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**Chairman: Mr. Santiago PEREZ PEREZ (Venezuela).**

**Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter (*continued*)**

[Item 32]\*

**GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)**

1. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee should try to conclude the general debate on the item under discussion on 19 October. In accordance with rule 119 of the rules of procedure, he requested members to submit any draft resolutions or amendments by the afternoon of that day.
2. Mr. L. S. BOKHARI (Pakistan) thanked Mr. Benson, of the Secretariat, for his statement at the previous meeting on the assistance given to the United Nations by a number of eminent representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. He wished, however, to make it clear that what he had proposed was that the United Nations should formally decide to recruit qualified persons from those territories as Secretariat officials. He would emphasize in that connexion that, in the recruitment of personnel, a quota proportionate to its contribution was laid down for each Member State. The quota of the Administering Members should include personnel not only from the metropolitan countries, but also from the Non-Self-Governing Territories they administered.
3. Referring to an article published in the *New York Times*, in which the statement he had made at the previous meeting appeared to have been misinterpreted, he repeated that his proposal was for the admission of persons from the Non-Self-Governing Territories, not to delegations, but to the secretariats of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies.
4. Mr. ESPINOSA Y PRIETO (Mexico) was concerned at the course the discussion was taking. He had hoped that the examination of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories would give members of the Committee an opportunity of hearing detailed statements from representatives of the Administering Members on what had been achieved for the benefit of the territories. The educated public regarded the Fourth Committee as a first-class source of information on territories which were not yet fully self-gov-

\* Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.

erning and as a body originating ideas and directives and taking effective decisions to promote the increasingly rapid political, economic, social and educational development of the peoples of those territories. It was also convinced that the Committee's work achieved concrete results and made it possible for major achievements to be examined when the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories was before it. Yet the only delegations which had so far asked for the floor in the general debate were those of countries which did not administer territories. Such delegations had of course much to say and, above all, many questions to ask; they had hoped, however, that the first statements would be made by delegations wishing to give an account of their countries' achievements, so that the latter would not be lost sight of but would be appreciated by public opinion at their true worth. In place of the statements the Committee had hoped for, all that it had been given had been written documents of considerable length, which fortunately included the excellent report (A/2465) of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, a body whose value was self-evident and which it was essential to retain.

5. Taking up a remark made by the Australian representative at the previous meeting. Mr. Espinosa y Prieto said he had listened with great interest to the statement made to the Fourth Committee on 2 October (324th meeting) by Mr. Hopkinson, the British Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, and in particular to the passage concerning the establishment of a university in Central Africa which would be open to all students irrespective of their race. A representative of an administering Power might well be glad to be able to report such thorough achievements as those Mr. Hopkinson had described.
6. The examination of the item under discussion had not, unfortunately, continued at the same level. Anyone wishing to go into the questions covered<sup>1</sup> by the report of the Committee on Information had to study seventeen documents which the Administering Members seemed to have supplied reluctantly, half hoping that most representatives would be overcome by the sloth which the study of statistical information usually induced. Anyone not so overcome and accustomed to a serious investigation of data relating to the situation he was studying could not fail to be struck by the inadequacy of the information provided.
7. The report summarizing the information on Greenland furnished by the Danish Government (A/2409) was the only one that contained really valuable and well-marshalled data. That information gave a picture of the progress made in the territory which appeared to be considerable. One of the most interesting passages in the report was the one quoting a typical family

<sup>1</sup> A/2407, A/2408, A/2409, A/2410 and Add.1, A/2411 and Add.1, A/2413 and Add.1 to 6, A/2414 and Add.1 and 2.

budget, which made it possible to assess the cost of living in Greenland.

8. None of the other reports, unfortunately, contained such detailed and well-presented information. The majority revealed wage rates which were disquieting. It was astonishing that the only information available to the Fourth Committee, which had been set up for the express purpose of helping to throw light upon the difficult situations existing in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to remedy them, was so incomplete as to appear to be designed to cast a veil over the facts.

