



REPORT
OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

VOLUME IV

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 23 (A/7623/Rev.1)

UNITED NATIONS

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UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1974

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

The report of the Special Committee is divided into four volumes. The present volume contains chapters XXIII to XXXIII of the report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly, which were previously issued as documents A/7623/Add.7 and 8. Chapters I to V are contained in volume I; chapters VI to VIII are found in volume II and chapters IX to XXII are in volume III. A list of contents of all the chapters appears in each volume.

For documents A/7200 and addenda mentioned in the present report see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes*, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/7200/Rev.1).

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CHAPTER XXIII

ANTIGUA, DOMINICA, GRENADA, ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA, ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting, on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. At its 661st meeting, on 19 March, on the proposal of the representative of Mali, and following statements by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, Syria, the Ivory Coast, the United States of America, Norway, Italy and India, the Special Committee, having regard to current developments concerning the Territory, decided, in modification of its previous decision, to take up St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla as a matter of urgency in plenary meetings, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting (A/AC.109/PV.661).
3. The Special Committee considered the item at its 658th 660th to 663rd, 665th, 712th, 718th and 719th meetings, between 4 March and 21 October.
4. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
5. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territories.
6. The Special Committee also had before it a letter dated 27 August 1969 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning a resolution adopted by the Legislative Council of St. Vincent on 24 July 1969 (A/AC.109/341).
7. In addition, the Special Committee had before it the following written petitions concerning the Territory:

Antigua

(a) Two letters dated 10 February and 23 April 1969 from Mr. McChesney D.F. George (A/AC.109/PET.1047 and Add.1).

Grenada

(b) Two letters dated 23 April and 10 September 1969 from Mr. W.R.L. Friday, President, Grenada Farmers' Union; the latter communication contained a request for a hearing (A/AC.109/PET.1103 and Add.1).

St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

(c) Two letters dated 14 and 18 March 1969 from Mr. Jeremiah Gumbs, the former communication containing a request for a hearing (A/AC.109/PET.1044 and Add.1).

(d) Two letters dated 15 November 1968 and 6 January 1969 from Mr. Roger Fisher (A/AC.109/PET.1045).

(e) Letter dated 11 March 1969 from Mr. Ronald Webster (A/AC.109/PET.1061).

(f) Cable dated 18 March 1969 from Mrs. Dolores Landry and Mr. Lawrence Landry (A/AC.109/PET.1062).

(g) Cable dated 19 March 1969 from Professor Leonard Ornstein (A/AC.109/PET.1063).

(h) Cable dated 19 March 1969 from Miss Una Squires (A/AC.109/PET.1064).

(i) Cable dated 19 March 1969 from Mr. Tim Hector, Chairman, Antigua Opposition Party (A/AC.109/PET.1065).

(j) Communication dated 19 March 1969 from Mr. C.R. Charles (A/AC.109/PET.1066).

(k) Cable dated 20 March 1969 from the President of the Students' Guild, St. Augustine Campus, University of the West Indies (A/AC.109/PET.1067).

(l) Letter dated 20 March 1969 from Mr. Tawani Wakawa Shoush (A/AC.109/PET.1068).

(m) Letter dated 20 March 1969 from Mr. Joe Wright (A/AC.109/PET.1069).

(n) Letter dated 23 March 1969 from Mr. F.W. Boon (A/AC.109/PET.1070).

(o) Cable dated 30 March 1969 from Mr. Charles Kindle, African Affairs United Negro Protest Committee (A/AC.109/PET.1071).

(p) Letter dated 26 July 1969 from Mr. William V. Herbert, Chairman, and the Secretary, People's Action Movement (PAM) of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla (A/AC.109/PET.1114).

St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St. Vincent

(q) Letter dated 25 March 1969 from Mr. Frank Rojas, representative of the People's Political Party (PPP) of St. Vincent (A/AC.109/PET.1072).

St. Vincent

(r) Two cables dated 8 February and 19 March and two letters dated 13 January and 3 July 1969 from Mr. E.T. Joshua, Leader of the Opposition and President of the People's Political Party (PPP) of St. Vincent, and four letters dated 19 February, 8 March, 19 May and 24 July 1969 from Mr. Frank Rojas, representative of the PPP (A/AC.109/PET.1043 and Add.1-5); two of these communications (A/AC.109/PET.1043 and Add.4) contained requests for hearings.

8. At its 658th, 660th and 712th meetings, on 4 and 17 March and 12 September, the Special Committee, by adopting the 135th, 136th and 147th reports of the Sub-Committee on Petitions (A/AC.109/L.534, A/AC.109/L.540 and A/AC.109/L.590), decided to grant the requests for hearing contained in the petitions referred to paragraph 7 above.

9. Following these decisions, Mr. E.T. Joshua, Leader of the Opposition and President of the People's Political Party (PPP) of St. Vincent, and Mr. Frank Rojas, representative of the PPP, made statements and replied to questions put to them by the representatives of Syria, Madagascar and the Ivory Coast at the 658th meeting on 4 March (A/AC.109/PV.658). At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/PV.658). At the 660th meeting, on 17 March, Mr. Jeremiah Gumbs made a statement and replied to a question put to him by the representative of the Ivory Coast (A/AC.109/PV.660). At the 662nd meeting, on 19 March, Mr. Gumbs made a further statement and replied to questions put to him by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Ivory Coast and Madagascar (A/AC.109/PV.662). Mr. Gumbs was heard again by the Special Committee at its 663rd meeting, on 21 March. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Tunisia, Ecuador, Iran, the Ivory Coast, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mali and Syria (A/AC.109/PV.663). At the 712th meeting, on 12 September, Mr. W.R.L. Friday, President of the Grenada Farmers' Union, made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.712).

10. At the 663rd meeting, on 21 March, following statements by the representatives of Tunisia, Ecuador, Iran, the Ivory Coast, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Mali and Syria, the Chairman submitted for the Special Committee's consideration a draft consensus concerning St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla (A/AC.109/PV.663). At the same meeting the Committee Secretary made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.663) concerning the financial implications of the proposal contained in the draft consensus.

11. At the same meeting, following statements by the representative of the United States and by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.663), the Special Committee adopted the draft consensus referred to in paragraph 10 above. The text of the consensus is set out in paragraph 17 below.

12. On 21 March, the text of the consensus concerning St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

13. At the 718th meeting, on 20 October, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.718), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territories (see annex II to this chapter).

14. The Special Committee considered the report at its 718th and 719th meetings, on 20 and 21 October. Statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/PV.718 and 719), the Ivory Coast, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Iran, Mali, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela (A/AC.109/PV.718) and India (A/AC.109/PV.719).

15. At its 719th meeting, on 21 October, following statements in explanation of vote by the representatives of Norway, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States and Italy (A/AC.109/PV.719), the Special Committee adopted, by a vote of 18 to none with 3 abstentions, sub-paragraph (3) of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of Sub-Committee III. The Committee then adopted the report as a whole, by a vote of 18 to 4, and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 18 below. At the same meeting, a further statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/PV.719).

16. On 21 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISIONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

17. The text of the consensus, accepted by the Special Committee at its 663rd meeting, on 21 March, to which reference is made in paragraph 11 above, is reproduced below:

The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, having heard the petitioner on Anguilla and gravely concerned by the landing of British troops in Anguilla, deems it necessary to send urgently a visiting group of the Special Committee to the Territory and requests the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to provide all necessary facilities for this purpose. The Special Committee further decided to keep developments concerning this item under review.

18. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 719th meeting, on 21 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 15 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territories, in particular those adopted at its

617th meeting on 3 July 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination and independence.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territories.

(4) The Special Committee regrets the refusal of the administering Power to co-operate with the Sub-Committee in its efforts to obtain information concerning developments in the Territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St. Lucia.

(5) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territories.

(6) The Special Committee recalls its consensus with respect to the Territory of Anguilla, adopted at its 663rd meeting on 21 March 1969, in which it stressed inter alia the necessity of sending urgently a visiting group to the Territory and requested the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to provide all necessary facilities for this purpose; it regrets that the administering Power did not respond or accede to this urgent request.

(7) The Special Committee takes note of the recent developments in St. Vincent and requests the administering Power to receive immediately a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory and allow the people of the Territory free expression of views on their future status before any decision concerning the new constitutional arrangements is made.

(8) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the peoples of the Territories, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence in accordance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

(9) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the peoples of the Territories exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(10) The Special Committee, considering that the information at its disposal does not enable it to assess the actual situation in the Territories or the degree of general awareness of the people concerning the exercise of their right of self-determination, once again urges the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territories and to extend to the mission full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.569 and Add.1-6.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent have been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territories are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territories are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations concerning these Territories adopted on 3 July 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, noted with regret the attitude of the administering Power, which had refused to co-operate with the Sub-Committee in its efforts to obtain more complete information concerning the developments in the Territories; reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination while emphasizing once again that the administering Power should ensure that the people of the Territories were informed of the various possibilities available to them in accordance with the Declaration; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the peoples of the Territories, without any conditions and reservations; requested the administering Power to promote the development of closer ties among these Territories through the building of a common political, economic and social infrastructure in accordance with the wishes of the population; recalling resolution 2357 (XXII), in particular its decision, according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status", the Special Committee reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the rights of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the peoples of the Territories were enabled to exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restriction and in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; expressed regret that the administering Power had not yet agreed to the sending of a visiting mission to the Territories and reaffirmed that such a visit would be useful and necessary; and urged the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territories and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla,

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chapter XXI, paras. 308 to 321; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chapter XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chapter XXIII, para. 1033.

^{2/} A/7200 (Part I), chapter I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVI, section II.

St. Lucia and St. Vincent, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORIES

INTRODUCTION

General

4. Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla form part of the Leeward Islands. They lie roughly midway in the arc of the West Indian islands stretching from Jamaica to Trinidad, with the Caribbean Sea to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada form part of the Windward Islands. There are a number of smaller islands called the Grenadines which lie between St. Vincent and Grenada; some of these are administered as part of St. Vincent and some as part of Grenada.

5. The principal features of government common to all Territories are set out in this section. Additional information is given in the separate section on each Territory which follows.

Negotiations for federation and associated status

6. Following the dissolution of the Federation of the West Indies in 1962, the representatives of the Governments of Barbados, Antigua, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada began discussions among themselves and with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the formation of a federation to be known as "The West Indies Federation". Late in 1962, Grenada opened discussions with Trinidad and Tobago on a possible association, but the remaining seven Territories decided to go ahead with plans for a federation. Negotiations continued until April 1965, when the Chief Minister of Antigua announced that Antigua would not join the proposed federation. In August 1965, the Premier of Barbados announced that Barbados would seek separate independence.

7. In December 1965, the United Kingdom issued a White Paper in which it proposed a new constitutional status for six Territories, namely Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Under the proposals, each

Territory would become a state in association with the United Kingdom, with control of its internal affairs and with the right to amend its own constitution, including the power to end this association and to declare itself independent; the Government of the United Kingdom would retain powers relating to external affairs and defence of the Territories.

8. The proposals were considered by the legislatures in each of the Territories early in 1966 and draft constitutions were prepared. A series of constitutional conferences then took place in London between 28 February 1966 and 26 May 1966, at which agreement was reached on the new status of association with the United Kingdom and on the general outlines of new constitutions for each Territory.^{3/} During the latter half of 1966, the agreements reached at the London conferences were ratified by the local legislatures. On 2 February 1967, the legislation paving the way for the necessary orders-in-council to be issued was passed by the United Kingdom House of Commons.

9. On 16 January 1967, the dates on which the new Constitutions and associated status would come into force were announced as follows: Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, 27 February 1967; Dominica and St. Lucia, 1 March 1967; Grenada, 3 March 1967. On 2 February 1967, it was announced that St. Vincent would become an associated Territory by 1 June 1967; however, the granting of associated status was subsequently postponed in view of the political developments in the Territory (see A/AC.109/L.569/Add.6).

10. On 15 December 1967, at the 1752nd meeting of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that the status of an Associated State incorporated as one of its major features what was called in the Charter "a full measure of self-government". It followed that the responsibilities of his Government under Chapter XI of the Charter were fully and finally discharged and information concerning the Associated States would not be transmitted in future.^{4/}

Regional economic developments

11. A new currency board, the East Caribbean Currency Authority, was established in 1965 under the East Caribbean Currency Agreement made on 18 January 1965 between the Governments of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. On 6 October 1965, the Authority issued new currency notes which are now in circulation in all the Territories concerned.^{5/}

12. The agreement establishing the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) became effective on 1 May 1968. The original signatories to the agreement were Antigua, Guyana, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. On 1 July 1968, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent joined CARIFTA, followed in August 1968 by Jamaica and Montserrat.

^{3/} For further details see A/6700/Rev.1, Chap. XXIII, paras. 133 to 141.

^{4/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Fourth Committee, 1752nd meeting.

^{5/} The new unit of currency is the East Caribbean dollar (\$EC); \$EC1.00 equals \$US.50.

1. ANTIGUA^{6/}

13. The Territory of Antigua lies in the northern group of the Leeward Islands chain; it is approximately forty miles north of Guadeloupe. The Territory comprises the island of Antigua and its dependences, Barbuda, which lies twenty-five miles to the north, and the uninhabited island of Redonda, which lies twenty-five miles to the south-west of the main island. The total area of the Territory is 170.5 square miles: Antigua has an area of 108 square miles, Barbuda 62 square miles and Redonda 0.5 square miles. The islands lie in the hurricane zone and are subject to severe droughts.

14. At the last census, taken in 1960, the population was 54,304, almost all of whom were of African or mixed descent. St. John's, the capital, then had a population of about 21,600. At the end of 1963, the population was estimated at 61,664, compared with 59,291 in 1962 and 57,568 in 1961. Codrington, the only town in Barbuda, has a population of about 1,145.

Constitutional and political developments

15. Constitution. Under the new Constitution, which came into force on 27 February 1967, the basic government structure is as follows:

16. Governor. The Governor is appointed by the Queen. Except where otherwise provided, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a Minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet.

17. Legislature. The Legislature consists of the Queen, a Senate and a House of Representatives. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of Antigua, subject to the assent of the Governor.

18. The Senate consists of ten members appointed by the Governor: seven on the advice of the Premier and three after consultation with the Premier. Whenever there is an opposition represented in the House of Representatives, it is given representation through one or more of the three latter members. The Senate elects a president from among those of its members who are not ministers or parliamentary secretaries. The Senate has power to delay money bills for up to one month and any other bills passed by the House of Representatives for up to two years.

19. The House of Representatives consists of a minimum of ten members elected under universal adult suffrage in single-member constituencies. The House elects a Speaker who, if he is not already a member of the House, becomes one by virtue of his office. If the Attorney-General is not an elected member of the House, he becomes one ex officio.

20. Cabinet. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and other ministers. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears to him to be best able

^{6/} The information on this Territory has been derived from published reports.

to command a majority in the House of Representatives. The other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier; at least one of them must be a senator.

21. Judiciary. The law of the Territory is the Common Law of England and Statute Law. The Attorney-General is the principal law officer.

22. The West Indies Associated States Supreme Court is a superior court of record. It consists of a Court of Appeal comprising the chief justice as president and two justices of appeal and a High Court of Justice comprising the chief justice, appointed by the Queen, and six puisne judges.

23. The Court of Summary Jurisdiction, presided over by a puisne judge, deals with civil cases involving sums of up to \$720. Magistrate courts deal with summary and civil offences involving sums of not more than \$200 in contract and \$100 in tort.

24. Public service. The appointment, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is, with certain exceptions, vested in the Public Service and Police Service Commission.

25. Electoral system. The members of the House of Representatives are elected in single-member constituencies under universal adult suffrage. During the first five years, however, the Governor, on the advice of the Premier, may declare that two or more existing constituencies shall be two-member constituencies until additional constituencies are created through the operation of the procedures laid down in the Constitution (see also paragraph 28 below). Under these procedures, a constituency commission, appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier, is charged with reviewing the number and boundaries of the constituencies at intervals of not less than two and not more than five years.

