Mr. President, for giving me the right to make this supplementary statement.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the Special Representative to exercise his right of reply.

Mr. McCARTHY (Special Representative): I simply wish to say that I reject the imputations of the representative of the Soviet Union with regard to the matters covered in my statement, which is now a matter of record for this Council and may be judged on the facts of the situation and the subject matter as it is dealt with in the record.

I am sorry if I have hurt the feelings of the representative of the Soviet Union by not including him in the list of those whom I thanked around this table, but I am still unaware of any extent to which he has assisted me, as representative of the Administering Authority, to be of assistance to the Council.

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the United Kingdom to exercise his right of reply.

Sir Hugh FOOT (United Kingdom): I just wish to say that the other day I was somewhat roughly rebuked by the representative of the Soviet Union for my use of a point of order. I was somewhat put out by the rebuke because I had learned all I know about points of order from Mr. Morozov. Today, however, I must thank the representative of the Soviet Union most kindly for showing me the latitude which can be allowed when one deals with points of reply.

The PRESIDENT: The next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday afternoon, 10 July, at 2.30, which time has been requested by the representatives of Australia for the presentation of the opening statement on New Guinea. It would not serve the purpose of the Council, in the opinion of the Chair, to attempt to deal further with the matter of Nauru in the meantime because this would take the additional time from that requested by the Special Representative of the Administering Authority for the presentation of the statement.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) (interpretation from French): Is there another reason for the adjournment of our meetings until Tuesday afternoon? That is a rather long time. Will there be meetings of committees which will prevent our meeting on Monday?

The PRESIDENT: There will be a meeting of the Special Committee of seventeen on Monday afternoon; but that is not the reason why we are not meeting sooner. I think that the representative of France will realize that the burdens on the Administering Authority in this particular case are very heavy inasmuch as it is obliged to present the position with regard to both Nauru and New Guinea with no period in between. The Special Representative has asked to be given until Tuesday afternoon for the preparation of his report on New Guinea. If the Council wishes to have an earlier meeting, it is, of course, at liberty so to decide.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) (interpretation from French): I understand very well why the Australian delegation has asked for the extra time. Far be it from me to suggest anything to the contrary. I only wished to say that my delegation has read the report of the Visiting Mission on New Guinea and is quite ready to submit questions as soon as it may be possible.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will meet on Tuesday, 10 July, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.