9. Taking at random the case of the report on Gambia (A/2413/Add.4), he noted that out of a population of 30,000 there were scarcely 3,000 wage-earners. There was nothing to indicate whether the remainder of the population consisted of farmers, persons with private incomes or peoples on the fringe of civilization. There was a three-line table indicating that the maximum wage was eight shillings, but there was nothing to show whether that was a daily, weekly or monthly wage. The information transmitted in regard to Northern Rhodesia (A/2413) revealed that there was a peculiar wage system, under which a certain sum, which seemed very small, was paid for a ticket covering thirty working days. In every case, the information the administering Power had given on the cost of living in its Non-Self-Governing Territories was so inadequate and useless that it was difficult to understand how a State which was so advanced and had so good a reputation for the presentation of statistics could provide such vague data on such important questions as the cost of living.

10. He pointed out in detail the inadequacy of the information given in respect of Gambia, Northern Rhodesia, Uganda, Nyasaland, Papua, Kenya and Morocco. In all those territories there seemed to be extraordinarily few wage-earners, and there was no information in respect of the remainder of the population. No basis was provided for establishing the essential relationship between wages and the cost of living, a matter of unquestionable importance, since the administering Powers were being accused of clinging to their colonies to enable them to continue a process of competition which was unfair both to the population forced to work for inadequate wages and to the countries which were offering on the world market commodities produced under a system of fair wages.

11. He wished to make it quite clear that the members of the Fourth Committee were not asking for full and specific information in order to criticize the performance by the administering Powers of their arduous task, but rather to ascertain the true nature of the problem, however discouraging that might be. It was better to have discouraging information than information which was merely bewildering.

12. From the information on Papua (A/2407), it would appear that there were no industries in that territory: under the heading "Industry", the summary stated that desiccated coconuts were the principal article manufactured in the territory. Furthermore, it would be of interest to have some details on the part played by such institutions as the Native Village Council, the Town Planning Board, the Scientific Society etc., which were merely mentioned in passing.

13. On the other hand, he had been glad to have the opportunity of examining the full report on the Belgian Congo (A/2408), particularly that section of the

report which referred to the area of land under cultivation by the indigenous inhabitants, a far greater area than that in the hands of Europeans. The summary made it clear that there was a large number of wage-earners in the Belgian Congo; there again, unfortunately, the data provided were not enough to enable the reader to establish the relation between wages and the cost of living.

14. Finally, he had pleasure in praising the quality of the report furnished in respect of Puerto Rico (A/2414/Add.2). He was particularly glad to be able to do so in that the population of Puerto Rico had close ties with that of Mexico.

15. Before concluding, he wished to reply to the question the representative of Australia had asked at the previous meeting, namely, what system those who disapproved of colonialism would institute to replace it. His suggestion would be that the out-of-date colonial system should be replaced by independence. The Australian representative had, however, seen fit to point out that the principles set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter clearly implied that the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories needed some preparation before they could enjoy complete independence. The answer was simple: in place of the colonial system, the Mexican delegation would propose the United Nations Trusteeship System. Under Article 77 c of the Charter, any Power which did not wish to continue to administer a territory could place it voluntarily under the Trusteeship System. The Trusteeship System was a product of the United Nations and recourse to it provided an honourable means of promoting the emancipation of a people. He was convinced that the system would develop further and that some day the United Nations itself would assume responsibility for promoting the development of the inhabitants towards self-government, thereby ensuring that such service would not be taken as a personal favour but rather as a service rendered by society to itself.

16. Mr. DJERDJA (Yugoslavia) felt he should point out, first and foremost, that the simple fact that the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories existed and that the Members of the United Nations, whether or not they administered any such territories, had been assisting in the work of that Committee for a number of years, was of considerable importance. The joint efforts expended in that Committee for several years were confirmation of the view that the United Nations had responsibilities and competence with regard to colonial questions.

17. In the accomplishment of its task, the object of which was to lead the colonial peoples to full self-government and independence, the United Nations was encountering obstacles which were not always negligible. The various administering Powers, or all the administering Powers as a group, had not shown much broad-mindedness in their approach to those questions. Some of them had, for example, refused to participate in the work of the Committee and on other occasions had refused to co-operate. That attitude seemed to be due to the fact that the Powers in question took a narrow view of the problem, based on their own direct interests—which they did not, perhaps, always understand very clearly—rather than on the spirit of the Charter, which considered the interests of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories as being of primary importance. Hence the

armed risings, the rebellions and the disturbances in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the growing alarm at the prospect of a new conflagration. He cited British Guiana, Morocco and Tunisia as cases in point.

