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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SUMMARY AND
ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE
CHARTER. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Other Territories

FALKLAND ISLANDS^{1/}

1/ In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1332 (XIII) this summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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NOTE: The following symbols are used:

Three dots (...)		data not available
Dash (-)		magnitude nil or negligible
Slash	1948/1949	crop or financial year
Hyphen	1948-1949	annual average

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Falkland Islands, situated in the South Atlantic, lie some 480 miles north-east of Cape Horn, covering 4,618 square miles. There are two main islands, the East and West Falklands. There are two groups of Dependencies, the most important being South Georgia 800 miles to the east of the Falklands, with an area of about 1,450 square miles.

The capital of the islands is Stanley, the only town, inhabited in 1954 to 1955 by about 1,200 persons. Smaller settlements are established at the headquarters of the various sheep stations into which the Territory is divided.

The climate is cool, with an average annual temperature of 42° F., and the islands are exposed to persistently strong winds. Precipitation is spread almost evenly throughout the year, sunshine averaging about four hours per day. The natural resources are pasture land and marine products, including kelp beds which, however, are not developed. The population is predominantly of British origin.

POPULATION

	<u>31 December 1947</u>	<u>March 1953^{a/}</u>	<u>31 December 1957</u>
Falklands	2,273	2,230	2,253
Dependencies			1,185

a/ Census of 1953.

Vital statistics^{a/}

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Birth rate per 1,000 population	15.5	20.7	18.0
Death rate per 1,000 population	15.1	12.1	9.7
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	28.6	-	-

a/ Falklands only.

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Sheep farming is the main industry in the Territory, and in the Dependencies, whaling and sealing. Throughout the period under review, the continuing development and expansion of these activities have engaged the attention of the Government and almost the entire population. Although production of wool has not appreciably increased over the period, the improvement in the price has given increasing returns to the industry. The value of wool exports (£1.2 million) in 1957 was almost six times the comparable figure for 1947, and exports of hides and skins almost doubled in value in ten years to £23,000.^{2/} In the Dependencies, some progress has been made in terms of an increase in the annual catch of whales and the production of oil, but the price of oil fluctuated greatly during the period. In value, oil production has risen from £1.6 to £1.8 million.

In general, the economy has been stimulated by increasing prices for some of the major exports. Including re-exports, these have earned approximately £1.3 million in 1957, almost five times the comparable figure for 1947, with a favourable balance of trade totalling about £731,000.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

There is no agriculture. Most households in Stanley and in the outlying areas grow their own vegetables, and forage crops are produced to a limited extent.

The main industry is sheep farming, directed primarily to the production of wool, hides and skins, and the manufacture of tallow. All land, with the exception of some 40,000 acres remaining to the Crown, is freehold and is divided into sheep farms varying in size from 3,600 to 161,000 acres and carrying up to 33,000 sheep, approximately one sheep to every five acres.

The Falkland Islands' Company Ltd., which owns a number of farms, holds freehold land amounting to approximately 1,229,000 acres and carrying 263,000 sheep in 1955, a little more than 40 per cent of the stock of the Territory in that year.

^{2/} The currency unit of the Falkland Islands is the Falkland Islands pound (£FI), which is equal to £1 sterling or US\$2.80.

Mutton and beef are consumed locally, supplies for Stanley being obtained from various settlements. Occasionally, shipments of mutton are made to the whaling establishments in South Georgia.

A freezing company was established by the Colonial Development Corporation in 1953 to ship frozen mutton and beef to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The poor quality of the frozen meat led, however, to considerable financial losses and to the liquidation of the enterprise in 1955.

The Agricultural Department provides essential services to the livestock industry, such as co-operation in preventing or combating disease, control of the importation of livestock for stock improvement and agricultural products, and the rendering of advice to stock owners on animal husbandry matters. The volume of wool production has not changed appreciably, but its value has increased substantially.