26. A Commonwealth citizen who has attained the age of twenty-one years is qualified for membership of the Legislature if he was born and is domiciled in Antigua, or if he is domiciled in Antigua and has been resident there for at least five years. A person is qualified to be registered as an elector if he has attained the age of twenty-one years and is a Commonwealth citizen who was born in Antigua and is resident there, or is a Commonwealth citizen who has resided there for a period of three years.

27. Political parties and elections. Until 1967 there were two political parties in the Territory: the Antigua Labour Party (ALP) and the Antigua-Barbuda Democratic Movement (ABDM) (see also para. 29 below). The last general elections were held in the Territory on 29 November and 15 December 1965. Twenty-five candidates stood for election, including five independents. The ALP retained all ten seats and thus became the only party represented in the Legislative Council. Mr. V.C. Bird, the leader of the ALP became Premier. During the campaigning for the election, which was reported to have been "heated", the ALP called for "independence for Antigua along the lines of the Cook Islands".

28. Recent political developments. Demonstrations and strikes which took place in the Territory in February and March 1968 and which led the Governor to declare a state of emergency in the Territory on 18 March 1968, ended on 20 March 1968 with an agreement between the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (ATLU), the Antigua Workers

Union (AWU), and the Government.^{7/} The agreement was followed by an order of the Governor which changed four single-member electoral districts into two-member constituencies; consequently the number of seats in the House of Representatives was increased from ten to fourteen, and new by-elections were announced for 22 August 1968.

29. Meanwhile, the Antigua and Barbuda Democratic Movement (ABDM) and the Antigua Progressive Movement (APM), which was formed in October 1967 by the outgoing members of the Premier's union (the ATLU), have merged into a single party called the Progressive Labour Movement (PLM). The new party received active support from the AWU (which was registered on 31 May 1967).

30. At the beginning of May 1968, the Premier (Mr. Bird) resigned as president of the ATLU, a post which he had held for the past twenty-five years. At the same time there was a reshuffle of the Cabinet.

31. On 22 August 1968, by-elections were held in four constituencies: St. Mary's, St. George, St. John's City (north) and St. John's City (south). The four new seats were won by PLM candidates, thus creating for the first time an elected opposition in the House of Representatives. After the elections, the PLM called upon the Government to resign and hold a general election before 1970. On 23 October 1968, three members of the Senate resigned and on the following day, the PLM submitted to the Governor the names of its three nominees for the seats. On 3 December 1968, the PLM sent a letter to the ruling ALP, calling for "immediate general elections".

32. Move for secession of Barbuda. In a letter dated 11 December 1967, addressed to the Governor of Antigua, Mr. McChesney George, the elected representative for Barbuda, resigned as Minister without Portfolio. The letter stated in part: "I do not feel myself able to continue in the service of a Government whose policy is to suppress the free expression of thoughts and views of the people because they happen to be a minority group."

33. On 5 March 1968, Mr. McChesney George presented a petition to the Warden of Barbuda, Mr. Albert Lewis, for transmission to the Queen on behalf of the people of Barbuda. The petition alleged that Barbudians had been neglected socially and economically by the Government of Antigua, and asserted Barbuda's right to internal autonomy. In June 1968, the United Kingdom Government replied to the petition stating that it would not entertain the secession move unless it came from the Government of Antigua. On 27 June 1968, the House of Representatives turned down a formal request, presented by Mr. McChesney George, to allow the island of Barbuda to secede from Antigua.

34. On 21 August 1968, the Special Committee heard statements by Mr. McChesney George and by Mr. Russel John, a representative of the Barbudian people in New York (see A/AC.109/SR.628).

35. On 16 January 1969, Mr. McChesney George reiterated his appeal to the Antigua Government "to free the people of Barbuda". He stated inter alia: "There is no water, no electricity, no doctors, and while the Government is spending \$315 per capita in Antigua, Barbudians are living on \$115 per capita."

^{7/} For background information see A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVI, annex I, section II B, paras. 25 to 34.

36. Other developments. There is a United States naval base, located at Coolidge, which employs 150 local staff. The United States also operates the Dow Hill Tracking Station, constructed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); the station was officially opened on 19 April 1968.

Economic conditions

37. General. The Territory has a predominantly agricultural economy, with sugar cane and cotton as the chief crops. The over-dependence on agriculture is lessening as secondary and some new industries, as well as tourism, increase in importance.

38. Land. Land may not be alienated or leased to aliens without the consent of the Government. Except in a few cases, alien occupation of land is confined to leases for not more than ninety-nine years. There is a small amount of Crown land which, when not used for public purposes, may be leased or sold.

39. Water. There are no rivers and only a few springs in the Territory. The climate is drier than that of most of the region and the islands are often subject to severe droughts. A dam is being constructed in the Delaps-Potwork area with a capacity of 1,000 million gallons. Six hotels announced in 1968, that they were going to instal their own desalination plants.

40. Power supply. The public electricity supply is the responsibility of the Electricity, Ice and Cold Storage Department of the Government. At the beginning of 1967 a new \$5 million, 7.2 megawatt power plant at Friars Hill came into operation. After several failures, the plant broke down completely on 23 November 1968, leaving about 75 per cent of the Territory without electricity. Electricity is also supplied by several diesel-electric power stations.

41. Agriculture. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries are the responsibility of the Ministry of Trade, Production and Labour. The total acreage of the Territory is about 69,120, of which more than 18,000 acres are under cultivation. The main crops are sugar and cotton. Severe droughts, especially in 1965 and 1966, affected both sugar and cotton industries. Cotton production has fluctuated considerably. In the four years between 1961/1962 and 1964/1965, exports of clean lint declined steadily as follows: 280,084 pounds; 186,584 pounds; 154,231 pounds; and 98,459 pounds. According to reports, at least 80,000 pounds of the Territory's 1966/1967 cotton crop and the whole of the 1967/1968 crop were still unsold at the beginning of 1969. The sugar crop yielded only 7,716 tons in 1966, as against 14,040 tons in the year preceding, 21,074 tons in 1964 and 27,687 in 1963. This led in July 1966 to the closing of the Territory's only sugar factory; it was reopened early in 1967 under government ownership.

42. Forestry. There are very few forests in the Territory. A programme of reafforestation was started in 1963 in order to protect hillside lands and help soil and water conservation.

43. Fisheries. Inshore fishing is confined mainly to the waters between Antigua and Barbuda, and deep-sea fishing to the areas west and south of the Territory. In Barbuda, fishing is the main industry. The following figures show the volume of the industry during the years 1961 to 1963:

	<u>1961</u>	(pounds) <u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Fish landed	1,685,562	1,664,338	1,606,572
Lobster exported	100,333	105,332	116,887

44. Tourism. The promotion of tourism is the responsibility of the Antigua Tourist Board. The number of tourists visiting the Territory increased from 13,000 in 1958 to 46,118 in 1964, and 60,427 in 1965. In June 1968, the Government signed an agreement with Intercontinental Hotels of the United States for the construction of the Territory's first 300-room luxury hotel.

45. Industry. Industrial activities are largely confined to the secondary processing of local agricultural produce; some progress is being made towards the establishment of consumer and export industries using local and imported raw materials. Secondary industries include production of cotton-seed oil, clean cotton, sugar, rum, corn meal, bran and arrowroot. Other industries include pottery, production of cigarettes and blending and bottling of whiskey.

46. Special concessions have been granted to the producers of petroleum products and cement. Antigua's new \$40 million oil refinery, operated by the West Indies Oil Company, came into operation in May 1967 and represents the Territory's most important industrial project. The refinery is expected to supply nearly all of Guyana's oil requirements except for bunker oil; it will also supply Barbados with products not produced locally, and might export to other West Indian islands. Final output is expected to be 11,000 barrels per day, and will include kerosene, gasoline, propane, butane, diesel fuel, industrial fuel and asphalt.

47. Transport and communications. The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of the 68 miles of main roads and 90 miles of secondary roads in the Territory. There is a narrow-gauge railway (about 49.7 miles), which was used mainly to carry sugar cane to the Antigua Sugar Factory and sugar and molasses from the factory to the wharf.

48. The main port of the Territory is St. John's Harbour; its reconstruction was completed on 31 October 1968, when a new \$10 million deep-water harbour was officially opened. Among the shipping lines using the port are the Harrison Line, Royal Netherlands Line, Compagnie Générale, Trans-Atlantic, Fratelli-Grimaldi Line, Saguenay Shipping Limited, Booth Line, Atlantic Line and West Indies Shipping Service.

49. Coolidge Airport, about six miles north-east of St. John's, was constructed by the United States Army Air Force as a military airfield in 1942 and is now operated by the Antigua Government. The airport has been extensively reconstructed in recent years; it has two runways and is capable of handling international traffic. The airport is used mainly by British West Indian Airways, Caribair, Pan American World Airways, Leeward Islands Air Transport, Air France, Trans-Canada Airways, and British Overseas Airways Corporation. There is a small air strip at Codrington in Barbuda; the Leeward Islands Air Transport Company operates scheduled and chartered flights from Antigua.

50. A new, island-wide automatic telephone system, installed by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., at a cost of \$4 million, was inaugurated in May 1969. The company also operates international telegraph, telephone and telex services.

51. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1962 to 1965:

		(dollars)	
	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Domestic exports</u>	<u>Re-exports</u>
1962	21,335,229	4,343,237	936,326
1963	23,004,641	6,278,280	862,511
1964	23,054,000	3,677,114	984,875
1965	28,339,541	2,378,008	3,962,329

The main imports are food-stuffs, fuel, wood and timber, and clothing. The main exports include sugar, molasses and cotton lint.

52. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1965 to 1967:

		(dollars)
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1965	9,160,141	9,116,500
1966	11,570,582	10,311,533
1967	13,759,496	12,632,803

The main sources of revenue are customs duties, government commercial undertakings, rates, taxes and other duties. The main forms of taxation are income tax, trade tariffs and excise duties.

53. There are seven major banks in the Territory: Antigua Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bank of Nova Scotia, Barclays Bank D.C.O., Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, The Royal Bank of Canada and The Antigua-Barbuda Savings Bank. On 28 February 1969, Antigua's seventh bank - the Virgin Islands National Bank - officially started operations. The bank is a subsidiary of the Pennsylvania Banking and Trust Company of Philadelphia (United States).

54. United Nations Technical Assistance. United Nations technical assistance to Antigua has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US166,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US45,000 annually for the period 1969/1972. The Territory's programme for the same

period includes the services of experts in vocational training (in hotel catering services), telecommunications and postal administration.

Social conditions

55. Labour. The labour force is estimated to be one third of the population. Almost half of the Territory's workers are employed in the sugar and cotton industries. In Barbuda, a major part of the population is employed in the fishing industry.

56. There are four trade unions registered in the Territory: the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (ATLU); the Antigua United Port Seamen and General Workers' Union; the Antigua Workers' Union (AWU); and the Antigua Employers' Federation.

57. At the beginning of February 1967, an amendment to the Trade Dispute Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council providing for the establishment of a seven-member standing court to deal with all industrial labour disputes. The court is comprised of a president named by the Governor and three members each named by the ATLU and the Employers' Federation.

58. Cost of living. The cost of such items as food, entertainment, fuel, lighting, housing, household items and services has risen considerably since 1960. The Government controls the retail prices of certain items of food, meat and fish.

59. Public health. There is one general hospital (the Holberton Hospital) with 180 beds; the Fiennes Institute for the aged and infirm, with 150 beds; the Mental Hospital, with 200 beds; and the Pearn's Leper Home, with 40 beds. There are six medical districts in the Territory, each with one district medical officer and sixteen dispensaries. There are also two dental officers. Expenditure on medical and allied services for 1966 amounted to \$1,718,919, compared with \$1,391,291 in 1965, and \$1,334,095 in 1964.

Educational conditions

60. Education is compulsory and free between the ages of five and fourteen years. There are thirty-seven government primary schools and nine private primary schools, with a total enrolment of about 17,000 pupils. There are nine secondary schools: - 3 government, 4 grant-aided and 2 private - with a total enrolment of about 3,000 students. There is also a Teachers' Training College with a capacity of fifty teachers. On 19 November 1968, the Government opened a new \$40,000 industrial school for the blind in St. John's. Expenditure on education for 1966 was \$1,718,919, compared with \$983,565 in 1965.

2. DOMINICA^{1/}

General

61. Dominica is the largest and most northerly of the group of islands known as the Windward Islands; it is 29 miles long and 16 miles wide, with a total area of 289.8 square miles. It is located approximately 220 miles north-west of Barbados, and 950 miles north of Trinidad. The island is very mountainous with a maximum elevation of 4,747 feet.

62. At the last census, taken in 1960, the population was 59,916, almost all of whom were African or mixed descent. The estimated population in 1967 was 69,420, compared with 68,501 in 1966, 66,900 in 1965 and 65,165 in 1964. The main centres of population are Roseau, the capital (10,417 at the 1960 census) and Portsmouth (2,243). Both towns are located on the west coast.

Constitutional and political developments

63. Constitution. Under the new Constitution which came into force on 1 March 1967, the basic government structure is as follows:

(a) Governor

64. The Governor is appointed by the Queen. Except where otherwise provided, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet.

(b) Legislature

65. The Legislature consists of the Queen and the House of Assembly. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of Dominica, subject to the assent of the Governor. The House of Assembly consists of eleven elected members, three nominated members and the Attorney-General (ex officio). Of the three nominated members, two are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier and one on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition; if there is no Leader of the Opposition, or if he does not wish to be consulted, the Governor, in his discretion, may consult any other person. Non-elected members may vote on any question except motions of no confidence and bills to amend the Constitution. The House elects a Speaker who, if he is not already a member of the House, becomes one by virtue of his office.

^{1/} The information on the Territory has been derived from published reports

(c) Cabinet

66. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and other ministers, not exceeding five. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House. The other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier.

(d) Judiciary

67. The law of the Territory is the Common Law of England and Statute Law. The Attorney-General is the principal legal adviser of the Government. The West Indies Associated States Supreme Court is a superior court of record and consists of a Court of Appeal comprising the Chief Justice as president and two justices of appeal and a High Court of Justice comprising the Chief Justice, appointed by the Queen, and six puisne judges. The Court of Summary Jurisdiction, presided over by a puisne judge, deals with civil cases involving sums of up to \$1,000 ^{2/} (by consent of the parties, \$1,440). Magistrate courts deal with summary and civil offences involving sums of not more than \$500.

68. Local government. Local government in the Territory is administered by authorities, acting in accordance with the duties and powers conferred on them by acts of the Legislature. The towns of Roseau and Fortsmouth are each administered by a town council, consisting of five elected and three nominated members. The councils are empowered to make by-laws and regulations for the good government of the towns, and have to submit their annual estimates of revenue and expenditure to the Governor for approval. There are also twenty-one village councils in the Territory.

69. Public service. The appointment, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers are, with certain exceptions, vested in the Public Service and Police Service Commissions the members of which are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the advice of the Premier.

70. Political parties. Until 1968, there were two political parties in the Territory, the Dominica Labour Party (DLP) and the Dominica United People's Party (DUPP). In October 1968, a new political party was created, the Dominica Freedom Party (DFP).

71. Electoral system. Elected members of the House of Assembly are elected in single-member constituencies under universal adult suffrage. There is a Boundaries Commission, which consists of the Speaker, as chairman, two members of the House appointed on the advice of the Premier and two on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition.

72. A British subject who has attained the age of twenty-one years is qualified for membership of the House if he is domiciled and resident in the Territory or if he has resided here for one year and is able to speak English. A person is

^{2/} For an explanation of the currency in use, see para. 11 above.

qualified to be registered as a voter if he is a British subject who has attained the age of twenty-one years and has satisfied the resident and other requirements prescribed by the Legislature.

