

the three remaining TRUST TERRITORIES

THE contribution made by the Trusteeship Council to the acceleration of the progress of a number of trust territories to independence was noted by Nathan Barnes, of Liberia, the President, as the Council concluded its thirtieth session at United Nations Headquarters on June 26.

The Council this year devoted the main part of its session to an examination of conditions in three trust territories—the Pacific Islands under United States administration; New Guinea under Australian administration; and Nauru, administered by Australia on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

These are the only remaining trust territories of the 11 territories originally placed under the International Trusteeship System. Since 1957 eight of the territories concerned have achieved independence or have reached statehood by becoming part of other countries. They were Cameroons under French administration; Cameroons under British administration; Togoland under French administration; Togoland under British administration; Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration; Tanganyika under British administration; Somaliland under Italian administration; and Western Samoa under New Zealand administration.

“Responding to the rising demands of all people for freedom and independence, the Council, in the discharge of its supervisory functions over trust territories, has contributed in no small measure to this progress,” said the President. He was confident that the Council would continue to dedicate itself to “this worthy task to the end that the remaining trust territories will . . . find themselves among the constellation of free nations in accordance with their freely-expressed wishes.”

During the session, which began on May 29, the Council decided to send a visiting mission to the Pacific Islands early in 1964 for a six-week study of conditions in the territory. It appointed Frank H. Corner, of New Zealand, as Chairman and asked China, Liberia and the United Kingdom each to nominate a representative.

Besides examining eight written petitions from the three territories, the Council granted an oral hearing to John Hosmer, a United States citizen and a former Public Defender of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, who urged that the people of the territory be accorded the right of trial by jury. The United States representative on the Council said the whole question of the introduction of jury trials was under active consideration by the administering authority. The Council took no action.

Also discussed was the question of cooperation with the General Assembly's Special Committee of Twenty-Four on Colonialism; use of scholarships offered by member states for inhabitants of trust territories; and dissemination of information on the United Nations and the Trusteeship System in those territories.

The Council approved its reports to the Security Council and to the forthcoming eighteenth session of the General Assembly. The report to the Security Council contains the Council's conclusions and recommendations on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands—a strategic area—and its action on related matters. In its report to the Assembly, the Council sets down its conclusions and recommendations on conditions in New Guinea and Nauru.

The session opened with the unanimous election of Mr. Barnes as President and Mr. Corner as Vice-President. The present composition of the Council is: Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States (administering members); and China, France, Liberia and the USSR (non-administering members).

Attending meetings of the Council were the special representative of the administering authority for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Wilfred Goding, and his Micronesian adviser, Vincente N. Santos; the special representative for New Guinea, H. L. R. Niall, and his New Guinean advisers, Vin Tobaining and Kwamala Kalo; and the special representative for Nauru, R. S. Leydin, and his Nauruan adviser, Hammer de Roburt, Head Chief of Nauru.

Trusteeship Council

Urges Realistic

Target Dates

for Pacific Islands

ONE of the most gratifying experiences of the past year in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands was the increased interest in Micronesia by the United States Government as the administering authority and by many private agencies and individuals.

This the Trusteeship Council was told by Wilfred Goding, special representative of the administering authority and High Commissioner of the territory.

That interest, he said, had been demonstrated when the administering authority had obtained new legislation and additional appropriations enabling it to intensify its efforts in all fields. It had been further demonstrated when an outbreak of poliomyelitis had occurred in the Marshall Islands—the disease had been checked before it could spread to other parts of the territory—and when typhoon “Olive” had swept over the Mariana Islands District, leaving damage and destruction in its wake. An act passed in the United States Congress in June 1962 had included the territory among those areas which could receive federal assistance in case of disaster. Had it not been for such action, the Trust Territory Administration would have been “sorely pressed” to provide for emergency needs and permanent repairs arising from the typhoon, Mr. Goding said.

Discussing administrative events of major import during the year, he noted that Saipan District and the Northern Mariana Islands had been unified with the rest of the territory under civilian administration. Such unification long had been sought by the people of the Mariana Islands as well as by recent visiting missions and the Trusteeship Council. Another major event had been the transfer of territorial headquarters from Guam to Saipan, so the provisional capital of the territory was now within the territorial boundaries.

The political development program had been speeded up considerably, Mr. Goding said. The Council of Micronesia had, for the first time, met within the territory's boundaries and had decided that a true legislative body should be established as soon as possible. With that end in view, the Council had set up a drafting committee to begin preliminary work on drafting a constitution and had adopted a territorial flag in order to provide the territory with a symbol of unity and identity. Much remained to be done, but he was confident that an effective legislative organ would be functioning "well before 1965." Political progress continued also on the municipal and district level.