	Production ^{a/} (thousands)					
	1947		1953		1957	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	(pounds)		(pounds)		(pounds)	
Wool (lbs.)	4,507	242	4,395	453	4,575	1,230
Tallow (cwt.)	192	6	58	2	41	...
Hides and skins (cwt.)	...	13	4	35	3	23

a/ Exports.

Livestock

	1947	1953	1957
Sheep	604,136	599,905	619,584
Horses	2,734	2,950	3,103
Cattle	11,197	12,461	12,392

FISHERIES

There is no organized fishing industry in the Falklands. In the Dependencies, whaling and sealing are the only activities, and the by-products of the whale and the seal, such as oil and meat-meal, are the sole products. The whaling season is of six months' duration, October-April, and sealing takes place during the

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periods September-October and March-April. There are three whaling stations and a meteorological station in South Georgia. The latter has been maintained since 1950. The average price of first-grade whale oil has fluctuated from £90 per ton in 1947 to £110 in 1951, and to £74 in 1954/1955. Production of whale oil has similarly fluctuated: from 144,000 barrels in 1947, production rose to a little under 185,000 in 1953/1954 and then declined to some 148,000 in 1957.

Sealing is confined to the surplus males of the herd of elephant seals Mirounga leonina which, with the co-operation of the sealers, is carefully guarded by the Administration. The annual catch was restricted to 6,000 from 1952 for a five-year period, in accordance with a report of the Dependencies survey biologist. The coasts of South Georgia are divided into four regions of which only three are worked annually, under licence and in rotation so that each region is untapped every fourth year. Production of seal oil has remained fairly constant, about 12,000 barrels in 1947 and 11,000 barrels ten years later, peak production of 14,600 barrels having been achieved in 1951.

POWER

A Government-owned diesel power station, opened in 1951, supplies all electrical power to Stanley. In 1954/1955 the Government was the largest consumer, followed by the Falkland Islands Company, Ltd. Output in 1955 was 579,327 kwhs. During the same year, there were 460 consumers in Stanley. In the outlying areas privately-owned generators are in use. The whaling stations and the Government have their own electrical supply in the Dependencies.

INDUSTRY

The only industrial plants are those used in processing whales, seals and tallow.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Transport

There are twelve miles of road in and around Stanley, and these are in poor condition, owing mainly to the shortage of labour and the prior claim of more essential works. The number of registered motor vehicles has risen from 154 in 1953

to 295 in 1957. An 855-ton vessel owned and operated by the Falkland Islands Company averages ten trips annually to Montevideo, Uruguay, carrying freight, mail and passengers. As the need arises, the Company charters vessels to carry cargo. Another ship provides occasional communication between Stanley and the Dependencies, chiefly South Georgia. Ships of the whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to and from the whaling grounds.

Shipping

		<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Ships entered (Stanley)		21	19
Number of ships clearing		20	19
Net tonnage in		18,010	28,042
Net tonnage out		17,930	27,382
Passengers in		144	...
Passengers out		185	...
Dependencies (South Georgia)	<u>1948</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1955</u>
Number of vessels entered	66	64	74
Tonnage cleared	154,369	152,871	156,862

There is a government-operated internal air service for passengers, mail and medical patients between the settlements and Stanley which, since its commencement in 1948, has expanded its scale of operations. The number of passengers carried was 1,290 in 1954 and 1,760 in 1955. No international service is available.

In 1955, there were 366 subscribers in Stanley to the government-operated telephone system, and telegraph service is provided by radio between the East and West Falkland Islands and overseas.

PUBLIC FINANCE

A graduated income tax beginning at 1s. per £1 for the second taxable £100 is levied on personal net incomes; companies are assessed at 3s.6d. per £1. The Territory has a reserve fund which stood at some £9,000 in 1947, £244,000 in 1953 and £261,000 in 1955. It also receives annual allocations under Colonial Development and Welfare schemes. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland contributes annually to the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey. During the period, these contributions have risen from £44,000 to £639,000, the latter including International Geophysical Year activities.