18. With regard to the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, he recalled that at its last session that Committee had devoted special attention to the subject of educational conditions, one of the principal means whereby the rapid progress of those territories and their populations towards full self-government and independence could be either promoted or considerably hampered. In 1950 the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter had laid down, in its special report on education (A/1303/Rev.1, part two), practical and sensible principles, which had been confirmed in 1953. If the Administering Members wished to apply the principles of the Charter and discharge the obligations which they had assumed, they should act on those principles.

19. He noted with regret, however, that even where those principles were applied, action was taken at a rate and in a manner which clearly indicated that the administering Powers were failing to take into account the development of the world in general, the present position in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the needs of the inhabitants of those territories. They should, for example, take into consideration the fact that those inhabitants were becoming increasingly conscious of their rights and interests, their national and political individuality and the obligations incumbent upon the administering Powers. It was no use trying to solve those problems in an outmoded colonial spirit which was not in keeping with the spirit of modern times.

20. While there was room for congratulation in the fact that progress had been achieved in some fields and in some territories, thanks to the efforts made by the administering Powers, in conformity with the spirit of the Charter, to meet the true needs of the inhabitants of those territories and to protect their legitimate interests, and although it was true that larger sums had been allocated to education than in previous years, he regretted that those sums were being spent in a totally unacceptable manner. He referred particularly to the very marked inequality of treatment between the indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants, despite the specific recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 328 (IV). A close examination of the relevant documents showed that the extent to which the administering Powers had taken into account the terms of that resolution varied considerably according to the territories and the Powers. While in French Equatorial Africa the administering Power was taking steps which were gradually leading to equality of treatment of the indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants—a useful and praiseworthy initiative—in many other territories there was still a wholly unjustified and dangerous inequality between the indigenous inhabitants, who had the undeniable right to enjoy their natural resources and lead an independent political, economic and cultural life, and the non-indigenous inhabitants, on whom the Charter, far from granting privileges, imposed well-defined obligations. In the particular field of education, that inequality was reflected in the existence of separate schools and the unfair distribution of funds, and in the difficulties the indigenous inhabitants had to

contend with in their endeavours to obtain secondary and higher education and to gain scholarships abroad.

21. In addition, the indigenous inhabitants and their representative organs were taking no part in the preparation and application of the policies pursued in those territories. Nor had they the right to supervise the use of the sums allocated for education purposes from the revenue of the territory. In that respect, the figures spoke for themselves: whereas, in the Belgian Congo, a sum of 174,655 francs had been allocated in 1951 for the education of European children, who numbered about 10,000, a sum of only 409,073 francs had been allocated for the education of the indigenous children, who numbered approximately 950,000. Moreover, the greater part of the expenditure on the education of non-indigenous children was borne by the budget of the territory.

22. One of the very serious defects of the present educational system in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was the absence of compulsory elementary education. It had been pointed out in that connexion that it was difficult to convince the indigenous inhabitants of the need to send their children to school. The real reason was that there were not enough schools, teachers and educational means to meet the educational requirements of the indigenous population. The administering Powers should therefore take the necessary vigorous measures; they should build new schools and refrain from closing the indigenous schools set up by the inhabitants themselves on the pretext that those establishments were “hotbeds of hatred”. Such discrimination led the indigenous populations to doubt the good intentions of the administering Powers. Those Powers would be well advised not to forget the terms of the third paragraph of the Preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

23. It was not enough for education to be universal and compulsory; it should also be free of charge, so as to raise the unduly low proportion—about 5 per cent—of children attending school in relation to the number of children of school age. It was the responsibility of the administering Powers to make the essential educational services available to the indigenous populations; they should no longer leave it to so great an extent to private initiative (missions, philanthropic organizations), for any fee, however paltry, was too heavy a burden for the indigenous inhabitants, who were generally very poor, and prevented them from having their children educated.