73. Elections. The last elections were held on 7 January 1966, when the DLP won ten of the eleven seats, three more than at the previous election. The DUPP won one seat, two less than at the previous election. The total roll was 24,147 and those voting numbered 19,400.

Economic conditions

74. General. The economy of the Territory is based on primary production. The Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey 3/ described the economy as more diversified than that of most of the islands with a broader scope for development and possibilities of expansion of the banana, citrus, food crops, livestock, forestry, timber, pumice, limestone and tourist industries.

75. On 24 April 1968, the House of Assembly approved an agreement signed between the Government of Dominica and the Sunday Island Port Authority (SIPA). The agreement requires the SIPA within three years to: dredge a 200-foot wide channel 30 feet in depth from Douglas Bay to Prince Rupert's Bay (this part of the agreement was later cancelled on engineering advice); construct a 1,000-foot long wharf with an adequate 10-foot wide traffic apron; dredge the sea-bed south of the Cabritts to 30-feet; construct a 1,000-foot docking space jetty in what will be known as "the port project"; build a 200-bed first-class hotel accommodation; and promote industrial activities in the Cabritts area and some adjacent 700 acres.

76. On completion of the dredging, the wharf and the first factory or industrial undertaking, SIPA has agreed, among other things, to provide free schooling for resident children from six to fourteen years of age in maintained buildings; provide medical services and at least an eight-bed hospital free to indigents and resident government officials; provide police and customs quarters; pay for administrative and related services; provide electricity and other amenities at current rates; and employ capable Dominican-born persons. In return, the Government of Dominica has agreed to waive all income, capital gains, property and personal taxes in the port area for both the Authority and its licencees for a period of thirty years. The Authority and its licencees will also be exempt from all customs duties (except on comestibles), stamp levies, excise taxes and charges of all kinds for ninety-nine years.

77. In October 1968, the Dominica Government signed an agreement with the United States of America guaranteeing United States investments in the Territory against "confiscation, expropriation and inability to convert foreign currency into United States dollars".

78. Land. About one third of the total land area of 289.8 square miles is Crown land. The freehold system remains the predominant form of land tenure. Aliens must first obtain a licence from the Government, to which certain conditions are attached, before being able to purchase land in the Territory.

3/ Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey of the Eastern Caribbean, January-April 1966, London, 1967.

79. Mineral deposits. In order to assess the Territory's mineral potential, a three-year comprehensive geographical survey was started in 1967. Pumice, a light-weight concrete aggregate of volcanic origin used chiefly for building purposes, occurs in accessible deposits; it is at present mined under licence by a group of United States investors. Exports amount to about 3,000 tons a month.

80. Water. The rainfall is heavy, especially in the mountainous areas. There are numerous springs, rivers and streams, none of which is navigable. The Dominica Central Water Authority, established in 1967, consists of seven commissioners, one of whom is appointed by the Minister of Communications and Works. The Authority is empowered to acquire property, employ technical personnel and fix rates for the provision of an adequate water supply for the Territory.

81. Power supply. The Electricity Service is owned and operated by the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC). Electric power is provided by two hydro stations and one diesel plant with a total capacity of 3,320 kw.

82. Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture is responsible for the following: (a) organization and development of the Territory's agricultural resources and their conservation; (b) expansion of the main export and food crops; (c) organization and improvement of small-scale farming and livestock; and (d) improved methods of production and distribution of agricultural products. It maintains a training school and five district agricultural stations which function as the main official centres for the demonstration of improved agricultural practices and experimentation.

83. About 74,000 acres are recorded as farm lands occupied by some 8,700 farms, of which 6,000 are less than five acres in size and 193 are 50 acres or over. Land use is currently estimated as follows: bananas, 20,000 acres; orchard crops, 20,170; woodland on farms, 25,330; pasture, 4,500; and food crops, 4,000 acres. The main crops are bananas, coconuts, cocoa, limes, vanilla, mangoes, and avocado pears.

84. Bananas, which are the principal crop, go almost exclusively to the United Kingdom. Geest Industries, Ltd. are the sole purchasers and exporters; the company operates under a contract with the Dominica Banana Growers' Association. The following table shows exports of banana stems and their value in the years 1963 to 1966:

	<u>Stems</u> (thousands)	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Value</u> (thousand pounds)
1963	2,447	30,737	764
1964	3,473	42,231	1,209
1965	4,006	49,756	1,180
1966	3,495	48,069	1,054

85. The livestock population consists of about 6,000 head of cattle, 9,000 pigs, 3,600 sheep and 5,000 goats.

86. Forestry. Forest resources are considerable; however, timber production is small and confined to local use. The area of Crown forest is estimated at approximately 110 square miles and the area under private ownership at about 30 square miles.

87. Fisheries. There is a government-controlled fisheries scheme which provides funds for the organization and development of a local fishing industry.

88. Tourism. The number of tourists increased from 6,168 in 1964 to 6,897 in 1965. In 1965 the island's largest and most modern hotel was opened. No later data are available.

89. Industry. Industrial activities include production of cigarettes, cigars, handicrafts, citrus juices, oils and fats, copra and rum. In October 1968, the Dom-Can Timbers Co. opened a new sawmill about three miles north of Roseau; the mill represents \$2.3 million investment and employs about 124 persons. In March 1969, the manufacturers of Rose's Lime Juice announced the closure of one factory and two estates because of rising production costs.

90. Transport and communications. There are 176 miles of bituminous roads, 196 miles of second class roads and about 77 miles of unimproved earth roads. There were 2,117 motor vehicles registered at the end of 1967, compared with 2,078 in 1965.

91. Roseau is the principal port of the Territory; the banana boats of Geest Industries Ltd. call regularly at Portsmouth. In April 1968, work began on the dredging of a new port in the north-west of the Territory. The following steamship services call at Dominica: the West Indies Shipping Service, Harrison Line, Saguenay Shipping Ltd., Compagnie Générale Transatlantique Ltd., Royal Netherlands Steamship Ltd., Geest Lines, Lamport and Holt Line Ltd., Grimaldi Sicca Lines, Booth American Shipping Corporation, and the Linea 'C' Line.

92. The Melville Hall Airport, which is situated in the north-east of the Territory, approximately 3¹/₄ miles from Roseau, has a 5,100-foot runway. A grant from Canada of \$200,000 (Canadian) has been announced for a five-year study of possible sites for another airport. Airmail and passenger services are provided by the Leeward Islands Air Transport (LIAT) and Caribair, using Avro 748 planes.

93. In 1968, Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. installed a fully automatic telephone system in the Territory which became operative in December 1968. The company also operates international telegraph, telephone and telex services.

94. Trade. The main imports are food-stuffs, gasoline and cement. The main exports include bananas, copra, lime juice, cocoa, bay and lime oil, coconuts and vanilla beans. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1964 and 1965:

	(dollars)		
	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Total trade</u>
1964	15,041,484	8,643,473	23,684,957
1965	17,273,019	9,545,695	26,818,714

95. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure in the years 1964 to 1968:

	(dollars)	
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1964	7,468,941	6,502,243
1965	8,170,230	8,445,647
1966	8,762,164	8,574,732
1967	10,266,770	10,266,770
1968	...	7,914,000

96. The main heads of taxation are income tax, customs and excise duties (rum, cigarettes, cigars and tobacco). Export duty is payable on the principal agricultural products. Other forms of taxation include estate duty and stamp duty.

97. There are four major banks in the Territory: Barclays Bank D.C.O., the Royal Bank of Canada, the Government Saving Bank and the Dominica Co-operative Bank.

98. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to Dominica has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US72,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969/1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning (land use in urban and rural development), agricultural development, water supplies, telecommunication services and postal administration.

Social conditions

99. Labour. The estimated labour force is about 25,000. Agriculture is the principal occupation and provides employment for about 7,000 wage-earners, in addition to about 5,000 peasant proprietors. It is estimated that 3,000 workers are employed in road and building construction, 2,500 in manufacturing, 900 in transport and 500 in commerce.

100. There are six trade unions registered in the Territory: the Dominica Trade Union, the Dominica Union of Teachers, the Dominica Civil Service Association, the Dominica Amalgamated Workers' Union, the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Trade Union, and the Dominica Association of Public Health Inspectors.

101. Public health. There are six government hospitals with a total of 302 beds and twenty-seven dispensaries and health centres distributed throughout the Territory. The main hospital, the Princess Margaret, in Roseau, includes a forty-bed wing for patients suffering from chest conditions.

102. The birth-rate in 1966 was 39.9 per thousand (42.7 in 1965 and 40.6 in 1964). The death-rate was 8.2 per thousand (8.9 in 1965 and 9.4 in 1964).

103. The following table shows expenditure on public health in the years 1965 to 1967:

	(dollars)	
	<u>Recurrent</u>	<u>Capital</u>
1965	960,331	30,657
1966	1,022,659	38,297
1967	1,118,230	49,215

Educational conditions

104. Education is free between the ages of five and fifteen years and is compulsory wherever there are adequate school facilities; so far twenty-one areas have been declared compulsory attendance areas.

105. Primary education is provided in fifty-two governmental schools, three assisted denominational schools and twenty-six "temporary" schools, with a total enrolment of more than 20,000 pupils and an average attendance of about 17,000 pupils. There are four secondary schools with a total enrolment of about 1,450 pupils. A school for the blind has been in operation since 1964 and a Teacher Training Institute was opened in 1963.

106. The following table shows expenditure on education in the years 1965 to 1967:

	(dollars)	
	<u>Recurrent</u>	<u>Capital</u>
1965	979,191	142,214
1966	1,070,906	90,708
1967	1,163,960	476,502

107. There is a central free library in Roseau, with branches at Portsmouth, in the north and Grand Bay in the south of the Territory. In January 1969, a new cinema seating 1,000 persons was opened in Roseau.

3. GRENADA^{1/}

General

108. Grenada is the most southerly of the Windward Islands in the Eastern Caribbean. It lies approximately 90 miles north of Trinidad and 68 miles south-south-west of St. Vincent. The island is about 21 miles long and 12 miles wide at its extremes and has an area of 120 square miles. Between Grenada and St. Vincent lie the islets known as the Grenadines, some of which are included in the Territory of St. Vincent and some in that of Grenada; the largest of the latter is Carriacou with an area of 13 square miles. The island is of volcanic origin. Its highest peak is 2,756 feet above sea level.

109. At the last census, taken in 1960, the population was 88,677 (40,660 men and 48,017 women). The estimated population at the beginning of 1969 was 102,000 compared with 98,773 in 1966 and 93,911 in 1964. The majority of the population is of African or mixed descent. St. George's, the capital of the Territory, has an estimated population of about 9,000. The other towns are Gouyave, Victoria, Grenville, Sauteurs and Hillsbrough in Carriacou.

Constitutional and political developments

110. Constitution. Under the new Constitution, which came into force on 3 March 1967, the basic government structure is as follows:

(a) Governor

111. The Governor is appointed by the Queen. Except where otherwise provided he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet.

(b) Legislature

112. The Legislature consists of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of Grenada, subject to the assent of the Governor.

113. The Senate consists of nine members appointed by the Governor, five on the advice of the Premier, two on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition and two on the advice of the Premier after he has consulted those organizations or interests which he considers should be represented. The Senate elects a President from among those of its members who are not ministers or parliamentary secretaries. The Senate has power to delay money bills for up to one month and any other bills passed by the House of Representatives for up to two years.

^{1/} The information on the Territory has been derived from published reports.

114. The House of Representatives consists of ten members elected in single-member constituencies under universal adult suffrage. The House elects a Speaker who, if he is not already a member of the House, becomes one by virtue of his office.

(c) Cabinet

115. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and other ministers. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House of Representatives. The other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier from among the senators and members of the House of Representatives.

(d) Judiciary

116. The law of the Territory is the Common Law of England and Statute of Law. The Attorney-General is the principal legal adviser of the Government. The West Indies Associated States Supreme Court is a superior court of record. It consists of a Court of Appeal comprising the Chief Justice as president and two justices of appeal and a High Court of Justice comprising the Chief Justice, appointed by the Queen and six puisne judges. The Court of Summary Jurisdiction, presided over by a puisne judge, deals with civil cases involving sums from \$240.00. ^{2/} Magistrate courts deal with summary and civil offences involving sums of not more than \$96.00.

117. Public service. The appointment, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is, with certain exceptions, vested in the Public Service Commission, the members of which are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. With the exception of certain appointments on which the Commission advises the Governor, it is responsible for the appointment of all persons to offices in the public service and has the power to exercise disciplinary control over or to remove such persons from office. There is provision for appeals to a Public Service Board of Appeal.

118. Political parties. There are two political parties in the Territory, the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) and the Grenada National Party (GNP).

119. Electoral system. The members of the House of Representatives are elected in single-member constituencies under universal adult suffrage. There is a Boundaries Commission, which consists of the Speaker, as chairman, two members of the House appointed on the advice of the Premier, and two on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition. The Commission is charged with reviewing the number and boundaries of constituencies at intervals of not less than two and not more than five years. There are ten electoral districts at present.

120. A person is qualified to be registered as a voter if he is a British subject who has attained the age of 21 years and has satisfied the residence and other requirements prescribed by the Legislature. On 29 February 1968 the House of

^{2/} For an explanation of the currency in use, see para. 11 above.

Representatives passed an amending bill to the Elections Act reducing the voting age from 21 to 18 years, effective from 1972.

121. Elections. In the 1962 elections, the GNP won six seats and the GULP won four. The last general election was held on 24 August 1967. A total of 38,404 persons were registered to vote. As a result of the election, the GULP, led by Mr. Eric Gairy, won seven seats, and the GNP, led by the former Premier, Mr. Herbert Blaize, won three. On 26 August 1967, Mr. E. Gairy was sworn in as Premier of Grenada to succeed Mr. H. Blaize. In statements made after the election, Mr. E. Gairy said that his Government would place special emphasis on education, agriculture, tourism and industrial development. The former Premier, Mr. H. Blaize, gave assurance that the GNP would perform its duties as the opposing party.

122. On 24 November 1967, the Premier was reported as saying that he maintained that the answer to the future of the West Indies was in federation. He added that all the developments clearly indicated the need for federation of the smaller Territories. He was reported as saying at a press conference on 3 February 1969 that Grenada was working towards independence; he declined, however, to give a date for independence.

Economic conditions

123. General. The economy of the Territory is based on agriculture. There are also some secondary industries and tourism is of growing importance. In the Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey 3/ it was stated that the main prospects for growth in Grenada were in tourism, although considerable expansion and diversification could take place in foodcrops and livestock. According to the report, the main airport needed improvements and it was recommended that an airstrip be built on Carriacou.

124. The Grenada five-year development plan for 1967-1971 envisages an expenditure of about \$46 million, of which almost one-third would be spent on agriculture.

125. In May 1968, the Government announced the establishment of a Planning Unit as part of the Premier's Office.

126. It was reported in June 1968, that an Investment Guarantee Agreement had been signed between the United States of America and the Government of Grenada, aimed at Protecting United States investments against economic and commercial risks.

127. The first international fair of Grenada - EXPO '69 - was officially opened on 5 April 1969; the main theme of the exhibition is "Showcase of Caribbean Progress". The participating countries include inter alia Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Lucia, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States and Venezuela.

128. Land. All persons who are not British Commonwealth citizens and who wish to own land or take shares in locally registered companies are required by law to obtain a licence. The Government imposes certain restrictions to protect the agricultural potential of the Territory and to achieve balanced development.

3/ Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey of the Eastern Caribbean, January-April 1966, London, 1967.

129. Water. The Territory has a number of mineral and other springs. All towns and some villages have a piped water supply.

130. Power supply. Electric power is generated and distributed by Grenada Electricity Services, Ltd. The company's power station is located at Queen's Park, St. George's.

131. Agriculture. Agriculture is the main economic activity and provides employment for about 5,000 to 6,000 persons. The main crops are bananas, cocoa, coconuts, nutmeg, cotton, limes, sugar and copra.