In the economic field, the most significant event had been the signing of an agreement with a major United States food company for establishing a commercial fishery industry in the Palau District. Important advances had been made in transportation; air-field construction was being accelerated; and road improvements had continued, in some cases through community-directed efforts and in others as part of major construction programs.

In education, Mr. Goding said major emphasis was being placed on greatly expanded support of public elementary education. Of the present year's budget of \$15 million, more than \$4 million was being used to construct classrooms and housing units for approximately 140 United States elementary school teachers. A crash program of classroom construction, teacher housing and teacher recruitment was in full swing.

Micronesian Official Heard

At the invitation of the President, Vincente N. Santos, President of the Marianas District Legislature, also addressed the Council. Micronesians, he said, were very conscious of the functions and activities of the Trusteeship Council; also of the need for peace and of the United Nations role in the preservation of peace, especially since the trust territory had been a major theatre of fighting in the Second World War.

Noting that education was vital for a better living, he said more and more young men and women all over the territory were interested in getting higher education. To meet the need, the territorial administration had increased the number of scholarships this year; district congresses were also appropriating funds for the same purpose. Many Micronesians now held

important positions at district centres and at administrative headquarters in Saipan; each district had a Micronesian political affairs officer. Social conditions were progressing rapidly, and many business enterprises, large and small, were helping to boost the economy.

After the opening statements, members of the Council asked questions on various phases of development in the territory, and answers were given by Mr. Goding and Sidney R. Yates of the United States.

Miss Angie Brooks, of Liberia, the first speaker in the general debate, said that once again it had to be noted that damage claims by the inhabitants had not been settled. The visiting mis-

sion in 1961 had received many representations regarding those claims. The human aspect of the problem, she felt, should be the immediate concern of the administering authority and other members of the Council. Settlement of claims by arbitration, she considered, would ensure satisfaction to all concerned.

On another aspect, Miss Brooks felt the administering authority should have made more rapid progress in the political field; she hoped it would intensify its efforts to have an effective legislative body functioning in the territory without delay. She welcomed the United States statement, made in the course of replies to questions, that independence would be

Nuclear Testing in the Pacific Subject of Ex-

As the Trusteeship Council began its review of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Vladimir Brykin, of the USSR, referring to newspaper reports regarding French plans for nuclear testing in the Pacific, sought information from the United States delegation on the attitude of the inhabitants of the trust territory toward such tests.

Wilfred Goding, special representative of the administering authority, said he had heard no expression of opinion regarding such tests. Sidney R. Yates, of the United States, suggested that the subject was irrelevant to the item under discussion.

Mr. Brykin then observed that the proposed tests had been mentioned in French and United States newspapers and that the Australian Government had made an "energetic protest," and, so far as he could remember, the New Zealand Government had also expressed a "negative attitude." The fact that the administering authority surprisingly had not drawn attention to the matter was, he suggested, "a glaring exhibition of neglect" of the interests of the people of the trust territory.

Frank H. Corner, of New Zealand, intervened to say that he considered a great part of the Soviet statement irrelevant. New Zealand was disturbed about press reports regarding tests which might be carried out in the next two years or so, but such reports had disclosed that

the tests would take place at least 5,000 to 6,000 miles from the trust territory—south of the equator, not north of it. He hoped that they would not take place, for his country disliked all nuclear testing.

Mr. Corner charged that the fallout from USSR tests in Siberia in 1961 had reached the northern Pacific where the trust territory was situated. Those, "the largest and dirtiest series of tests," had started the new series "which alarmed us."

Michel de Camaret, of France, suggested that the Council was digressing; the questions raised and the answers given had nothing to do with the matter before the Council.

Declaring that the people of the trust territory were opposed to all kinds of testing, Mr. Yates said the United States had been making "very strong" efforts to obtain a test ban but had been consistently obstructed by the Soviet Union. He wondered why the subject was being pursued. "The person who seeks equity certainly does not come before us with clean hands," he observed.