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<u>Territory</u> ^{a/}	<u>Revenue and Expenditure</u> (pounds sterling)		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953/1954</u>	<u>1956/1957</u> ^{b/}
Ordinary revenue	103,463	231,547	275,680
Ordinary expenditure	115,620	162,775	341,022
Colonial Development and Welfare			40,400
Main heads of revenue:			
Internal revenue	...	106,698	103,450
Customs	24,241	51,758	43,183
Main heads of expenditure:			
Public works recurrent	...	19,458	46,457
Harbour and aviation	...	17,866	18,657
Medical	...	17,727	26,158
Extra-ordinary	...	54,275	62,473
<u>Dependencies</u>			
Ordinary revenue	38,899	345,500	852,152
Ordinary expenditure	64,212	297,470	1,056,384
Main heads of revenue			
Customs	13,047	57,919	91,935 ^{c/}
Internal revenue	5,294 ^{d/}	48,514	56,754
Main heads of expenditure

a/ The financial year is 1 April to 31 March.

b/ Estimates

c/ Including port dues.

d/ From sale of stamps.

Development finance

Good progress has been maintained in the various schemes financed partly or wholly by Colonial Development and Welfare funds. During 1955, there were five schemes in process. The Territory received an allocation of £150,000 under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1945 as a contribution towards a ten-year programme. In 1950, the plan was revised and it was proposed to spend about £265,000 between 1950 and 1956. The money would come from the following sources:

Colonial Development and Welfare grant	£160,000
Falkland Islands revenue	£105,586

Of this total, £110,376 was to be spent for basic services, £98,350 for social services and £56,600 for productive services. Under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, 1955, the Territory received a further allocation of £50,000 for the period 1956-1960.

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BANKING AND CREDIT

There are no commercial banks in the Territory, but some banking services are available through two trading companies. There is also a government savings bank at Stanley.

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Government savings bank:			
Number of depositors	1,817	2,034	2,163
Amount of savings (£)	491,889	691,404	1,032,436

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

With the exception of meat and fish, all the requirements of the Territory and the Dependencies are imported.

The trade of the Falkland Islands, exclusive of the Dependencies is principally with the United Kingdom.

Imports and exports
 (thousand pounds sterling)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
<u>Territory</u>			
Imports	245	594	550
Exports	265	381	1,255
Re-exports	7		
<u>Dependencies</u>			
Imports	786	2,232	2,812
Exports a/	1,949	2,814	4,448
<u>Principal imports</u>			<u>1955</u>
<u>Territory</u>			
Food, drink, tobacco	80	109	100
Raw materials, unmanufactured goods	60	99	95
Manufactured goods	98	383	307
Miscellaneous	7	2	4
<u>Dependencies</u>			
Raw materials	402	1,375	1,575
Manufactured goods	272	698	500
Food, drink, tobacco	111	159	164
Miscellaneous	9	56	225
<u>Principal exports</u>			
<u>Territory</u>			
Wool	239	346	1,230
Hides and skins	13	17	46
<u>Dependencies</u>			
Whale oil	1,592	1,505	1,829
Seal oil	70	37	...

a/ Including re-exports.

Direction of trade (imports)
(percentages of value)

<u>Territory</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
British Commonwealth countries	51.35	82.87	70.45
Foreign countries	48.65	17.13	29.55
<u>Dependencies</u>			
British Commonwealth countries	23.25	27.07	22.34
Foreign countries <u>a/</u>	76.75	44.47	41.58
High seas	-	28.46	36.08

a/ Netherlands Antilles and Surinam are the largest single suppliers

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

The largest labour force is employed in sheep farming. The number of workers thus employed has scarcely changed since 1947, when there were 480 men. In Stanley, the main employers are the Government and the Falkland Islands Company with seventy and sixty employees respectively. During the period under review, there has been a general shortage of labour and, consequently, no unemployment. Whaling and sealing in the Dependencies provide employment to migrant workers mainly from Norway and the United Kingdom.