132. Since 1956 bananas have replaced cocoa and nutmeg as the major crop of the Territory. The Grenada Banana Co-operative Society is a statutory body of banana producers controlled by a Committee of Management of six elected and between two and four nominated members. The committee deals primarily with the marketing of bananas through Geest Industries, Ltd. In addition, it promotes improvement of the industry by sponsoring and contributing financially to programmes to control banana diseases and encouraging proper fertilizer practices. The following table shows exports of banana stems and their value for the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Stems</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
1963	1,126,844	14,553	1,731,964
1964	1,207,719	14,573	1,953,859
1965	1,622,518	21,055	2,417,108
1966	1,676,871	20,573	2,442,988
1967	2,053,399	26,195	3,115,872

133. Cocoa is cultivated on some 17,000 acres. The Grenada Cocoa Association is responsible for promoting the interests of the cocoa industry; it also regulates and controls exports. The following table shows exports of cocoa for the years 1963 to 1968:

	<u>Hundredweight</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
1963	54,383	3,388,011
1964	45,576	2,361,023
1965	56,486	2,088,933
1966	46,262	2,249,797
1967	48,339	3,028,505
1968	57,391	3,670,019

134. Coconuts are grown on about 3,500 acres. There is one copra mill at Tempe, St. George's. The following table shows the total production for the years 1963 to 1966:

	<u>Copra milled (tons)</u>	<u>Refined oil (gallons)</u>	<u>Laundry soap (pounds)</u>	<u>Coconut meal (pounds)</u>
1963	473	55,905	296,050	273,600
1964	459	66,960	161,600	303,300
1965	452	59,246	204,900	196,600
1966	419	47,070	139,900	137,800

135. Nutmegs are grown on some 6,500 acres and all the entire yield is exported. The Grenada Co-operative Nutmeg Association, which processes and markets all nutmeg and mace, is controlled by a board of nine members, six of whom are elected by the growers, and three nominated by the Government. The following table shows exports for the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Nutmeg (hundredweight)</u>	<u>Mace</u>	<u>Nutmeg oil (pounds)</u>	<u>Value (dollars)</u>
1963	14,224	3,192	450	2,270,044
1964	12,867	2,249	270	2,537,503
1965	28,533	3,712	1,440	5,514,299
1966	17,339	2,160	90	4,058,337
1967	13,486	2,530	720	2,085,955

136. Cotton is grown in Carriacou. Ginning is done in a government-established ginney. The protection of interests of the cotton industry is the responsibility of the Carriacou Development Board. The production of lint was 774 hundredweight in 1967, compared with 500 hundredweight in 1966, 765 in 1965 and 667 in 1964.

137. Limes are grown on some 500 acres, evenly divided between the islands of Grenada and Carriacou. Production for the years 1964 to 1967 was as follows:

	<u>Lime oil (pounds)</u>	<u>Lime juice (gallons)</u>	<u>Value (dollars)</u>
1964	2,140	-	23,540
1965	4,700	4,000	59,760
1966	3,662	31,170	75,561
1967	3,013	63,443	119,660

138. Sugar-cane is grown on about 1,500 acres and is converted either to dark sugar or to rum. The Cane Farmers Association aims at improving the industry through special emphasis on efficiency of production. The total production for the years 1963 to 1967 was as follows:

	<u>Dark sugar (tons)</u>	<u>Yield (ton cane/ton sugar)</u>
1963	896	10.5
1964	844	10.7
1965	1,354	10.75
1966	1,424	10.7
1967	1,742	10.75

139. Livestock. Although livestock production is an important part of the economy, meat and milk production are inadequate for local requirements. Estimated numbers of livestock in 1967 were as follows: cattle 6,000; horses, 1,500; sheep and goats, 7,000; and pigs, 5,000. Poultry numbers 90,000 and meets much of the local demand.

140. Forestry. The Government owns approximately 75 per cent of the Territory's estimated 10,000 acres of rain forest; exploitation is confined to 50 acres annually. Since 1957, approximately 450 acres of government forest land have been reafforested with blue mahoe, teak and Honduras mahogany.

141. Fisheries. About 1,700 persons are employed in the fishing industry, of whom approximately 1,400 are fishermen. In 1965, the estimated catch was 2,943,967 pounds.

142. Tourism. The tourist industry is expanding. The number of tourists visiting the Territory in 1967 was 20,549, compared with 18,135 in 1966, 13,850 in 1965 and 11,188 in 1964. At the end of 1968 the Territory had about 15 hotels and guest houses with about 300 rooms.

143. The Grenada Tourist Board is a statutory body appointed by the Government of Grenada, and comprises 12 members representing shipping, commerce, the airlines and the hotels. Its function is to promote the Territory's tourist industry and to make recommendations for its improvement. A Hotel Aid Ordinance allows duty-free importation of building materials, equipment and furnishings and a Development Incentives Ordinance is directed towards encouraging capital investment in tourist industries.

144. Industry. Industrial activities include production of cigarettes, soap, edible oils, sugar, lime essence, rum, beer and soft drinks. Local industries employ about 2,600 people.

145. Transport and communications. There are about 566 miles of roads in the Territory, of which 256 miles have an oiled surface and 210 miles are graded as third and fourth class roads. There were 3,263 motor vehicles registered at the end of 1965. The Transport Board in Public Works Department acts as an advisory committee on all matters concerning road transport and traffic in the Territory.

146. The main port of the Territory is St. George's harbour. On Carriacou the ports of Grenville and Hillsborough are used mainly by small craft. Shipping lines using the port of St. George's include Harrison, Booth, Atlantic, Royal Netherlands, Saguenay, Geest, Grimaldi Siosa and the West Indies Shipping Service.

147. Pearls Airport is located at the north-eastern corner of the Territory and can accommodate Viscount type aircraft. An airstrip at Lauriston in Carriacou, built with the aid of a Colonial Development and Welfare grant, was opened in March 1968. British West Indian Airways, Ltd., operates daily schedules from Pearls to other parts of the Caribbean.

148. Local telephone services are operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. on behalf of the Government; the company also operates international telegraph, telephone and telex services.

149. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1963 to 1966:

	(dollars)		
	Imports	Exports	Total trade
1963	15,023,636	7,854,832	22,878,468
1964	17,672,781	7,220,755	24,893,536
1965	19,077,304	10,677,505	29,754,809
1966	21,724,311	10,195,961	31,920,272

The main imports are foodstuffs, consumer goods, iron and steel, timber, cement, textiles, fertilizers and motor vehicles. The principal exports are nutmegs, bananas, cocoa, mace and spices.

150. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1963 to 1967:

	(dollars)		
	Revenue	Expenditure	Grants-in-aid
1963	8,389,440	8,388,781	1,363,607
1964	9,139,717	8,594,236	1,365,121
1965	10,584,820	10,350,665	1,650,409
1966	12,106,571	11,897,905	1,729,200
1967 (estimate)	13,935,771	13,935,771	1,600,100

It was reported in June 1968 that the United Kingdom would provide \$1,920,000 in the form of grants during the year 1968/1969.

151. Forms of direct taxation include income tax, estate duties and property tax. Other forms of taxation include import, export and excise duties and a motor vehicles tax.

152. There are seven major banks operating in the Territory: the Bank of Nova Scotia, Barclays Bank D.C.O., Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Royal Bank of Canada, Government Savings Bank, Grenada Agricultural Bank and Grenada Co-operative Bank Ltd.

153. With effect from 17 July 1968 Grenada joined the East Caribbean currency agreement of 1965.

154. In February 1969, the Premier was reported as declaring his intention gradually to lead Grenada out of dependence on grant-aid for budgetary purposes.

155. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to Grenada has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US103,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969-1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning (mainly future urban and rural development), water supplies, animal husbandry, agricultural economics and postal administration.

Social conditions

156. Labour. At the 1960 census, the labour force numbered 25,170 persons with over 9,300 employed in agriculture and forestry.

157. There are seventeen registered trade unions in the Territory, including one employer's federation.

158. Public health. There are ten medical districts, with a medical officer in charge of each district. Located in St. George's are the general hospital with 240 beds, mental and isolation hospitals, a sanatorium and homes for handicapped children, the chronically sick and the aged. At St. Andrew's, the Princess Alice Hospital provides forty beds, as does the Princess Royal Hospital at Carriacou. There are three main health centres at St. George's, Gouyave and St. David's. Maternity and child welfare work is carried out at twenty-eight district medical visiting stations. Expenditure for 1965 on medical and sanitary services was estimated at \$1,332,500, compared with \$1,244,100 in 1964.

Educational conditions

159. The Board of Education is responsible for advising the Government on education policy. Primary education is free to all children between five and seventeen years of age. Attendance is compulsory between the ages of five and fifteen years but is not enforced.

160. At the end of 1966, there were forty-five primary grant-in-aid schools and eleven government primary schools in the Territory with a total enrolment of 28,402 children; average attendance was 23,317. Secondary education was provided by eight grant-in-aid and one government school with a total enrolment of 2,703. There was also a Teacher's Training College in the Territory.

161. In 1966 expenditure on education was estimated at \$1,454,156, compared with \$1,392,500 in 1965 and \$1,274,300 in 1964.

162. The Windward Islands Broadcasting Service has its headquarters, main network studios and shortwave transmitter in Grenada.

4. ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA^{1/}

General

163. The islands of St. Kitts (which is also known as St. Christopher), Nevis and Anguilla are the most northerly of the islands in the Leeward group administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. St. Kitts and Nevis are separated by a two-mile-wide strait and Anguilla lies sixty-five miles to the north-north-west of St. Kitts. The Territory also includes the island of Sombrero, the administration of which was transferred from the British Virgin Islands to St. Kitts in 1956. The total area of the Territory is 138 square miles.

164. The area of St. Kitts is sixty-five square miles with the highest point of 3,792 feet. Nevis has an area of thirty-six square miles with the highest elevation of about 3,500 feet. Anguilla is a flat island (its highest point is only 213 feet above sea level) with an area of about thirty-five square miles. The area of Sombrero is two square miles.

165. At the last census, taken on 7 April 1960, the population was 56,591 (St. Kitts, 38,273; Nevis, 12,750; and Anguilla, 5,568), almost all of whom were of African or mixed descent. The estimated population in 1965 was 59,476, compared with 59,301, in 1964, 58,713 in 1963, 57,596 in 1962 and 56,341 in 1961. The population of Basseterre, the Territory's capital, which is situated in St. Kitts, is approximately 16,000. The principal town of Nevis, Charlestown, has a population of about 2,500.

Constitutional and political developments

166. Constitution. The Constitution, which came into force on 27 February 1967, provided for the following basic government structure:

(a) Governor

167. The Governor is appointed by the Queen. Except where otherwise provided, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a Minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet.

(b) Legislature

168. The Legislature, which consists of a House of Assembly, may make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Territory, subject to the assent of the Governor.

169. The House of Assembly consists of both elected and nominated members. The first category of members is elected under universal adult suffrage in single member constituencies; there is at least one elected member from Anguilla, at least two from Nevis and at least seven from St. Kitts. Two nominated members are appointed on the advice of the Premier and one on the advice of the leader of

^{1/} The information on the Territory has been derived from published reports.

the Opposition, or if there is no leader of the Opposition, by the Governor in his discretion. If the Attorney-General is a nominated member, there are altogether four nominated members; if he is not a nominated member, he becomes an ex officio member of the House. Nominated members are entitled to vote except on motions of no confidence and on bills for the alteration of the Constitution. The House elects a Speaker, who, if he is not already a member, becomes one by virtue of his office.

(c) Cabinet

170. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and other ministers. The Governor appoints as Premier that member of the House of Assembly who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House. The other ministers are appointed from among the members of the House on the advice of the Premier.

(d) Judiciary

171. The law of the Territory is the Common Law of England and such Statute Law as is applicable in the Territory. The Attorney-General is the principal legal adviser to the Government.

172. The West Indies Associated States Supreme Court is a superior court of record. It consists of a Court of Appeal comprising the Chief Justice as President and two Justices of Appeal and a High Court of Justice comprising the Chief Justice, appointed by the Queen, and six Puisne Judges.

173. The Court of Summary Jurisdiction, presided over by a Puisne Judge, deals with civil cases involving sums up to \$1,000. ^{2/} Magistrates courts deal with summary and civil offences involving sums of not more than \$500.

174. Public service. The appointment, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is, with certain exceptions, vested in the Public Service and Police Service Commissions.

175. Electoral system. The elected members of the House of Assembly are elected under universal adult suffrage in single-member constituencies, of which there are at least one in Anguilla, at least two in Nevis and at least seven in St. Kitts. There is a boundaries commission which consists of the Speaker as Chairman, two members of the House appointed on the advice of the Premier and two on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, or if there is no Opposition, appointed by the Governor in his discretion. The Commission is charged with reviewing the boundaries at intervals of not more than five years.

176. A person is qualified for election or nomination to the House if he is a Commonwealth citizen who has attained the age of twenty-one years and was born and is domiciled in the Territory or is domiciled and has been resident in the Territory for three years.

177. A person is qualified as a voter if he has attained the age of twenty-one years and has such qualifications regarding residence and domicile as may be prescribed by the legislature.

^{2/} For an explanation of the currency in use, see para. 11 above.

178. Local government. It was agreed at the 1966 Constitutional Conference that the new Constitution would provide for councils in Nevis and Anguilla. These councils were to be the principal organs of local government in each island. At least two thirds of the members of each council were to be elected on the same franchise as members of the House of Assembly.

179. Political parties. There are three political parties in the Territory; the Labour Party (LP), the People's Action Movement (PAM) and the United National Movement (UNM). All three parties were represented at the Constitutional Conference and all signed the report. The formation of a new political party, Anguilla Constructive Democratic Movement (ACDM), was announced in Anguilla on 22 April 1969.

180. Elections. The last elections were held on 25 July 1966. There were twenty-four candidates for the ten elected seats; seven LP, nine PAM, two UNM and six independents. At the elections, LP won seven seats, all in St. Kitts, PAM won two seats, one in Nevis and one in Anguilla, and UNM won one seat in Nevis.

181. Developments concerning Anguilla. As reported in a working paper prepared by the Secretariat in 1968, the terms of an interim settlement of Anguilla's problems were set out in a letter dated 16 January 1968 addressed to Mr. Webster by the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Thomson. 3/ Developments on the situation during the first half of 1969 are summarized below.

182. At the end of December 1968, Mr. Webster informed the United Kingdom Government that the interim settlement was at an end. Early in 1969, he declared that Anguilla had become an independent republic and had severed all legal ties with the Crown. He added that a new Constitution had been adopted in the island which provided for an elected president and vice-president and a legislature of eleven members.

183. On 10 January 1969 the United Kingdom Government was reported to have withdrawn its representative, Mr. Lee, from Anguilla and to have ended all development aid to Anguilla (in the sum of £75,000). The report stated that the withdrawal of British officials was effected despite a request by the Anguilla ruling council that they remain. It was arranged for Mr. Lee to pay periodic visits to Anguilla. At the same time it was announced in a statement in the House of Commons that the British Government did not recognize Mr. Webster's declaration of independence.

184. A meeting of heads of governments of Caribbean States held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, at the beginning of February 1969, expressed concern at the situation on Anguilla and urged the British Government to take all necessary steps in collaboration with the Government of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla to confirm the territorial integrity of the Associated State.

185. On 6 February a referendum was held on Anguilla. It was reported that - by 1,739 votes to 4 - the people favoured an independent republic and the breaking of all ties with the British Crown.

3/ A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVI, annex I, para. 94.

186. It was announced on 8 February in St. Kitts that the Government of the State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla rejected and condemned Anguilla's declaration of a republic as being illegal and of no force or effect, and declared once again that Anguilla island continued to be an integral part of the unitary State by virtue of the Constitution of St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla.