24. The administering Powers had attributed the unfavourable educational situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their present financial difficulties; in particular, they had mentioned the fact that, out of thirty-six territories, thirty-three devoted less than 15 per cent of their total expenditure to education. He appealed to all Member States to do their utmost to help to solve the economic and social problems with which almost the entire world was at present overwhelmed. He would give the most sympathetic consideration to any measures or proposals calling upon the Member States to co-operate, by granting scholarships, to the development of the non-self-governing populations.

25. Turning to the draft resolution concerning the association of representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2465, part one, annex II), he deplored the fact that some States had once again taken advantage of their presence in a sub-

subsidiary organ with a small membership to change the form, and above all the substance, of decisions of the General Assembly. The Yugoslav delegation attached the greatest importance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories being able to participate directly in the work of the Committee on Information and even in that of the United Nations as a whole; it had therefore been unable to support the draft resolution drawn up by the Committee on Information, which had been hard enough to accept in its original form (A/2465, part one, para. 93) and which, in its amended text, no longer paid any attention whatever to the intentions of the General Assembly. The authors of the original text had really endeavoured, in a praiseworthy spirit of compromise, to reconcile the principle of unity of representation with the right of qualified representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to appear before the Committee on Information as spokesmen for their territories. The amended text, however, substituted for direct participation the notion, admittedly constructive in itself, of direct association, which was not what the General Assembly considered an effective means whereby the Non-Self-Governing Territories could achieve equality with the Member States. The Yugoslav delegation was prepared to support any proposal designed to make the draft resolution such as would really meet the needs of the indigenous populations and the wishes of the General Assembly.

26. He emphasized that one of the essential conditions for any progress, whether in the field of education or in any other field, was the granting to the indigenous populations of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of all possible freedom and rights. The case of some countries which had recently achieved independence and had made remarkable progress since then proved that full self-government was the best encouragement that the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories could be given. The administering Powers should therefore grant those peoples and their representative organs increasingly greater responsibilities, particularly with regard to the distribution of the funds allocated to education.

27. In conclusion, he wished, on behalf of the Yugoslav delegation, to congratulate the Committee on Information, whose report set forth many principles to which his delegation fully subscribed. It would be useful if the Committee on Information could examine the activities of the administering Powers in the light of those principles and formulate the necessary recommendations. The specialized agencies had generously offered their help, which was particularly valuable in view of their wide experience. The Yugoslav delegation also thanked the Secretariat, which had prepared the excellent documents before the Committee from information which was often communicated to it in a schematic and incomplete form.

28. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) wished to give some additional particulars regarding Gambia, to prove, if that were necessary, the sincere desire of the United Kingdom delegation to co-operate with the Committee by supplying it with all the necessary material.

29. The Administering Members transmitted the information referred to in Article 73 e of the Charter on the basis of a standard form; it was therefore not surprising that the information was rather dry, though the delegations concerned endeavoured to enliven it by giving historical background, providing specific illustrations and indicating the progress

achieved, when the information was discussed. Moreover, the information communicated in 1952 did no more than bring up to date the full information which was furnished every three years only.

30. It was quite true, as the Mexican representative had rightly pointed out, that the statistics for certain territories were not always particularly illuminating but it should be borne in mind that many territories were too poor for the metropolitan country to attempt to burden them with an administrative machinery which would prove to be too heavy when they achieved independence; moreover, the metropolitan country was not in a position to take on the expenses entailed in the operation of such machinery. Thus in Gambia, where there was no sizeable statistical service, the United Kingdom Government was endeavouring, with the assistance of international institutions, to improve the quality of the statistical data for that territory, the more so since that information was essential for any rational economic planning.

31. The economic development of Gambia was proceeding at a rapid pace: the total revenue of the territory had risen from £152,000 sterling in 1939 to £1,290,000 sterling in 1952, while expenditure had increased from £260,000 to £1,433,000 sterling. It was obvious from those figures that expenditure exceeded revenue and that the territory required foreign aid in order to balance its budget.