There are two trade unions. One is the Falkland Islands Labour Federation whose membership constitutes about 90 per cent of eligible labour. The sheep owners have formed an association which negotiates with the Labour Federation on wages and other relevant matters. In addition, there is a Labour Advisory Board with statutory powers. In August 1948, a Civil Service Association was formed to improve the conditions of service of locally recruited civil servants. By 1955, steps had been taken to extend its activities and affiliate it with the Colonial Civil Service Association in the United Kingdom.

Legislation exists in regard to workmen's compensation, minimum wage, trade union and trade disputes and the Labour Advisory Board, and has been amended from time to time.

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Vocational training

The Falkland Islands Company and various government departments, such as Public Works (carpenters) and Power and Electrical (electrical engineering) operate apprenticeship schemes for the training of a limited number of craftsmen and technicians. In 1955 it was decided to establish an Apprenticeship Board.

	<u>Wages</u>		
	<u>1947</u>	<u>1952/1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Stanley (45 hour week) ^{a/}			
Unskilled	£3. 3s.9d.	£5. 1s.3d.	£5. 5s.0d.
Skilled	£3.15s.0d.	£5.12s.6d.	£5. 8s.9d. - £6.7s.6d.
Artisans	£4.12s.6d.	£6. 0s.0d.	£6.11s.3d.
Rural areas (monthly) ^{b/}			
Navvies ^{c/}	£8.12s.6d.	£10.10s. - £11	£18.10s.0d. - £19.0s.0d.
Shepherds	£9.12s.6d.	£12. - £12.10s.	£20. 0s.0d. - £22.10s.0d.

a/ Including cost of living 11s.3d. for 1947, 26s.3d. for 1953.

b/ Plus free quarters, fuel, meat, milk and garden.

c/ Unskilled labour.

In the Dependencies, there is a system of bonuses on production and all employees are provided with quarters, light and food. During the whaling season from October to April the work week is about sixty hours and during the remainder of the year it averages forty-six hours.

STANDARD OF LIVING

The price of bread, sugar, flour, pork and eggs has doubled since 1947, the price of tea has trebled, and the price of mutton has increased by 50 per cent. From 1947 to 1953, the minimum rent of unfurnished houses for workers increased from £2 to £3 a month.

TOWN AND RURAL PLANNING AND HOUSING

The shortage of housing, due largely to the high cost of materials and freightage and shortage of labour, had not been completely solved by 1957. The existing houses are usually of timber construction with corrugated metal roofs,

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though concrete block buildings are becoming more popular. Under a government housing scheme, small houses are rented to the poorer members of the community. All building construction must conform to standards of sanitation and construction prescribed by the Board of Health.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE

There is no unemployment insurance. In July 1952, a contributory and compulsory old age pension scheme came into effect for all male residents of the Islands.

The Stanley Benefit Club, a voluntary society, provides benefits to its members in case of sickness and death.

The Stanley Town Council pays poor relief in necessitous cases. In 1947 it paid £725, in 1952, £1,050 and in 1957, £886.

In 1953, it was reported that children's allowances based on the size of families were payable to all residents. In 1955 the rate was 10s. per month for each child to parents with two or more children.

PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Most of the offences reported are infractions of local ordinances. There has been an increase in the incidence of crime, larceny and malicious damage to property being the offences committed most frequently. The number of cases of larceny rose from four in 1950 to fifteen in 1957. Two cases of juvenile delinquency were committed during the two-year period 1954-1955 and three in 1957.

There is no special provision in the local prison for first offenders or recidivists, no after-care for prisoners nor any Borstal or such similar institution.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The government medical service, advised by a Board of Health, is responsible for the public health of the Territory. Two of the medical officers and one dentist are stationed outside Stanley. Since 1953 one district nurse has been employed.

In 1948 an ambulance plane service was inaugurated.

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The general health of the population is good with the exception of occasional mild epidemics of upper respiratory infections. A mild form of gastro-enteritis is also common.