187. Mr. Whitlock, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, arrived in St. Kitts in the second week of March 1969 for talks about the situation in Anguilla and received confirmation that the strength of feeling in Anguilla against the restoration of control over the island by the government in St. Kitts was recognized by Mr. Bradshaw's Government. He flew to Anguilla on 11 March for talks with the islanders and outlined the United Kingdom's proposals for settling the problem of the island's secession from the State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla. These proposals included the appointment of a Commissioner through whom dealings between the local population and the British Government would be conducted. Mr. Whitlock also assured the islanders that they need not fear prosecution for recent political activities.

188. A hostile demonstration later occurred. Mr. Webster informed Mr. Whitlock that he could not guarantee his safety and requested him to leave the island. Mr. Whitlock and his party complied with this request. On his return to London he reported to Mr. Stewart who later told a press conference he was convinced that the island was dominated by an armed gangster element.

189. On 18 March 1969, some 300 British paratroops arrived in Antigua, together with an advance guard of forty policemen. The next day the troops landed on Anguilla from two frigates and four helicopters, and took control of the airstrip. At the same time Mr. Lee was installed as Commissioner on Anguilla, and a magistrate arrived a day later. The Anguillans offered no resistance to the landings.

190. It was reported on 20 March 1969 that another 120 paratroops had been flown to Antigua to serve as a stand-by force.

191. On 19 March 1969, Mr. Stewart made a statement to the House of Commons in which he said that a small military force had landed on the island and that the Commissioner had been installed. He stated also that it was not his purpose to see the Anguillans living under an administration they did not want. In answer to questions Mr. Stewart said that the strict legal basis for the British Government's actions rested on an Order in Council made under Section 7(2) of the West Indies Act 1967, which referred to external relations. He added that the Government had acted with the full agreement of the Government of the Associated State.

192. Mr. Stewart further stated that the British Commissioner would remain in Anguilla for a number of years and would work for a lasting settlement. He added that the aim of the troop landings in Anguilla was to enable the people of Anguilla to express their views freely, without fear of intimidation or rule by an armed minority which was associated with disreputable characters from outside the State. Asked whether the Mafia was involved, Mr. Stewart said that the use of that word was an exaggeration. He added that it would be the task of Mr. Lee to proceed as soon as possible with arrangements for the setting up of an advisory council, elected by and from the local population.

193. In a letter handed to Mr. Lee on 20 March, Mr. Webster proposed that a referendum be held presenting three alternatives to the islanders: independence, direct association with Britain or return to the three-island federation. On the same day, Mr. Webster sent a cable to Mr. Stewart demanding an immediate withdrawal of all armed forces and the removal of Mr. Lee. He stated that after this the people of Anguilla would be prepared to negotiate with Britain. He also asked that a parliamentary delegation be sent to Anguilla to negotiate a settlement.

194. In a written answer on 27 March 1969 to a question in the House of Commons the Minister for Overseas Development stated that development aid to Anguilla would be resumed as soon as possible. Priority would be given to the completion of those schemes which were in train when the interim settlement ended in January, including the erection of a new school, road improvements and a low-tension electricity distribution system. The cost of these schemes was reported to be about £50,000.

195. On 28 March 1969, Lord Caradon, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations, flew from New York to Anguilla. After three days of talks, a seven-point joint declaration was signed by Lord Caradon and members of the Council. The declaration made provision for an immediate period of constructive co-operation in the interests of all the people of Anguilla, and recorded the conviction of those who signed it that this co-operation would only be achieved by working together in agreement and friendship. It established that the administration of the island was to be conducted by Her Majesty's Representative in full consultation and co-operation with representatives of the people. The following is the text of the Declaration:

"(1) We who sign this Declaration believe that what is now needed is a period of constructive co-operation in the interests of all the people of Anguilla.

"(2) We are convinced that this can be achieved only by working together in agreement and friendship.

"(3) The administration of the island shall be conducted by Her Majesty's Representative in full consultation and co-operation with representatives of the people of Anguilla.

"(4) The Members of the 1968 Council will be recognized as elected representatives of the people, and will serve as members of a Council to be set up for the above purposes. This Council may be expanded if so desired by election or co-option.

"(5) Our hope is that this initial period can start at once to enable a very early return to normality and withdrawal of the Parachute Regiment.

"(6) There will be further consultations, including consultations with Caribbean Governments, on the future of the island.

"(7) The following undertaking of the British Government given in the House of Commons has been noted: 'It is no part of our purpose to put them (the Anguillans) under an Administration under which they do not want to live.'"

346. On 31 March 1969, Lord Caradon left Anguilla for St. Kitts, where he held discussions with the Premier.

197. A few days later Mr. Webster made allegations to the Press to the effect that H.M. Commissioner on Anguilla was in breach of the joint declaration. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs stated in the House of Commons that these allegations were totally unwarranted.

198. It was reported that the dispute arose out of conflicting interpretations of the joint declaration. Mr. Webster's main complaint appeared to concern the status of the seven-member Anguillan Council and his position on it. According to reports, it was pointed out in London that, under the agreement, Britain had recognized the members of the old Council, set up in 1968, including Mr. Webster, as the elected representatives of Anguilla. However, according to British officials, the agreement specifically stated that the Council would act only in an advisory capacity to Mr. Lee, the British Commissioner, who would administer the island. Mr. Lee, as the Chief Executive Officer, also held the office of Chairman of the Council.

199. Mr. Webster, on the other hand, continued to consider himself Chairman of the Council and again called for the departure of Mr. Lee and British troops within one week. He furthermore denounced the emergency regulations which gave the British authorities wide powers of search and arrest, the right to requisition property, impose a curfew, deport undesirable people and prohibit public meetings.

200. On 11 and 12 April 1969, Lord Caradon paid a second visit to Anguilla. On that occasion he announced that Mr. Lee would be going on leave in due course, and that when he went he would be succeeded by Mr. Cumber, a former United Kingdom Administrator in the Cayman Islands.

201. There were anti-British demonstrations in Anguilla on 11 April, in which up to 3,000 people took part. A total of twenty paratroopers arrived in Anguilla on 15 April 1969. No further trouble was reported after their arrival. On 20 April 1969, Mr. Lee departed on leave. It was reported later that he would not return to his post but would be succeeded by Mr. Cumber.

202. On 21 April 1969, the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Lord Shepherd, stated in the House of Lords: "It is our desire that the armed forces should be withdrawn from Anguilla as soon as possible; but until there has been created a situation of calm, and a willingness to co-operate, clearly the forces must remain there. But I hope they will remain in a constructive role, such as building roads, hospitals and schools which they are now undertaking."

203. The next day the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs stated in the House of Commons: "We have to face two facts: first, that legally Anguilla is part of the Associated State as the law now stands; and second, that there is deep objection among the Anguillans to that connexion. To resolve this situation there is needed, first, time and, second, consultation with our friends in the Caribbean." Mr. Stewart told the House of Commons that he had begun consultations with Caribbean Governments about the future of Anguilla.

204. On 22 April 1969, the formation of the Anguilla Constructive Democratic Movement (ACDM) as a political party was announced. The Chairman of the party, Mr. Harrigan, is publisher and editor of the only newspaper in Anguilla, The Beacon. The new party declared as its immediate aims, inter alia, to build

up a proper and efficient democratic machinery of Government; to reaffirm the determination to secede and to negotiate for legal separation from St. Kitts-Nevis; to work for the evaluation of Anguilla's political identity as a separate and distinct Caribbean unit within the British Commonwealth.

205. The manifesto of the ACDM promised "to work for the legal separation of Anguilla at the earliest possible time" and confirmed the agreement made between Anguilla and the British Government at the end of March 1969. The document also stated that Anguilla was too under-developed - in money, manpower and technical and administrative skills - to maintain independence.

206. At the conclusion of talks between the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Premier, Mr. Bradshaw, a joint statement was issued on 21 May 1969 which said, inter alia, that the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Premier of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla had held a series of useful discussions on the setting up of a Commission to study Anguilla's problem and make recommendations leading to a satisfactory and durable solution. They agreed that a commission would be appointed, which would start its work later in the year.

207. Members of the commission are expected to be from the Caribbean area and serve in their individual capacities, not representing their respective governments. They will be appointed jointly by the United Kingdom Government and the Government of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla. The commission will consist of a Chairman and four members. Its terms of reference was set out in the following text:

"Recognizing the fact that the island of Anguilla is part of the Associated State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla in accordance with the constitution of that State: having regard to the resolution concerning Anguilla adopted unanimously at the meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government at Port-of-Spain in February 1969, the text of which is annexed hereto; bearing in mind the problems and consequences that might arise from further fragmentation in the Caribbean; the Commission will consider: (1) the causes of the situation that has come about in Anguilla; (2) the best means of dispelling misunderstandings relating to that situation, in accordance with the foregoing facts and with such considerations as the Commission judge to be strictly pertinent, will make recommendations that may lead to a satisfactory and durable solution. (3) The members will be independent persons of sufficient standing to command respect throughout the Caribbean. Persons from any country in the Commonwealth may serve as members, but every member will sit in his personal capacity and not as the representative of his Government. There will be consultations with all the Commonwealth Caribbean Governments and the Government of any other Commonwealth country providing a member, concerning the suitability and availability of the persons our two Governments have in mind, jointly to select and appoint, as members of the Commission. (4) In order to enable the necessary consultation to take place and to give more time for creating an ordered atmosphere on the island, the Commission will not be appointed before December 1969."

208. It was reported that the Commission would not be required to limit its proposals to the present constitutional framework of the three-island associated State.

209. It was also reported that both parties had agreed to transfer Anguillans' savings in St. Kitts to Anguilla. Anguilla was given the right to interim administration of legal and other local affairs. The Commissioner would be entitled to appoint magistrates, arrange court sittings, regularize land transactions, issue passports and postage stamps.

210. At the end of May 1969, at a meeting of the Council with the Commissioner, it was decided to enlarge the Council from seven to fourteen members. Each member was asked to nominate a person from his respective constituency for co-option. All new appointments were accepted by the original members of the council and will be able to vote on matters before the council.

211. The council subsequently decided to set up committees on health and welfare; road, water and public works; education; tourism; agriculture, fisheries and natural resources; physical planning, land and building; commerce, industry, civil aviation and communications; development; and finance. A member of the council will be chairman of each committee.

212. On 27 June 1969, Lord Caradon arrived in Anguilla for the third time. The following statement was issued by Lord Caradon, with the consent of the council, at the conclusion of his visit:

"Lord Caradon has concluded a series of meetings with the Anguilla Council on 27 and 28 June. He was met on arrival by H.M. Commissioner, Mr. Cumber, and Members of the Council, and has been in almost uninterrupted discussion with the Anguillian leaders during his two days in the island.

"Lord Caradon's visit was in fulfilment of his undertaking given some time ago to have discussions with the Anguillian leaders. Mr. Webster and other members of the Council made a number of representations about their present needs and future aspirations which Lord Caradon undertook to report to his Government.

"They had many questions to ask and criticism and objections to make of recent administrative arrangements for dealing with such matters as passport and postage stamps. They also expressed their anxieties about the Commission to be established later this year. Lord Caradon gave his strong advice that a period should be allowed to enable the administrative arrangements to be worked out and the preparations for the Commission to go forward. He felt sure that the Commission was the best hope for the future."

213. While accepting the need to give these plans a fair trial, the Members of the Council and other Anguillian leaders recalled and emphasized the statement of the British Government that "it is no part of our purpose to put them (the Anguillans) under an Administration under which they do not want to live".

214. Other developments in the Territory. It was reported that in March 1969 the opposition People's Action Movement (PAM) was planning to present a resolution to the Governor demanding that the island of Nevis have greater autonomy from the central government. Dr. William Herbert, leader of the PAM, was reported to have stated that the people of Nevis were calling for a conference to revise the constitution to meet their demands.

215. It will be recalled that St. Kitts and Nevis had been ruled by state of emergency decree since 30 May 1967, the date on which Anguilla made a unilateral declaration of independence. It was reported in May 1968 that the state of emergency had been lifted in respect of St. Kitts and Nevis, but remained in force in Anguilla.

216. Criticism of the Associated Statehood status was reported in February 1969. A local newspaper, for example, commented that there was a strong feeling in all the Associated States that the statehood arrangement was not as useful a political formula as was believed in 1967. The Statehood Constitution had been shown to be a document that was in need of a lot of revision if the people were to break out of the economic and political bonds in which they had been tied for centuries. The Anguilla rebellion and the British Government's antics about external affairs and internal affairs had exposed some of the weaknesses of statehood in free and voluntary association with Great Britain.

Economic conditions

217. General. In the report of the Tripartite Economic Survey^{4/} it was stated that there did not appear to be much possibility of expanding agriculture - in particular, the sugar industry - and it was suggested that the main area for development should be tourism; however, a more vigorous approach to tourist development was essential and better transport to the Territory would have to be made available.

218. It is reported that a great number of people in Anguilla rely almost totally on remittances sent by relatives who work on other islands or in New York or London.

219. Water. A British firm completed a survey of the water resources of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla in 1967. No information is available regarding the actual implementation of this report.

220. Power supply. There is one principal power station in St. Kitts owned by the Government. There is no public electricity in Anguilla.

221. Agriculture. The main crops in St. Kitts are sugar cane, sea island cotton, vegetables and coconuts. Approximately 80 per cent of the arable land in the island is divided into thirty-five large sugar estates, controlled by six or seven families. Small holdings serve as a supplement to the estates. Sugar export from the island represents nearly 90 per cent of exports from the Territory. The following table shows sugar production in the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Acres	15,000	13,047	11,248	12,600	...
Cane (tons)	350,658	397,495	342,171	348,335	327,752
Sugar (96 per cent)(tons)	39,925	43,629	38,920	38,729	...

Total sales of sugar in 1967 amounted to \$8,500,000

^{4/} Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey of the Eastern Caribbean, January-April 1966, London, 1967.

222. The following table shows cotton production in St. Kitts in the years 1963/1964 to 1965/1966:

	<u>1963/1964</u>	<u>1964/1965</u>	<u>1965/1966</u>
Acreage	172	285	569
Lint (pounds)	27,200	54,800	(82,297 clear (9,224 stained

There is one cotton ginnery in the island.

223. Agriculture in Nevis is almost exclusively on a small-holding basis and more than half of the small farms of the Territory are on that island; there are, however, five large coconut estates and some privately-owned livestock farms in the island. The main crops are cotton, sugar-cane, copra, vegetables and coconuts. Cotton is the main export product of the island. The following table shows cotton production in the years 1963/1964 to 1965/1966.

	<u>1963/1964</u>	<u>1964/1965</u>	<u>1965/1966</u>
Acreage	975	1,243	1,000
Lint (pounds)	52,000	39,600	(78,500 clean (8,500 stained

There is one cotton ginnery in the island.

224. Sugar cane growing is on the decline, mainly because of the increasing cost of transport to St. Kitts. The following table shows sugar production in the years 1964 to 1966:

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Acres	194	169	140
Cane (tons)	...	1,696	2,000

225. Copra production amounted to 12,851 tons in 1965 and 12,060 tons in 1966.

226. Livestock. Owing to poor pasturage (with the exception of the higher slopes in St. Kitts), the industry has not been fully developed but is being encouraged in Nevis by a Government development programme aimed primarily at beef production. Anguilla produces a certain number of sheep and goats.

227. Farming in Anguilla follows a similar pattern to that of Nevis, though livestock raising is more prevalent and fishing plays a major part in the local economy. Very little cotton is grown in the island - six acres in 1963/1964 and thirteen acres in 1964/1965.

228. Fisheries. Fishing is a traditional occupation of certain part of the population; however, it has not expanded to any great extent as export markets have not been readily available. It is an important industry mainly in Anguilla.

In 1966, exports of fresh fish from the Territory amounted to 4,620 pounds, valued at \$2,219, of which 4,370 pounds went to Puerto Rico and the remainder to the Netherlands Antilles.

229. Tourism. The number of tourists visiting the Territory in 1965 was 11,766 compared with 11,844 in 1964.

230. The first stage of "Fairview Inn", with accommodations for sixty persons was opened in Basseterre in January 1969. The Bank of America was reported to be involved in this project. The total cost of the project was estimated to be around a half-million dollars.

