

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON



October 5, 1953

My dear Captain Winfrey:

As you know, Administering Authorities of trust territories are sometimes required by the Trusteeship Council to furnish it with special information on the action which they may have taken in response to its resolutions on certain petitions.

This requirement stems from General Assembly resolution 552(VI), operative paragraph 2, and is embodied in rule 90, paragraph 6, of the Council's rules of procedure - but in a negative form. Consequently, in order to discover on which resolutions the Council may have called for such special information, it is necessary to peruse the introduction to each of the reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions and to eliminate those resolutions on which the Committee recommended that no special information should be required. The remainder are those resolutions on which special information is required. This is a somewhat roundabout procedure, and one whereby it is easy, through inadvertence, to overlook a resolution on which the Council will expect to receive in due course a report from the Administering Authority concerned.

In order to keep its own records straight, the Secretariat of the United Nations has drawn up a note of those resolutions adopted at the Council's twelfth session upon which the Council will expect to receive special information in due course from the Administering Authority concerned. The note contains also an indication of the nature of the information required.

The Secretariat has sent the Department of State a few copies of the note, with the thought that it might be of assistance to those who are responsible for keeping the records straight in this matter.

The Trusteeship Council has framed no recommendations concerning the manner and form in which such special information should be furnished to it. The Secretariat informs us that it has always assumed that the Council does not expect to receive the information before the submission

of

Captain J.A. Winfrey,  
Director, Administration and Plans Division,  
Department of the Navy.

of the next annual report on the Territory concerned. Such information might, therefore, be contained in the next annual report on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands or it could be submitted in a separate document just prior to the opening of the Council's fourteenth session (June 1954) or it could be included in the remarks of the special representative when the Council takes up consideration of the Territory at that session. I am, therefore, sending you a copy of the Secretariat's note, along with the Petitions Committee Report to which it relates, for the assistance of officers responsible for preparing the next presentation of information on the Trust Territory to the Trusteeship Council. I am sending a similar letter to Mr. Strand, Director of the Office of Territories, Department of the Interior.

Sincerely yours,

*Robert R. Robbins*  
Robert R. Robbins

Acting Director, Office of  
Dependent Area Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Secretariat's Note.
2. Copy of Petitions Committee Report.