Tuberculosis has been the most serious problem for many years. In 1954 a tuberculosis survey was carried out, during which 93 per cent of the population was examined. Previous to that date the death rate from tuberculosis had been 15.96 per 10,000. During the survey, 120 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were found, thirty-nine of which were active. All tuberculin negative reactors were vaccinated with B.C.G. and treatment of the active cases begun. It was reported that after the nearly complete survey of the population and the appropriate remedies, a marked decrease of morbidity and mortality should be evident in subsequent years. After the completion of the new wing of the hospital, facilities in the old wing became available for tuberculosis patients.

There is one hospital in Stanley. Its bed capacity has risen from seventeen to thirty-two and it has an out-patient department which conducts maternal and child health clinics. There are three dispensaries in the Territory.

Nurses are trained for six years on an apprenticeship basis. In 1951, it was decided that promising students would be sent to an English hospital during their fourth year so as to qualify as senior nurses. Recently a dental mechanic has been trained on an apprenticeship basis.

Sewage disposal in Stanley is mainly by flush closets, though not all houses are connected to the sewage system. The water supply in Stanley has been inadequate, but a new treatment plant with greater storage capacity which was due to be completed in 1958 should correct the inadequacy. In the rural areas, use is made of fresh water springs, rain water tanks and wells.

Expenditure
(pounds sterling)

<u>1947</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1957</u>
10,722	21,700	29,000

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Medical and health staff^{a/}

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957^{b/}</u>
Registered physicians	4	4	4
Dentists	1	2	2
Senior nurses	2 ^{c/}	5	3
Nurses, partially trained	4	3	6
Sanitary inspectors	...	1	1
Pharmacists	-	-	-

a/ There are no private medical practitioners nor any ancillary staff in the Falkland Islands; in the Dependencies, each company employs a doctor.

b/ In addition, there are two senior midwives and one partially trained midwife.

c/ Both are trained midwives.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

Education, which is compulsory in Stanley for children from five to fourteen years of age, has been free since 1949. Full-time continuation classes for one to two years provide education beyond standard VI. Education is the sole responsibility of the Government, and is administered by the Superintendent of Education who is also the principal of the government school in Stanley.

The scattered nature of the population in the rural areas has made it difficult to provide education to all children. The number of settlement boarding schools as well as the number of circuits for itinerant teachers has increased however, so that children living in isolated areas are being provided with instruction for a longer period of time.

A scheme of boarding allowances exists to assist parents in the outlying areas to send their children to boarding schools in Stanley or in the settlements. Under a school medical and dental service, children are examined annually.

A scholarship programme for secondary education in existence since 1943, which provided two places in an English school in Montevideo, was discontinued in 1951 when similar arrangements for grammar school education were completed with the education authorities in Dorset, England. In addition, an agreement was reached for the secondment of teachers to the Territory.

Locally, provision has been made for teacher-training under a Colonial Development and Welfare grant of £12,000 to employ an instructor.

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Expenditure
 (pounds sterling)

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Territorial	7,200	8,326	39,316 ^{a/}
Metropolitan contribution	-	...	953

a/ Of which £12,113 was special expenditure.

Schools, pupils and teachers

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1957</u>
Schools (mixed) ^{a/}	9	11	11
Pupils	290	308	301
Teachers ^{b/}	28	18	28

a/ Pupils from five to fourteen.

b/ Including itinerant teachers.

MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

A radio broadcasting station operates from Stanley. In 1947, 376 radio sets were registered; in 1953, 360 and in 1957, 441. The station gives a weekly news summary and relays other programmes. There is one cinema in Stanley. A film library, established in 1953, distributes films and film strips to both the East and West Falkland Islands. In 1957, five film strip projectors for educational purposes were also available. The town hall, including the museum and library, was destroyed by fire in 1944 and its replacement in 1950 did not include the museum. By 1957, the library had 6,650 volumes including 650 belonging to the school library.