231. A large scale tourist and property development, covering eighty-five acres, has been started at Frigate Bay in St. Kitts. Nine hotels with total accommodation of 1,000 rooms, a yacht marina and a golf course will be constructed, with such public services as roads, water, electricity. There will be plots for sale as private home sites and also a "condominium" development (i.e. sharing of houses on a part-year basis). The total projected cost of the development is £29 million. Finance for the initial state of the development - £15 million - will be provided by the British construction firm of Higgs and Hill. This area will be declared a special development area and a special 15-year tax concession is available to companies investing in the area before 1973.

232. There are five hotels, three furnished cottages and a guest house in St. Kitts, five hotels and five guest houses in Nevis, two hotels and a guest house in Anguilla.

233. Industry. The principal industrial plant of the Territory is the sugar factory, owned by the St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory Ltd., which started operations in 1912. The factory has a capacity of 150 to 180 tons of sugar per day. In St. Kitts, there is also a small cornmeal factory, a cotton ginnery, a brewery (the St. Kitts Brewery Ltd.,) which came into operation in 1962, and a cigarette factory, which commenced operations in 1962.

234. In Nevis, there is a cotton ginnery and a factory for the production of edible oil and cattle feed which processes all the copra and groundnuts produced in the island. The chief product of Anguilla is salt.

235. There is a small plant which makes parts for electronic components; it employs from 40 to 100 Anguillans.

236. Transport and communications. There are 62 miles of road in St. Kitts, 63 miles in Nevis and 35 miles in Anguilla, only about two of which are paved. In April 1967 there were 2,310 motor vehicles registered in the Territory.

237. In St. Kitts, there is a narrow-gauge railway operated by the St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory Ltd., for the transportation of sugar cane to the factory and sugar to the wharf. The railway runs round the island and has a total length of 36 miles.

238. There are two piers at Basseterre, St. Kitts, one pier in Charlestown, Nevis, one pier in Newcastle, Nevis and one pier at Blowing Point, Anguilla.

239. Steamship services are provided by the Saguenay Terminals West Indies Shipping Service and Harrison Lines, Booth Line, Lamport and Holt, Royal Netherlands Steamships, Athel Line, Atlantic Lines Ltd., Grimaldi Siosa Line, Lauro Lines. A motor boat service is maintained between St. Kitts and Nevis.

240. Golden Rock airport in St. Kitts, situated about 1.5 miles from Basseterre, is the principal airport of the Territory equipped to handle intercontinental traffic (runway length 5,200 feet). Plans were announced for the airport to be extended to take jet aircraft. The British Government has pledged at least £500,000 towards the cost of this work. Barclays Bank D.C.O., the Bank of America and the Royal Bank of Canada will arrest the extension with more than £600,000.

241. Air services are provided by British West Indian Airways, Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM), Caribair and Leeward Islands Air Transport Service.

242. There is a Government telephone system in St. Kitts which is partly automatic and the exchange (completed in 1963) has a capacity of 2,000 lines. Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd., operates international telegraph, telephone and telex services. There is no telephone service in Anguilla. The Anguilla's previous telephone system - fourteen phones - was destroyed in a hurricane in 1960.

243. On 9 April 1969, Anguilla's 500 KW radio station, constructed by the Royal Engineers and Paratroopers, started operation.

244. Public Finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1961 to 1968:

	(dollars)	
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1961	6,554,820	7,493,464
1962	7,477,004	7,013,509
1963	6,181,141	6,361,492
1964	10,439,990	9,962,746
1965	6,820,617	6,530,756
1966	7,850,000	11,650,000
1968	9,287,334	11,606,515

245. The budget deficit for the year 1968 was \$2,319,181, out of which \$1,250,000 was contributed by the British Government.

246. Customs duties form the biggest income item in Anguilla. There are import and export duties, a trade tax, port and pier levies, salt and income tax. Customs duties on non-British imported goods have been cut from 40 to 20 per cent to curb smuggling, while duties on British goods have been cut from 15 to 7.5 per cent. Other income sources for the island are lobster exports to Puerto Rico, issue of stamps and remittances from relatives of Anguillans living and working abroad.

247. Anguilla's estimated income for the period from March 1968 to March 1969 was \$333,000 and the estimated expenditure \$400,000, leaving a deficit of \$67,000.

248. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1963 to 1966:

	(dollars)		
	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Re-exports</u>
1963	12,277,662	7,994,914	293,086
1964	13,453,424	9,614,756	158,887
1965	14,628,400	8,383,024	428,753
1966	15,817,508	8,476,139	138,736

249. At the end of May 1969, about thirty Anguilla merchants and businessmen decided to set up an Anguilla Chamber of Commerce.

250. There are the following major banks in the Territory: Barclays Bank D.C.O., National Mid-Atlantic Bank Ltd., the Nevis Co-operative Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada, the St. Kitts Industrial Bank, Government Savings Bank, and Bank of America (branches in the Valley (Anguilla) and Basseterre (St. Kitts)).

251. In December 1968 an agreement was signed by Mr. Bradshaw and the United States Government guaranteeing American investments in the Territory. The agreement lays down rules acceptable to the United States Government with the guarantee that American investors may be able to enjoy the fruits of such investment, and that they would receive reasonable compensation in the event of their investment being required for public purposes. In his speech on that occasion Mr. Bradshaw stated that the Government of St. Kitts welcomed United States private investment and was willing to guarantee its safety. He mentioned that the Bank of America now had three branches on the island and large investments in both Nevis and St. Kitts. He said that Americans own over 6,000 acres of land in Nevis, and that since 1960, eighty-one licences were granted to Americans to own freehold property in that island. Americans had built three hotels there and were now building a fourth. Of the fourteen licences granted to Americans in St. Kitts since 1960, the Franklands Estate owned several hundred acres, and one hotel had been built. Five Americans had been licensed to hold land in Anguilla, and one couple had built a hotel there.

252. United Kingdom aid. It was announced in May 1969 that the unexpended balance (about £500,000) of Commonwealth Development and Welfare Funds already allocated to the Territory, together with similar sums representing succeeding allocations of development aid during the period ending 31 March 1972, would be made available towards the cost of a 7,600-foot jet airstrip in St. Kitts.

253. It has also been agreed that a special development grant amounting to £150,000 over the next two years will be spent on agreed development projects in Nevis.

254. In May 1969 a team of experts from the British Development Division in Barbados paid a visit to Anguilla to report and make recommendations for Development projects on the island.

255. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to the Territory has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US129,700. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969-1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning (low-cost housing programmes), animal husbandry, plant production and protection, agricultural development and agricultural marketing.

Social conditions

256. Labour. About 6,500 workers are employed on sugar estates and 900 in sugar factories. Government departments employ about 1,500 persons. As employment on the estates is seasonal and there are few alternate job opportunities, there is considerable under-employment from August to January.

257. Many young people from the islands, in particular from Anguilla, were reported to have left for the United States Virgin Islands in recent years because of lack of work. There are an estimated 3,000 Anguillians working in the United States Virgin Islands, most of them in the building trades.

258. There are seven registered trade unions with a total membership of about 4,500. The largest union is the St. Kitts-Nevis Trade and Labour Union with a membership of over 4,000.

259. Health. In January 1968, the Joseph France General Hospital in Basseterre, St. Kitts, was opened; the hospital has a capacity of 164 beds and is equipped with research laboratories and modern operation facilities. In addition, there are two other general hospitals with 157 beds and two cottage hospitals with 25 beds. There are also three old persons' homes.

260. The Territory is divided into four boards of health; they are subject to the Central Board of Health. There are nine government medical officers and four private practitioners.

261. Recurrent expenditure on public health in 1965 amounted to \$959,000 or 14.4 per cent of total government expenditure.

262. The following table shows birth and death rates in the years 1961 to 1965 per thousand:

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Birth rate	36.2	37.1	34.8	32.3	31.3
Death rate	12.6	10.3	9.8	9.4	9.4

Educational conditions

263. Primary education is free and, since 1964, has been compulsory between the ages of six and fourteen.

264. Experimental projects in curriculum development in the English language for students in the 12-15 age group of secondary and all-age schools are gradually being introduced to Eastern Caribbean islands.

265. The senior lecturer in education at the University of the West Indies Institute of Education, was expected to leave Barbados for St. Kitts late in the month of September 1968 to launch the experimental programme in St. Kitts. The main purpose of his visit was to give advice to the schools in teaching materials and techniques.

266. In St. Kitts there are nineteen government primary schools, one government senior school and two aided denominational primary schools; there are three government secondary schools and one private secondary school. In Nevis there are ten government primary schools, one government senior school and one government secondary school. In Anguilla there are five government primary schools and one government secondary school. The Valley Secondary School, which had been occupied by the British Paratroopers, was reopened on 14 April 1969.

267. At the beginning of 1967, the number of pupils enrolled in government primary and senior schools was 15,821, with a teacher strength of 414. The number of students in government secondary schools was 1,764.

268. Recurrent expenditure on education in 1965 was \$1,013,600.

269. Teachers at the Basseterre High School and other secondary and primary schools in St. Kitts went on strike early in 1969 after the Ministry of Education and Teachers' Association failed to agree on the Association's demands. They returned to work on 2 February 1969 following an assurance from the Public Service Commission that no attempt would be made to victimize any teacher involved in the strike.

5. ST. LUCIA^{1/}

General

270. St. Lucia lies about twenty miles north of St. Vincent and twenty-five miles south of Martinique. It is the second largest of the Windward Islands with a maximum length of 27 miles, a maximum width of 14 miles and an area of 238 square miles. It is of volcanic formation, fairly hilly, the highest peak being Morne Gimie (3,145 feet). The island lies in the hurricane zone.

271. In 1966, the population was estimated at 110,142, compared with 106,663 in 1965 and 101,959 in 1964, almost all of whom were of African or mixed descent. According to the first report of the Regional Manpower Survey, published in June 1967, which was undertaken by the Institute of Social and Economic Research for the Eastern Caribbean of the University of the West Indies, it is expected that the population of the Territory will increase to about 114,800 by 1975. The population of Castries, the capital, is approximately 40,000.

Constitutional and political developments

272. Constitution. Under the new Constitution, which came into force on 1 March 1967, the basic government structure is as follows:

(a) Governor

273. The Governor is appointed by the Queen. Except where otherwise provided he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet or a minister acting under the general authority of the Cabinet.

(b) Legislature

274. The Legislature consists of the Queen and the House of Assembly. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of St. Lucia, subject to the assent of the Governor. There is also a provision for a Senate, if the House should resolve in favour of it. The House of Assembly consists of ten members elected in single member constituencies under universal adult suffrage, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and, until the provisions relating to a Senate are brought into operation, three nominated members, two of whom are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier and one after consultation with the Premier and such other persons as the Governor in his discretion may decide to consult. Nominated members are not entitled to vote on motions of no confidence or on constitutional questions. The House elects a Speaker who, if he is not already a member of the House, becomes one by virtue of his office.

(c) Cabinet

275. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier, the Attorney-General (ex officio) and other ministers. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly. The other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier from among the members of the House.

^{1/} The information on the Territory has been derived from published reports.

(d) Judiciary

276. The law of the Territory is the common law of England and Statute law. The Attorney-General is the principal legal adviser of the Government. The West Indies Associated States Supreme Court is a superior court of record and consists of a Court of Appeal comprising the Chief Justice as President and two justices of appeal and a High Court of Justice comprising the Chief Justice, appointed by the Queen and six puisne judges. The Court of Summary jurisdiction, presided over by a puisne judge, deals with civil cases involving sums up to \$1,000. ^{2/} Magistrate courts deal with summary and civil offences involving sums of not more than \$500.

277. Local government. Local government bodies are operated in all the main towns and villages, with elected and nominated members on each. There are annual elections in which two or three members are elected for three-year terms. The nominated members are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Minister for Housing, Community Development, Social Affairs and Labour.

278. Public service. The appointment, dismissal and disciplinary control of public officers is, with certain exceptions, vested in the Public Service Commission, appointed by the Governor in accordance with the advice of the Premier.

279. Political parties. Until 1968 there were two political parties in the Territory, the United Workers' Party (UWP) and the Labour Party (LP). In 1968, a new party, the Labour Party United Front (LPUF) was formed.

280. Electoral system. The House of Assembly appoints a standing committee, with the Speaker as chairman, to keep under review the number of constituencies and their boundaries.

281. According to the Constitution, a person who is a British subject, proficient in English and has reached the age of 21 years is qualified for election if he was born in St. Lucia and is domiciled and resident there or if he has been resident for three years. The same qualifications govern eligibility for nomination except that the minimum age is 30 years. A person is qualified to vote if he has reached the age of 21 years and satisfies the resident and other qualifications prescribed by the Legislature.

282. On 5 June 1968, about 200 delegates of the annual meeting of the council of the ruling United Workers' Party unanimously passed a resolution, calling on the Government to lower the voting age in the Territory from 21 to 18 years. On 16 January 1969, the House of Assembly passed a bill by which the voting age was lowered to 18 years of age; two opposition members and one nominated member were absent during the debate. (The 1967 Constitution provided that such a decision can be taken by a simple majority vote.)

283. Elections. During the elections held in June 1964 the LP, which had been in office for thirteen years, was defeated. The UWP won eight seats and the LP won two. During the elections held on 25 April 1969, the UWP led by the Premier,

^{2/} For an explanation of the currency in use, see para. 11 above.

Mr. John Capton, won six of the ten constituencies, the opposition LP won three seats and the new LPUF won one seat.

Economic conditions

284. General. The economy of the Territory is based on agriculture; tourism and manufacturing industry, however, are slowly reducing the Territory's dependence on crops.

285. In the Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey^{3/} it was noted that the banana industry had been the main growth sector of the economy, and accounted for 80 per cent of exports. According to the report, however, future expansion would have to be mainly through tourism. This had been facilitated by the opening of the Beane Field Airport which is capable of handling medium-haul jets. The report also recommended that the competitive position of agriculture should be improved through land tenure reform and crop diversification.

286. Land. The total land area is 152,320 acres of which 24,800 acres are owned by the Government, leaving about 127,200 acres in private ownership, 82,060 of which are occupied by farms. Land may be bought freely, but certain restrictions are imposed on aliens who must obtain approval from the Governor.

287. Water. The St. Lucia Water Authority was set up in 1965 as a central authority to rationalize the development and use of water resources throughout the Territory. At the beginning of 1969 work was started on a new \$5 million water scheme to provide Castries and its suburban areas with 1 million gallons of water daily; it is planned that the scheme should become operative by 1971.

288. Power supply. St. Lucia Electricity Services, Ltd., is responsible for the generation and distribution of the electric power supply in Castries, Soufrière and Vieux Fort. The Castries power station has a capacity of 4,565 kw.

289. Agriculture. Agriculture is the main industry and provides employment for the majority of the inhabitants. The main crops are bananas, coconuts, cocoa, fruit, nutmegs, mace and sugar cane.

290. In recent years, bananas have replaced sugar cane as a major crop of the Territory. The following table shows exports of banana stems in the years 1964 to 1968 and their value:

	<u>Stems</u>	<u>Value</u> (dollars)
1964	5,180,086	8,166,880
1965	6,336,452	9,239,991
1966	6,644,460	9,443,134
1967	5,869,530	8,453,404
1968	5,656,985	9,636,389

The drop in 1967 exports was due to damage caused by hurricane "Beulah".

^{3/} Report of the Tripartite Economic Survey of the Eastern Caribbean, January-April 1966, London, 1967.

291. Coconut production increased to 6,000 tons in 1966. Figures for earlier years were 5,024 tons in 1965, 4,525 tons in 1964 and 4,293 tons in 1963.

292. Cocoa is cultivated on both large and small plantations, but in recent years there has been a decline in this crop. The Government is helping to improve the preparation of beans for export, and two fermentaries, operated on a co-operative basis, have been built at Earth, Soufrière, and Richfond, Dennery.

