

NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TRANSMITTED
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTERCorrigendum to the Summary Record
of the Twelfth MeetingPage 2

Insert between paragraphs 2 and 3 the following words: "Point 73(e) of the Charter, which was subordinate to the general idea of Article 73 as a whole, must not be interpreted in a narrow manner."

Page 3

line 8: Delete "undermine the United Nations" and substitute "revise the Charter and to fail to carry out obligations".

Page 4

line 1: Insert "non-self-governing" between "its" and "territories"; and insert "He pointed out that" before "Neither the Charter".

lines 10 and 11: Delete "the Charter and the Resolutions" and substitute "demands for the submission of more comprehensive information".

lines 32 and 33: Delete "and would be determined by the attitude of the metropolitan powers".

Page 5

lines 19 to 22: Delete the sentence beginning with "The Non-Self-Governing Territories" and ending with "in 1949".

Page 6

line 3: Insert "annual" after "He proposed".

lines 4 and 5: Delete "as suggested by the representative of the United Kingdom".

Page 7

line 12: Delete "rewriting of" and substitute "attempts to write".

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Page 7

line 23: Delete from "The only" and substitute "The only additional qualification which a Committee of this kind would contribute was".

Pages 8 and 9

Delete both pages and substitute:

"Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) associated himself in general with the position taken by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Belgium and New Zealand. On the question of the General Assembly's right to discuss the information transmitted on Non-Self-Governing Territories, however, he held that since such information was within the scope of the Charter, it could clearly be discussed by the General Assembly. If the United Nations wished to discuss the information transmitted to the Secretary-General, it could clearly not be prevented from doing so. The same principle applied to information from Members not responsible for Non-Self-Governing Territories, who had deposited information with the Secretary-General, with the exception that the consent of the Members concerned had to be obtained in the case of supplementary information under Resolution 143(II).

In reply to the Soviet representative he fully agreed that commitments under the Charter were obligations, but not General Assembly Resolutions where Members had not consented thereto. In Article 73, sub-paragraph (e) contained the sole obligation vis-a-vis the United Nations, all other "obligations" under Chapter XI having been freely and voluntarily assumed and declared by the Administering Powers. The Declaration contained in Chapter XI was a declaration of colonial policy, not by the United Nations but by the Administering Powers. Members not responsible for Non-Self-Governing Territories, who had signed the Charter, had at the same time undertaken the obligation to respect the limitations of Article 73. This obligation was as great as the one to transmit information. There was no obligation on the part of the Administering Powers to transmit political information, to accept supervision, to permit visits or petitions. The non-administering powers should observe these limitations. In subscribing to Chapter XI, and in signing the Charter, the Members not responsible for Non-Self-Governing Territories had recognised the colonial system and its declared objectives and had recognised the responsibility of the administering States (and not of other States in the United Nations) for the administration of the territories concerned. While the United Nations could express opinions on the subject they could not call the Administering Powers to account, since in Chapter XI the United Nations had accepted their full authority, approved their declared policies and recognised them as able and willing to

carry out such policies without the need of supervision.

Regarding the Soviet representative's position in regard to the permanence of the Committee, Mr. Forsyth's opinion was that the policy of the Soviet Union was to utilise the Committee as a forum for propaganda, to undermine the confidence of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Powers responsible for their welfare and to inspire subversive movements in the territories concerned, as, indeed, had been their policy in all United Nations bodies where Non-Self-Governing Territories had been discussed. The Soviet representative's concern for a Permanent Committee could be understood in this light. It would provide a still better opportunity. Those concerned with the Charter and the welfare of the inhabitants of the territories concerned, however, took a different view of the question of a permanent committee.

Both the United States and the Indian representatives' proposals assumed the continuation of the Committee, whereas Resolution 146(II) did not. He saw a possible advantage in a similar Committee meeting next year. But the purpose of the Committee should logically lead to its own extinction. The purpose was not one of control or supervision, but to set up satisfactory machinery to render the technical and statistical material intelligible to the General Assembly. If this were done there would be no further need for a Special Committee. A Special Committee was not the appropriate body to deal with technical and statistical material. It was a false approach to isolate Non-Self-Governing Territories, the elements of their economic, social and education problems were the same as in Self-Governing Territories; and he".....

Page 10

line 1: Insert after "suggested that", "such bodies as".

line 29: Insert a full stop after "Territories", delete "taking" and substitute "The Drafting Committee should take".