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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

Summary of General Trends in Netherlands New Guinea^{1/}

^{1/} This summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from
Non-Self-Governing Territories.

58-04277

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Summary of general trends in Netherlands New Guinea
(1956)

1. Section C of the explanatory preface of the revised Standard Form invites Members to provide a survey of the principles and practical measures showing general trends in the Territories concerned. In response to this request, the information transmitted under Article 73 e by the Government of the Netherlands is preceded by an introduction, summarized below.

I. GENERAL

2. Further decentralization of the administration took place in 1956. Local advisory councils set up in 1955 developed their activities. The second group of graduates of the School for the Administrative Service at Hollandia were given employment, and a third course was started with thirteen candidates.

II. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

3. Harbour accommodation at the major ports was improved or extended. Two airfields and a few airstrips in the interior were completed. Work progressed on the shipyard and ancillary workshops at Manokwari, where the repair of a number of small vessels was started. In May 1956 the first sawmill at Manokwari began production. In a trial polder laid out for the mechanized rice farm, the first rice crop was mechanically harvested. A number of Netherlands experts arrived to make special studies in agriculture, stock-breeding and regional development projects.

III. SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

4. During its first year of operation, the Primary Education and Subsidy Ordinance favourably affected the development of the school system. An institute for vocational training was established, which opened with 130 pupils. A number of Papuans went to the Netherlands for advanced training. Scientific research continued in the medical field and in the control of endemic diseases.

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IV. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

5. In order to further economic, social and cultural development, relations with other Adminimistering members, the specialized agencies and the South Pacific Commission were intensified and expanded. Contact of a technical nature was maintained with the regional offices of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. WHO officials visited the Territory to study progress made in disease control. In addition, WHO provided fellowships for a number of doctors in health education and environmental sanitation. WHO and UNICEF continued to give financial and material assistance in disease control and maternal and child welfare.

6. A number of official visits were exchanged between the Territory and New Guinea and Papua, leading to closer co-operation and consultation in various technical fields.

7. Two entomologists and a copra expert of the South Pacific Commission visited the Territory. Two officers of the Sea Fisheries Branch attended a fisheries training course at Noumea organized by the South Pacific Commission.

8. The Territory was represented at various international conferences, including the Third South Pacific Conference at Noumea, the First International Symposium on Venereal Diseases and Treponematoses at Washington, D.C., the Seventh Session of the Regional Commission for the Western Pacific at Tokyo, the FAO Plant Protection Committee for South-East Asia and Pacific Region at Bangkok, and the Symposium on Tropical Cyclones at Brisbane.