293. Citrus fruits, including limes, oranges and grapefruit, are grown commercially. During recent years there has been a decline in the production of limes; this is now being balanced by an increase in oranges and grapefruit. Paprika was introduced experimentally as a commercial crop in 1966.

294. The St. Lucia Agricultural Bank was set up in 1966 to assist the development of agriculture, livestock and fisheries, and a marketing organization has been developed with the help of United Nations technical assistance and a Commonwealth Development and Welfare grant of \$212,270.

295. Livestock. Estimated numbers of livestock at the beginning of 1967 were as follows: cattle, 11,000; pigs, 18,000; sheep, 8,000; goats, 5,000; poultry, 50,000; horses, mules and donkeys, 2,500.

296. Forestry. The rain forests, which cover an area of approximately 20,000 acres in the mountainous interior of the island, are under the control of the Agricultural Department. Timber is extracted from both Crown lands and private lands and some charcoal is exported to neighbouring islands, principally Barbados.

297. Fisheries. The fishing industry is the responsibility of the Agricultural Department. St. Lucia Fisheries, Ltd. was formed in 1967 to carry out deep-sea fishing, to freeze and pack shrimp and fish for export and to increase supplies to the local market.

298. Tourism. The number of tourists increased from 17,424 in 1964 to 23,856 in 1967.

299. Industry. In 1965, the Industrial Development Board was established with membership drawn from the business and professional community and operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The responsibility of the board is to advise the minister on matters of industrial and general development as well as to assist prospective investors in the Territory.

300. The local industries include the production of rum, edible oil, cigarettes, mineral waters, soap, furniture, etc. Recent new industries include a plant for making coconut and banana chips, a fertilizer plant and a factory for paper products.

301. Transport and communications. The building and maintenance of roads is the responsibility of the Public Works Department. There are about 418 miles of main and secondary roads in the Territory. The main road circles the island. There were 3,526 registered vehicles at the end of 1968.

302. The main port of the Territory is at Castries. Regular steamship services to Canada, United States and Europe are provided by the Federal Steamship Company,

Saguenay, Italian, French, Harrison, Geest, Grimaldi Siosa, and Atlantic Lines, Ltd. Inter-island communication is provided by two ships of the West Indies Shipping Service and a number of small vessels.

303. The principal airfield of the Territory is located at Vigie about two miles north of Castries. Beane Field Airport, a de-activated United States Air Force field at Vieux Fort, is being extended and re-equipped to handle long range jet traffic with a view to opening up the area for tourism and industrial development. Services are provided by the British West Indian Airways, Pan American Airways, Leeward Islands Air Transport, Caribair and the Dutch Antilles Airlines.

304. The new automatic telephone system of Cable and Wireless (W.I.), Ltd., was officially opened at Castries in January 1967. The company also operates international telecommunication services.

305. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1963 to 1965:

	(dollars)		
	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Exports	7,820,816	9,657,944	10,737,195
Re-exports	134,199	169,604	431,913
Total exports	7,955,015	9,827,548	11,169,108
Imports	16,660,344	20,412,338	22,014,485

Bananas continued to be the major export commodity; other important export items were coconut oil and copra. Major items of import are cement, plastic goods, iron and steel products, hardware, motor vehicles, agricultural machinery, fertilizers, consumer goods and food-stuffs.

306. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1964 to 1968:

	(dollars)	
	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1964 (estimates)	7,602,980	7,264,401
1965	7,960,333	8,293,893
1966 (revised)	9,290,250	9,383,010
1967 (estimates)	10,639,464	10,154,681
1968 (estimates)	N.A.	11,623,766

The above figures do not include Colonial Development and Welfare grants; the total allocation for the years 1965 to 1968 amounted to \$5,960,000.

307. The main sources of revenue are import and export duties, excise duties, income taxes, succession duties, and land and house taxes.

308. There are six major banks operating in the Territory: the Bank of Nova Scotia, Ltd., Barclays Bank D.C.O., Royal Bank of Canada, Government Savings Bank, St. Lucia Co-operative Bank, Ltd. and the Agricultural Credit Bank.

309. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to St. Lucia has been provided since 1964, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US125,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969-1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning (mainly future urban and rural development), agricultural development, plant protection, postal administration and water supplies.

Social conditions

310. Labour. According to a report published in June 1967 (see para. 2 above), St. Lucia's labour force is expected to increase during the period 1965-1975 from 31,200 to 39,500, and unless job and migration opportunities expand, unemployment is likely to increase from 2,400 in 1967 to 4,500 in 1975. In 1965, 95 migrants were recruited for overseas employment in the United States, 250 in the United States Virgin Islands, 106 in Ascension Islands, 16 in Canada and 33 in the United Kingdom, a total of 503.

311. There are five workers' organizations, with a membership of about 5,000, and one employers' organization registered in the Territory.

312. At the beginning of 1968 the per capita income in the Territory amounted to \$307. The cost of living index (base 100 in April 1964) rose from 102.8 in January 1965 to 105.1 in December 1965.

313. Public health. Medical and health services are the responsibility of the Ministry of Health. There is one general hospital at Castries (Victoria Hospital, with about 220 beds) and one at Viewport (St. Jude Hospital, with 100 beds). In addition, there is a mental institution, a tuberculosis centre, an institution for the aged and infirm and a number of maternity and child welfare centres. At the beginning of 1967, a \$1 million research centre was opened in St. Lucia to test means of controlling schistosomiasis, the most serious parasitic disease of the area.

314. The birth-rate in 1967 was 44.3 per thousand (38.7 in 1966 and 40.09 in 1965). The death-rate for 1967 was not available; in 1966 it was 6.6 per thousand (7.6 in 1965).

Educational conditions

315. The Board of Education is responsible for advising the Government on educational policy, for submitting its views on any educational question which Government may refer to it, and for assisting in framing rules and regulations. Primary education is free and compulsory.

316. In 1966 there were 63 primary grant-in-aid schools and one government primary school in the Territory with a total enrolment of 24,000 children. The corresponding figures for 1965 were 58 aided schools, one government school and 23,362 children. Secondary education was provided by two private (and government-aided) schools in Castries and one government school in Vieux Fort; the total number of students was about 1,060. There is also a Teachers' Training College at Vigie which had 40 to 50 students in 1966.

317. Broadcasting stations covering the Territory include Radio Carib, W.I.B.S. from Grenada, Radio Guardian and Radio Trinidad from Trinidad, R.T.F. from Martinique and Radio Barbados. A television station was brought into operation in June 1967.

6. ST. VINCENT^{1/}

Introduction

318. St. Vincent lies about 100 miles west of Barbados and about twenty-one miles to the south-west of St. Lucia. The Territory also includes part of the Grenadines chain of islands, known as the St. Vincent Grenadines, including Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, Mustique and Union Island. The island of St. Vincent is about eighteen miles long and eleven miles wide. Including the St. Vincent Grenadines, the total area of the Territory is 150.3 square miles.

319. At the last census, taken in 1960, the population was 79,948, almost all of whom were of African and mixed descent. The estimated population at the end of 1967 was 92,000, compared with 90,500 at the end of 1966 and 88,700 at the end of 1965. Kingstown, the capital, has a population of 29,688 including its suburbs. The other principal towns are Georgetown, Calliaqua, Layou, Barrouaille and Chateaubelair.

Constitutional and political developments

320. Constitution. In May 1966, a constitutional conference was held in London at which the future status of St. Vincent was discussed between representatives of the Territory and the United Kingdom Government (see paras. 6 to 9 above).

321. At the conference, agreement was reached on a proposed constitution, which has not yet come into force (see paras. 327 to 335 below).

(a) The Legislature of the Territory will consist of the Queen and a House of Representatives. The Queen will be represented by a Governor.

(b) The House of Representatives will consist of a speaker, thirteen elected members and, until the Legislature otherwise provides, three nominated members. Two of the nominated members will be appointed on the advice of the Premier and one on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition. The speaker will be elected either from among the members of the House or from outside. If the person holding the office of Attorney-General is not a member of the House he will become an ex officio member and will be entitled to vote.

322. Electoral system. The thirteen elected members of the House will be elected in single-member constituencies. Provision will be made for a constituency boundaries commission, consisting of a chairman and between two and four other members, to be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. The

^{1/} The information on the Territory has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 26 September 1968 for the year ending 31 December 1967.

commission will review the boundaries of constituencies whenever a census has been held and whenever the Legislature has altered the number of constituencies.

323. The proposed constitution provides for an increase of four in the number of elected members of the House. As a transitional measure, the existing Legislature will be authorized to provide for these additional members to be elected in existing constituencies.

324. A person will be qualified for election or nomination if he is a British subject who has reached the age of twenty-one years and, in the case of an elected member, if he has resided in the Territory for one year or is ordinarily domiciled and resident in St. Vincent.

325. A person will be qualified to vote if he is a British subject who has attained the age of twenty-one years and if he satisfies the resident requirements prescribed by the Legislature.

326. Political developments. As a result of the elections, which were held in the Territory on 22 August 1966, the People's Political Party (PPP), led by Mr. Ebenezer T. Joshua was returned with five seats, a loss of one, and the Labour Party (LP), led by Mr. Milton Cato, won four seats, a gain of one. Following the elections, a political crisis arose, when the opposition party (LP) lodged election petitions against two government members and the government party (PPP) lodged petitions against two opposition members.

327. At the talks held in London at the end of January and beginning of February 1967, an agreement was reached between the United Kingdom Minister of State, the Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition of St. Vincent on the appointment of a boundaries commission by the United Kingdom which would divide St. Vincent into thirteen constituencies, instead of the present nine, and on the holding of elections under the new constituency system before the end of 1968 under United Kingdom supervision. It was also announced that St. Vincent's new status of association with the United Kingdom would come into effect before 1 June 1967.

328. In March 1967, a further political crisis arose when one of the elected ministers on the government side resigned and joined the opposition party, thus giving the latter the majority. In accordance with the advice of the Chief Minister, the Legislative Council dissolved on 7 April 1967. An order-in-council was also made dissolving the Executive Council and conferring sole responsibility for the administration of the Territory on the Administrator until the formation of a new Government after the election. The Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs also announced, that, in view of the circumstances, it would not be practicable to keep to the Statehood Day for St. Vincent, which had originally been fixed for 29 May 1967; the Secretary explained that it remained the British objective that St. Vincent should become an associated State as soon as circumstances permitted.

329. A new general election was held on 19 May 1967. It resulted in victory for the LP (six seats, 14,498 votes) over the PPP (three seats, 12,466 votes), thus reversing the results of the 1966 elections. Mr. R.M. Cato, former Opposition Leader, was sworn in as Chief Minister on 22 May 1967. Mr. E. Joshua, former Chief Minister, became Opposition Leader.

330. The new Chief Minister subsequently proposed that the number of elective seats in the Legislative Council should remain at nine instead of being increased to thirteen, as agreed in London in February 1967. The PPP did not accept that proposal.

331. At the beginning of April 1968 further talks were held in London between the representatives of the United Kingdom Government, and the LP and the PPP. The talks ended, however, without reaching any final conclusions on the terms of the new constitution, beyond agreement to continue for the present on the basis of the existing constitution and to consider the one proposed at the 1966 London conference as in abeyance. The PPP also demanded new elections before the end of 1968 on the basis of thirteen constituencies. No agreement was reached, however, either on the timing of the elections or on the number of elective seats.

332. On 6 April 1968, the Chief Minister of St. Vincent was reported to have stated that there would be no general elections in the Territory in 1968 and that the Government would run its full term of five years. In mid-April he was reported as having said that the St. Vincent Government was more concerned with giving the Territory a proper economic basis, rather than with details of constitutional advancement.

333. On 19 July 1968, the St. Vincent Constitution (Amendment) Order came into effect, amending the order of 1959. This amendment provides for an increase in the number of ministers from four to a maximum of six, and deletes the provisions relating to the member without portfolio in the Council. Under the new order, "there shall be an Executive Council in and for Saint Vincent which ... shall consist of a Chief Minister, not more than five other Ministers and one ex officio member, namely, the principal law officer".

334. In October 1968, the Government of the Territory published constitutional proposals involving the retention of nine rather than thirteen elected seats in the Legislature; the proposals were subsequently debated in the Legislative Council and adopted later that month. They were formally transmitted to the United Kingdom Government in December 1968. On 12 November 1968, the Chief Minister disclosed that he would not propose any changes in the constitutional arrangements drawn up for St. Vincent statehood in association with the United Kingdom, which would continue to be responsible for the Territory's defense and external affairs.

335. On 10 May 1969, the United Kingdom Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Shepherd, arrived in the Territory at the invitation of the Chief Minister for five-day constitutional talks. On 21 May 1969, the Government of St. Vincent announced that the Territory would become an Associated State within a year.

336. Other developments. On 17 April 1968, at the 597th meeting of the Special Committee, Mr. E.T. Joshua stated that the policy and programme of the PPP was "designed to take St. Vincent from rank colonial rule to full internal self-government, and ultimately to independence" (A/AC.109/FV.597).

337. On 9 February 1969, Mrs. Ivy I. Joshua, Member of Council for North Windward and wife of the Opposition Leader, was arrested and charged in a court in St. Vincent, together with five other persons, with conspiring to set fire

to a building of the Public Works Department. She was subsequently released on \$1,000 bail.

Economic conditions

338. General. The economy of the Territory is based mainly on primary production for export (see also para. 343 and FF below). There is also a small fishing industry mainly for local needs. Secondary industries are limited to arrowroot processing and the production of cigarettes, rum and aerated waters. Tourism is of increasing importance.

339. The 1966-1970 Development Plan emphasized that tourism was the sector with the greatest growth potential in the future and accordingly investment was devoted to the development of the infrastructure, especially in the Grenadines. Although the development plan was drawn up with the assumption that the economy would remain largely dependent on agriculture for some time, provision was made for establishing light industries to utilize local produce through the formation of a Development Corporation.

340. Land policy. All land, other than Crown land, is freehold. Individual ownership is recognized, but aliens may purchase land only with the approval of the Government.

341. Water. There are a number of small streams; none of them is navigable. The Montreal Water Supply Scheme, financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds, was nearing completion at the end of 1967 and was expected to provide about 250,000 gallons of water to South Windward and East St. George Districts by 1968.

342. Power supply. The Commonwealth Development Corporation, with a local subsidiary known as the St. Vincent Electricity Services, is responsible for the supply and distribution of electric power. There are two hydrostations with a capacity of 700 kw and 1,100 kw respectively, and two diesel stations with a capacity of 316 kw and 460 kw. Installation of another 680 kw generator was completed in June 1968. Electricity service was extended to the island of Beguia in October 1968.

343. Agriculture. The main crops in order of importance are bananas, arrowroot, copra and coconuts, sweet potatoes, nutmegs and mace, starchy food crops (yams, tannias and eddoes), cotton, peanuts, cocoa and cassava.

344. During 1968, 2,500,000 banana stems, or 30,000 short tons, were exported, compared with 2,236,755 stems (30,017 short tons) in 1967, 2,502,095 stems (33,510 short tons) in 1966 and 2,365,302 stems (31,797 short tons) in 1965. These exports were valued at \$4,500,000 in 1968, compared with \$3,279,761 in 1967, \$3,465,451 in 1966 and \$3,148,364 in 1965.

345. Arrowroot production in 1967 declined further to 17,345 barrels, compared with 23,160 barrels in 1966, 33,856 barrels in 1965 and 59,600 barrels in 1964. There were indications that the 1968 crop would show a further decline. Market prospects were reported to be poor.

346. Copra and coconut production remained unchanged in 1967. Exports were 2,424 long tons in 1967, compared with 2,306 long tons in 1966, 2,428 long tons in 1965 and 5,454 long tons in 1964. Exports of dry coconuts numbered 730,000 in 1967, compared with 502,053 in 1966 and 461,505 in 1965. Prices and demand remained firm in 1967.