Mr. Brykin labeled the United States statement as "unworthy of the representative of a great power." The Council's task was not to discuss disarmament. He understood the concern of the representative of New Zealand. However, reference to Soviet tests and to the moratorium on tests had no place in the Council's deliberations. The Soviet

come one of the issues for future consideration by the people of the islands. Dudley McCarthy, of Australia, observed that the United States was building wisely from the bottom upwards, from the district councils, through evolutionary process, to a meaningful territorial legislature. The United States did well, he felt, to be wary of setting a target date for attainment of self-government or independence for the territory, for the people were not a substance to be forced into a mold shaped from circumstances of life and evolutionary processes elsewhere in the world. Physical factors of the area, as well as the lack of training and skills of the people and uncertain markets,

might have posed difficulties for the administration in its task of developing a modern economy.

Cecil E. King, of the United Kingdom, said the United States Government deserved full credit for the onslaught it had made on the problems of the area. He hoped the new legislative body would be in operation next year and welcomed steps already taken to foster the unity of the people.

He was impressed with the increased figures for expenditure in the territory and welcomed the progress being made in full accord with the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement. He was confident that the coming months would see the rate of progress accelerated.

Vladimir Brykin, of the USSR, said that 16 years had elapsed since the United States had taken over administration of the territory. The United States was a colonial power, in both form and substance, with territories in both Latin America and the Pacific. It had said it acknowledged the declaration on the ending of colonialism; but was it implementing it with respect to the Pacific Islands?

It had ignored Trusteeship Council decisions regarding the setting of a realistic target date for the independence of the territory and with respect to just compensation and arbitration for land claims, he charged. No genuine progress had been made toward giving the local people a definite voice in administering the territory. The Council, he suggested, should recommend that the Security Council consider the whole question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Replying, Mr. Yates emphasized that the United States was not a colonial power. His delegation, he said, had cooperated fully with the resolutions and recommendations of the Trusteeship Council and would continue to do so.

Territorial Consciousness

Chiping H. C. Kiang, of China, stressed the importance of developing political associations on a territory-wide basis in formulating territorial consciousness and also the need for a sound approach to self-government.

He hoped that absorption of a large percentage of Micronesians in the administration would not have the effect of expanding bureaucracy at the expense of other fields of development, and said it could be serious if most of the trained people were concentrated in offices at administrative centres and not assigned to outlying is-



High Commissioner Goding

lands, where they could assist the inhabitants.

Mr. Kiang urged a greater diversification of the economy and stated that dependence on one or two cash crops, for which markets were unpredictable, was causing concern.

Michel de Camaret, of France, said the report of the administering authority indicated that there was a clear acceleration in development. His delegation was also gratified to note the increased interest of the United States Congress in the area.

He welcomed the constitutional advances made with respect to the Micronesian Council and expressed hope that the national legislature would be established before 1965. He praised the achievements of the administering authority in the field of health.

Frank H. Corner, of New Zealand, said the problem in Micronesia was that of creating one nation out of a people having nine separate languages, inhabiting 2,000 islands and spread over three million square miles of ocean. Such tasks, he said, required a formidable effort and expenditure; the administering authority was approaching them in an impressive way.

He contrasted the position of the Pacific Islands with that of the "Soviet Union's Pacific territories" of South Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands, whose "non-Russian indigenous population," he said, was so effectively blanketed from the United Nations and the outside world that "not even a muffled football is heard."

This statement drew a protest from Mr. Brykin, who objected to Mr. Corner's reference, in the Trusteeship Council, to Soviet territory. He viewed the statement as an attempt to help the United States by resorting to

Trusteeship Council

Union had been forced to carry out tests because of the policy of the United States.

After further exchanges, discussion on the issue was terminated at the suggestion of the President.

Later Mr. Brykin returned to the subject when he said the Council should demand that the United States influence its military allies to eliminate any new danger which might threaten the peoples of the Pacific. The United States, he charged, was using the trust territory to transform the entire Pacific basin into its own internal sea and had created a "sealed-off zone" around which it had lowered "an iron curtain" to protect the territory from the national liberation movements of Asia and Africa. The Council should call on the United States immediately to set realistic target dates, which would result in the transfer of power to the indigenous inhabitants.

Speaking for the United States, Mr. Yates reiterated that the people of the trust territory were opposed to all nuclear testing, whether by France, the USSR or other nations. The United States had always cooperated fully with the Council and would continue to do so.

Mr. de Camaret, on a point of order, stressed that the Soviet representative had reverted with regard to France to a question which was irrelevant and had no foundation in fact.

"slanderous allegations" against the Soviet Union.

In response, Mr. Corner said the point was that annexation of the islands had taken place in the twentieth century, to which Mr. Brykin reiterated that Mr. Corner had no right to refer to what was Soviet territory.