32. The difficulties in the way of the development of Gambia were basically due to the geographic structure of the country, which had come about as a result of the partitions made by the various metropolitan Powers which had fought in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to secure trading posts on the coasts of Africa. The territory now fell quite naturally into two parts: the coastal area, consisting of the port of Bathurst and its immediate environs, and a narrow strip of land on both sides of the river. It was extremely difficult to provide accurate data on the standard of living of the indigenous inhabitants and on the relation of wages to the standard of living. Most of the area was inhabited by farmers, except for the port itself, where the majority were business men. Thus, except for the indigenous elements employed in the government service, there were very few wage-earners in Gambia. The country's principal export was groundnuts and the prosperity of the growers followed the fluctuations in the price of that product, which the United Kingdom Government was making every effort to stabilize. The metropolitan country had endeavoured to diversify production in Gambia by encouraging the inhabitants to raise poultry for export but the experiment had proved to be a costly failure.

33. Considerable progress, difficult to indicate in the form of statistical data, had been achieved in public health. Not a single case of yellow fever had been reported in 1952, whereas fever epidemics had frequently broken out in the past. With regard to food, the United Kingdom Government had set up a field nutrition unit in Gambia to determine the nutritive value of the food consumed by the indigenous inhabitants, to tell the farmers what were the best food crops and to instruct the population in home economics and on how to prepare food. In 1952, an international conference, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization, had been held in Gambia to study questions of nutrition in African society.

34. The conditions which normally obtained in any active port and its surrounding area created the most serious social problem. To solve it the United Kingdom Government had requested that an expert should be sent under the technical assistance programme to look into ways and means of improving the situation resulting from close contact between an urban society which was not yet very well organized and a rather primitive rural society.

35. Mr. ESPINOSA Y PRIETO (Mexico) thanked the United Kingdom representative for his brilliant and interesting statement, which filled one of the gaps in the material submitted to the Committee. It was an example which he hoped others would follow, for the Committee's work could not fail to benefit by them.

36. Mr. KUCHKAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Committee was discussing an item of primary importance, since it concerned the political, economic, social and cultural life of some 200 million people in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The information transmitted by the Administering Members was neither complete nor, in many cases, in accordance with the Standard Form which the General Assembly had adopted in its resolution 551 (VI). The Administering Members had failed to carry out the obligations incumbent upon them under Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as those deriving from the other provisions of Chapter XI.

37. The conditions in the field of education, which had been the subject of a special study by the Committee on Information, were unsatisfactory. It appeared from the reports submitted to that Committee, particularly documents A/AC.35/L.123, A/AC.35/L.130, A/2413 and its addenda, and A/AC.35/L.136, that a very low proportion of children of school age attended school (2 per cent in British Somaliland) and that of those enrolled in schools a great many did not attend for more than a year, or even a few months. Moreover, education in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was not free, a further deterrent to the education of the indigenous inhabitants, particularly if it was borne in mind that in some territories—Kenya, for instance—school fees represented the wage which an indigenous rural worker received for 200 days of work. Moreover, the indigenous inhabitants were victimized by racial discrimination in education. In many Non-Self-Governing Territories the indigenous and European inhabitants attended separate schools and the sum allocated for the education of a European child was very much greater—one hundred times in Kenya—than that allocated for the education of an indigenous child. Quoting figures relating to Northern Rhodesia, Malaya and the Belgian Congo, he observed that, in the circumstances, it was not surprising that the rate of illiteracy was as high as 99 per cent in some territories.

38. With regard to public health, the situation was also unsatisfactory. Documents A/2407 and A/2413 and its addenda showed that the funds allocated to public health, as also the number of staff and hospitals, did not meet the minimum requirements of the populations. In some territories there was one doctor for 33,000, 60,000 or even 70,000 inhabitants. In some cases a reduction in the already insignificant funds allocated for public health had been recorded, in particular in Papua, where the sum had been reduced from 580,000 Australian pounds in 1951 to 491,000 in 1952; there were also cases of a reduction of the number of hospitals, in particular in the Gold Coast

and Nigeria. Owing to the inadequacy of the funds assigned to public health and the very difficult living conditions of the indigenous inhabitants, the morbidity and mortality rates, and particularly the infant mortality rate, reached very high levels. Infant mortality was as high as 439 out of 1,000 live births in the Protectorate of Aden, and in Samoa under United States administration it had more than doubled in comparison with the figures for 1948. According to information in the Press, a group of United Kingdom social and medical experts that had visited the Gold Coast in 1951 had noted that in one village, which was actually more prosperous than the average, only six children attended the school, which was three miles from the village; only 87 of the 162 children born in the village had survived beyond the first year; while the inhabitants were, generally speaking, undernourished and lived in deplorable sanitary conditions. Those were the results of 105 years of British administration.