In his closing statement, Mr. Goding expressed appreciation for comments made on progress achieved, and he praised the willingness of Micronesian leaders to assume the responsibilities of democratic self-government. He also mentioned steps being taken toward diversification of the economy and the provision of additional opportunities for higher education.

Mr. Yates was gratified that the "strenuous efforts" of his Government on behalf of the people of the territory had been recognized by Council members. However, not a single commendation had come from the Soviet representative. The USSR had sought to indict the United States as a colonial power, yet its record was one of progressive divestment of territory, as in the case of the Philippines, and of helping the Micronesians toward self-determination in accordance with the Charter. He suggested that the record of the United States be compared with that of the USSR, which had "little faith in the Trusteeship System" and had "never resorted to it."

In reply, Mr. Brykin said his delegation was not influenced by a feeling of preconceived hostility toward the United States. The point of departure was determined by the decisions of the United Nations and the tasks placed before the Trusteeship Council by those decisions.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In its conclusions and recommendations, the Council welcomed the implementation by the administering authority of many recommendations made by the Council's 1961 visiting mission. However, it noted that certain other recommendations had not yet been fully implemented. It also stated its view that increased budgetary appropriations for the territory would accelerate political, economic and social progress.

The Council expressed regret that claims for compensation for war damage suffered by the inhabitants had still not been settled, and that legislation submitted to the eighty-seventh United States Congress, providing for compensation for victims of fallout from United States nuclear and thermonuclear tests in the Pacific, had not been enacted. It hoped legislation cur-

rently before Congress would bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

Dealing with political advancement in the territory, the Council recognized the principal task of the administering authority as being "to create a nation out of the widely separated districts and peoples." Welcoming plans for the establishment of a legislative body for the territory before 1965, the Council expressed hope that such a body might be in operation "during the course of the coming year." Unification of the territory under a single civilian administration, the establishment of the provisional capital and the adoption of a territorial flag were welcomed.

The Council noted with satisfaction the existing practice of appointment of Micronesians to executive posts. However, it observed that few hold "the highest posts" in government.

In the economic field, the Council welcomed the establishment of a survey mission with broad terms of reference, including planning of economic development. It expressed support for measures to develop local industries; noted progress in developing new crops and improved communications; and voiced satisfaction with improvements in health and medical facilities and the educational system.

On the question of ultimate self-government or independence, the Council reaffirmed the need for the administering authority to establish realistic target dates reflecting a proper sense of urgency for the rapid and planned advancement of the territory, in consultation with representative local organs of public opinion.

The Council also approved arrangements for sending a visiting mission to the territory in 1964.

By a vote of five against to one in favor, with two abstentions, it rejected a draft resolution introduced by the USSR to recommend that the Security Council examine the situation in the territory "at the earliest possible time and in any event before the beginning of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly" on the ground that "the time has come to examine the question . . . in the Security Council, the United Nations organ having final responsibility for the Pacific Islands."

On the subject of land claims on behalf of the inhabitants of Kwajalein against the United States Government, the Trusteeship Council urged the United States to expedite a settlement "in keeping with the concern expressed" in previous Council resolutions on the subject. It referred to compensation for land used for United States military purposes.

Council Hopes For Quick Implementation of Political Reforms for New Guinea

OPENING the discussion on the Australian-administered Trust Territory of New Guinea, Dudley McCarthy, Australia's representative on the Trusteeship Council, gave an "outline picture" of some of the major developments in the territory and of what was being done to bring it to independence in accordance with the terms of the United Nations Charter, the Trusteeship Agreement and the "repeatedly expressed aims" of his own Government.

Mr. McCarthy said that a national forum which had not existed there before was taking shape in the territory, but the task was not yet completed. He also referred to political reforms due to come into effect early next year which would involve the establishment of a parliament, elected by adult franchise, based on a common role. Race relations, he said, were harmonious.

The administering authority was prepared to seek the advice and impressions of its African friends in dealing with the problems of New Guinea; but the problems were not common, and the solutions not necessarily identical, for the history of Africa was not the history of New Guinea.

Furnishing details of the political reforms to be introduced, H. L. R. Niall, the special representative of the administering authority, said that early next year a new parliament, which would be called the "House of Assembly," would be inaugurated, based on recommendations by a select committee of the territory's Legislative Council. The reports of that committee had been approved by the parent Legislative Council and, in May of this year, by the Australian Government.

As recommended by the committee, the new parliament would have 64 members, of whom 44 must be elected from the indigenous people. To meet the "strongly expressed wish" of the people themselves, the parliament would also include 10 seats especially reserved for non-indigenous candidates who would be elected on the same common roll.