39. The administering Powers paid practically no attention to the interests of the indigenous populations; their sole concern was to make as much profit as possible by exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories or to make use of those territories to install military bases, which were established on land from which the rightful owners, the indigenous inhabitants, were dispossessed. Suffice it to point out that the United States had set up military bases in many territories—in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, Samoa, Morocco and Tunisia, for example. It was obvious that the construction of military bases in Non-Self-Governing Territories was contrary to the objectives of the Charter. Similarly, the economic development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was based on military needs, as was shown by the expansion of industries producing strategic minerals and by the fact that the value of the exports of Non-Self-Governing Territories far exceeded, and sometimes doubled, the value of their imports, as had been the case in Uganda in 1951 and Malaya in 1952.

40. The indigenous populations were living in the most distressing conditions. Their primitive agriculture did not enable them to satisfy their minimum food requirements. They were paid starvation wages; thus, in Nigeria, a worker in the building industry earned ninepence a day, while meat cost 1s. 9d. per pound and fish, 2s. 9d. A similar situation prevailed in Madagascar, Nyasaland, Northern Rhodesia and French Equatorial Africa.

41. Turning to the question of racial discrimination against indigenous inhabitants in the political, economic, social and educational fields, he pointed out that the indigenous inhabitants did not participate in the administration of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and did not hold important administrative posts, all key posts being reserved for Europeans. The same discrimination was found in wages and in labour legislation, with special provisions for indigenous persons, in particular in Malaya, British Guiana, Trinidad and the Belgian Congo. He mentioned a number of ordinances and regulations in force in the Belgian Congo: they established racial segregation in the towns, prohibited the free movement of indigenous inhabitants in urban centres between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4.30 a.m. and provided a prison system that varied according to the race of the prisoner. Finally, in many Non-Self-Governing Territories corporal punishment was still imposed on indigenous inhabitants.

42. He emphasized that all the facts he had cited were taken from official reports transmitted to the United Nations by the administering Powers. It was clear that, far from ensuring the progress of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the direction specified in the Charter, the administering Powers were continuing the colonial régime, and their concern was not to promote the welfare of those peoples but to obtain the greatest possible profits from their exploitation. The USSR delegation would support any proposal whose purpose was to call upon the administering Powers to carry out their obligations and to improve the living conditions of the indigenous populations of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

43. Mr. MENDOZA (Guatemala) asked the Chairman to arrange for the communication from the Reverend Michael Scott dated 15 October, and his letter to the Secretary-General, dated 5 May 1953, to be circulated to the Committee. They were very important communications, which concerned the discussion in the Committee, since they provided information concerning the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Nyasaland.

44. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) pointed out that the Committee could not take a position on the Guatemalan request, since they did not know the contents of the communication in question. Before complying with the request, the Chairman should examine the documents in question with representatives of the

Secretary-General, to ensure that they really concerned the discussion in the Committee.

45. Mrs. MENON (India) thought that it would be useful to circulate the communications, since they would provide the Committee with additional information. Furthermore, the contents of the documents were not unknown to all delegations, since they had already been transmitted on a confidential basis to the Committee on Information.

46. In reply to a question from Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary-General, Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) explained that the Reverend Michael Scott's letters were not included in the list of communications received by the Secretary-General.

47. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) felt that in that case it would be better if no decisions were taken until the communications in question were included in the list of documents officially received by the United Nations.

48. The CHAIRMAN proposed that no decision on the matter should be taken until the following meeting. That would enable him to study the question more thoroughly.

*It was so agreed.*

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.