347. The administering Power reported that interest in nutmegs and mace crops had continued in 1967; some 20,543 seedlings were distributed, sufficient to plant about 200 acres. Modest progress continued with Robusta coffee, black pepper, passion fruit and vanilla.

348. Interest in sea island cotton continued to decline in 1967, most growers having given up this crop completely. Only 100 acres were planted in 1967, compared with 200 acres in 1966, 600 acres in 1965 and 817 acres in 1964.

349. Ten acres of cocoa were planted in 1967, compared with seven acres in 1966. With the improvement in prices, growers were showing renewed interest in this crop; however, it was reported that progress would be slow unless wet cacao was purchased from small farmers. Export statistics are not available.

350. Attempts were being made to expand substantially the production of mangoes, avocado pears and citrus fruits to meet the local demand and possibly develop an export trade.

351. Livestock. The livestock population is estimated to number 6,900 cattle; 5,000 goats; 5,000 sheep; 1,300 asses; 50 horses and mules; 5,100 pigs; and 55,000 poultry (all types).

352. Forestry. About 44,800 acres on St. Vincent are forested. Sales of timber on Crown lands are restricted to a minimum so as to avoid excessive exploitation at the expense of soil and water conservation.

353. Fisheries. Extensive inshore fishing is carried on, but little offshore. About 471,728 pounds of fish valued at \$333,710 were sold through established fish markets, representing about 50 per cent of the estimated catch. In mid-1968, a cold storage unit and ice plant for the Fisheries Division of the Agricultural Department was installed at Kingstown at a cost of \$26,000. There is also a cold storage plant for the fishing industry at Canouan.

354. Tourism. The number of tourists visiting the Territory increased from 17,693 in 1964 to 21,041 in 1965 and to 36,505 in 1968. In 1968, the tourist industry had an estimated value to St. Vincent of \$2,600,000, compared with \$1,500,000 in 1967. 2/ During 1967 and 1968, two formerly uninhabited islands in the Grenadines were turned into tourist resorts, namely Palm Island (Prune Island) and Petit St. Vincent.

355. Industry. Industry is based mainly on the Territory's agricultural produce. There is a modern, government-owned Central Arrowroot Factory and about four privately owned mills for processing arrowroot and cassava. With the slump in the arrowroot market, many private mills have ceased operations. The Government

2/ For an explanation of the currency in use, see para. 11 above.

operates two cotton gins. A privately owned plant for processing copra and cotton seed was in operation during 1967. There is a small factory for processing copra and cottonseed and a small cigarette factory, which in 1965 produced 1,470,780 packets of cigarettes. All tobacco is imported. Other small industries include a rum distillery based on molasses imported from St. Kitts, several plants producing aerated drinks, two recapping plants and some furniture factories.

356. Transport and communications. There are about 163 miles of all-weather roads, 182 miles of rough motorable roads and 204 miles of tracks and byways. In 1967, a total of \$318,562 was spent on road maintenance and \$13,355 on special road services. Exceptionally heavy rains at the end of 1967 caused extensive damage to the whole road system of St. Vincent.

357. The principal port is Kingstown. A weekly cargo and passenger service is provided by two ships travelling alternatively via the islands as far north as Jamaica and south to Trinidad. Monthly cargo and passenger services are provided by the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company, Booth American Shipping Company, Fratelli Grimaldi Line, James Nourse Line, Harrison Line, Atlantic Line, West India Shipping Company, Blue Ribbon Line and Saguenay Shipping Ltd. Ships of the Geest Industries (W.I.) Ltd. call weekly taking shipments of bananas and a limited number of passengers to the United Kingdom. Figures on ship movements and passenger traffic are given below:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Steamships	262	321
Inter-island vessels	316	331
Landed passengers	8,371	9,286
Total cargo (tons)	60,964	50,700
Tankers	34	23
Total cargo (tons)	6,309	6,570
Cruise ships	22	19
Passengers in transit	6,308	5,786

358. The airstrip at Arnos Vale, two miles south-east of Kingstown, is 4,800 feet in length. The Leeward Islands Air Transport AVRO-748's connect St. Vincent with Antigua, Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique, St. Lucia and Barbados. There is also a service between St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada maintained by the Leeward Islands Air Transport Twin Otters.

359. An automatic telephone system went into operation in January 1969. International telephone, telegraph and telex services are provided by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd.

360. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports for the years 1965 to 1967:

	<u>(dollars)</u>	
	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>
1965	6,422,137	14,808,502
1966	5,827,073	16,054,408
1967	5,696,577	15,808,406

The principal exports are bananas, arrowroot, copra, nutmegs, sweet potatoes, cotton, and various root crops and spices. The principal imports include foodstuffs, cotton piecegoods, cement, timber, fertilizers and motor vehicles. Most of the Territory's trade is with the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Canada which took most of the exports in 1967 and provided the bulk of the imports.

361. Public finance. The following table shows recurrent revenue and expenditure for the years 1965 to 1968:

	<u>(dollars)</u>	
	<u>Revenue</u> ^{a/}	<u>Expenditure</u>
1965	6,206,517	6,774,709
1966	7,553,238	7,362,397
1967	7,330,497	7,691,464
1968	...	8,298,703

a/ Including grants-in-aid from the United Kingdom: \$1,171,871 in 1965; 1,994,760 in 1966; and 1,931,889 in 1967.

362. Customs duties are the main source of revenue, followed by taxes. Customs duties totalled \$2,848,758 in 1967, compared with \$2,888,176 in 1966. Taxes amounted to \$1,484,166 in 1967, compared with \$1,216,670 in 1966. Among the items taxed in the Territory are entertainment, incomes, estates, stamps, land and houses. Licences required include general licences, dealers' licences, insurance company licences, liquor sale licences, radio receiving licences, still licences, motor vehicle licences and drivers' permits. In June 1968, the British Development Division in the Caribbean announced that the United Kingdom would give the Territory \$1,320,000 in development aid for the year ending March 1969. The repair of roads to serve the growing needs of the tourist and agricultural industries and construction of a new office building for the St. Vincent Government are among the major projects to be financed under this grant.

363. There are three major commercial banks in the Territory: Barclays Bank D.C.O., the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. On 3 February 1969, the newly established Agricultural and Co-operative Bank of St. Vincent opened for service; its object is to provide farmers and fishermen with capital loans to increase production of agricultural and fishing products.

364. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to St. Vincent has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US76,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969-1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning (improvement of land use, urban and rural development), handicrafts marketing, agricultural development, plant protection, water supply, hospital administration, telecommunications and postal administration.

Social conditions

365. Labour. The Minister for Trade and Production is responsible for the administration of the Department of Labour which is headed by the Labour Commissioner. The functions of the department include: (a) investigation of all representations made by employers or workers with a view to assisting in the adjustment of differences; (b) inspection of wages and conditions of work and enforcement of relevant labour legislation; (c) the study of wages, conditions of work and living conditions of workers with a view to suggesting improvements; (d) advising employers and workers on the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance; (e) the collection, collation and publication of labour statistics; and (f) advising the Government on labour matters.

366. The total labour force is estimated at about 30,000; between 50 and 60 per cent of the working population is engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing. There is unemployment in out-of-crop periods and underemployment even in peak periods. In 1967, 97 agricultural workers were recruited for temporary employment in the United States as cane cutters and 282 cane cutters were recruited for a few months to Barbados. The United Kingdom Government permitted the entry of twenty-one persons as immigrants for permanent employment. The Government of Canada allowed entry to sixteen women as household service workers.

367. On 4 December 1968, the Government published a new wages regulations order setting out minimum wages for shop assistants and office clerks. Sales clerks were to receive a weekly wage of \$15 for men and \$13.72 for women. Monthly paid clerks were to receive a minimum salary of \$68.75 for men and \$62.50 for women.

368. There are five trade unions in the Territory: the Federated Industrial and Agricultural Workers' Union, the Civil Service Association, the St. Vincent Union of Teachers and the Secondary School Teachers' Association and the Commercial, Technical and Allied Workers' Union. There is also the St. Vincent Employers' Federation.

369. Public health. Medical and health services are the responsibility of the Medical Department. There were 14 registered government physicians in the Territory in 1967 and 1966, compared with 12 in 1965, and 3 private physicians in 1967 compared with 1 in 1965 (none in 1966). In 1967, there was one general hospital with 268 beds (208 beds in 1966 and 1965), 3 cottage hospitals with 54 beds (28 beds in 1966 and 20 beds in 1965) and 31 dispensaries and child welfare centres (25 in 1966 and 24 in 1965). In addition, there was a mental institution with 100 beds, a leprosarium with 20 beds and a pauper home with 125 beds.

370. The birth-rate in 1966 was 42.0 per thousand (40.5 in 1965); the death-rate was 9.28 per thousand (8.9 in 1965), while the infant mortality-rate was 73.7 per thousand (73.4 in 1965). Statistics for 1967 and 1968 are not available.

371. In 1967, recurrent expenditure on public health amounted to \$1,159,130, compared with \$1,153,028 in 1966 and \$891,027 in 1965.

Educational conditions

372. Primary education, which is free but not compulsory, is provided for children from 5 to 15 years of age. The literacy rate is estimated to be 85 per cent. Following are the number of schools and pupils for the years 1965 to 1967:

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Government primary schools	56	56	58
Pupils	25,541	26,262	26,992
Government secondary schools	3	2	2
Pupils	624	671	724
Private secondary schools	7	7	7
Pupils	1,876	2,182	1,742
Government teacher-training schools	1	1	1
Pupils	299	150	257

In addition, forty-three students in 1967 (46 in 1966 and 47 in 1965) were pursuing higher education overseas.

373. New schools are scheduled for completion in 1969 at Layou and Calliaqua to accommodate 800 and 600 pupils respectively.

374. Recurrent expenditure on education in 1967 amounted to \$1,459,586 compared with \$1,380,601 in 1966 and \$1,115,542 in 1965.

375. There is a broadcasting sub-station in the Territory which mainly relays the programmes of the main WBS station at St. George's, Grenada. Television reception of Trinidad and Barbados programmes is possible in some localities. The Territory has four permanent cinemas. There is one weekly magazine as well as two quarterly publications with a combined circulation of 5,000.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territories of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent at its 130th, 131st and 133rd to 138th meetings between 3 September and 13 October 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.130, 131 and 133-138).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman. However, he confined his statements to the Territory of St. Vincent.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power concerning St. Vincent, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territories, subject to the position taken by the representatives of Italy and Norway who expressed their inability to support the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.607.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 18 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXIV

UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer the United States Virgin Islands to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including the United States Virgin Islands, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. At its 716th meeting, on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
6. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
7. At its 717th meeting, on 2 October, following statements by the representatives of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Mali (A/AC.109/PV.717), the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 9 below.
3. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

9. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the United States Virgin Islands, in particular those adopted at its 613th meeting on 25 June 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence.

(4) The Special Committee notes with regret that despite certain advancement in the political field, no significant constitutional progress has taken place in the Territory since the item was last examined by the Special Committee and by the General Assembly in 1968.

(5) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to this Territory.

(6) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right to self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(7) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which, "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(8) The Special Committee urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.550.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the United States Virgin Islands has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted in 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that no constitutional progress had taken place in the Territory since the item had last been examined by the Special Committee and by the General Assembly; expressed its regret that the administering Power had failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence, while emphasizing once again that the administering Power should enable the people to express their wishes concerning the future status of the Territory in full freedom and without any restrictions; invited the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and to ensure that they should exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including the United States Virgin Islands, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5300/Rev.1), chapter XXI, paras. 308 to 321 and 333; *ibid.*, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chapter XXII, para. 459; *ibid.*, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chapter XXIII, para. 1033; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVII, section II.

^{2/} A/7200 (part I), chapter I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVII, section II.

and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{3/}

General

4. The United States Virgin Islands, which lie east of Puerto Rico, comprise about fifty islands and small islets, the most important of which are St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix. The total land area of the three main islands is 132 square miles (341.9 square kilometres). St. Croix has 84 square miles and is 28 miles long and up to 6 miles wide. St. Thomas has 23 square miles and is 13 miles long and up to 4 miles wide. St. John has 20 square miles and is 9 miles long and up to 4 miles wide.

5. The following table shows the increase in population between 1950 and 1968.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>St. Thomas</u>	<u>St. Croix</u>	<u>St. John</u>
1950 (U.S. census)	26,665	13,813	12,103	749
1960 (U.S. census)	32,099	16,201	14,973	925
1965 (estimate)	49,742	26,375	22,020	1,347
1967 (estimate)	54,545	28,705	24,295	1,545
1968 (estimate)	63,000			

The population of Charlotte Amalie on St. Thomas, the capital, was 12,880 in 1960.

Constitutional and political developments

6. Constitution. The basic law of the Territory is contained in the Revised Organic Act of 1954, by which the United States Congress authorized the establishment of executive, legislative and judicial branches of local government. (The law has since been revised by other enactments of Congress, the most recent, the Virgin Islands Elective Governor Act, having been signed into law on 23 August 1968 (see paras. 13-23).)

7. Governor. Until the appropriate provisions of the new law come into force in 1970 the Governor is appointed by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of the United States Senate. The Governor holds executive power in the Territory. Through the Department of Interior of the United States, he is responsible for the execution of federal and local laws, the administration of all activities of the executive branch, and the appointment of department

^{3/} The information presented in this section has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United States of America under Article 73 e of the Charter on 12 February 1969 for the year ending 30 June 1968.

heads and other employees. He reports annually to the Legislature on the state of the Territory and recommends new legislation to carry out the programmes of local government. There is also a Government Secretary who is appointed by the President of the United States and serves as acting Governor in the absence of the Governor.

8. Legislature. The legislative power in the Territory is vested in a unicameral, popularly elected Legislature, with jurisdiction over "all rightful subjects of legislation" not inconsistent with the laws of the United States made applicable to the Territory. The Legislature consists of fifteen Senators elected for two-year terms by universal adult suffrage. Under a reapportionment approved in June 1968, six Senators represent the district of St. Croix, seven represent the district of St. Thomas and St. John, and two are elected at large by the voters of all the islands. Each bill passed must be signed by the Governor before it becomes law.

9. To be eligible for membership in the Legislature, a person must be a citizen of the United States, aged twenty-five or over and a resident of the Territory for at least three years. To be eligible to register as a voter a person must be a citizen of the United States aged twenty-one or over.

The Legislature is empowered to prescribe other qualifications provided that no property, language or income qualifications may be imposed and that no discrimination be made on the grounds of race, colour, sex or religious belief.

10. Judiciary. The judicial power of the Territory is vested in the District Court of the Virgin Islands and its inferior courts. The District Court has jurisdiction over both local and federal offences. It exercises appellate jurisdiction over the municipal court in civil and criminal cases. Appellate jurisdiction over the District Court is exercised by the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Philadelphia, and by the United States Supreme Court. The Judge of the District Court of the Virgin Islands and the United States District Attorney are appointed by the President of the United States.

11. The municipal court exercises jurisdiction over misdemeanors and traffic offences under the local law. The municipal court judges are appointed by the Governor, and confirmed by the Legislature.

12. Civil cases involving less than \$500 are handled by the municipal court; cases involving higher amounts up to \$10,000 are handled by either the municipal court or the District Court; all cases involving more than \$10,000 are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the District Court.

13. Virgin Islands Elective Governor Act. The Act which amends the Revised Organic Act of 1954, was passed by the United States Senate on 24 July 1968 and by the House of Representatives on 26 July 1968. It was signed by the President of the United States on 23 August 1968. 4/

4/ For more detailed information see A/6700/Rev.1, chapter XXIII, paras. 21, 39 to 41 and A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, annex I, paras. 7 to 23.

14. The act provides that the executive power of the Virgin Islands shall be vested in an executive officer whose official title shall be the "Governor of the Virgin Islands". The Governor, together with the Lieutenant Governor, shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast by the people who are qualified to vote for the members of the Legislature of the Territory. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be chosen jointly, by a single vote applicable to both officers. The first election shall be held on 3 November 1970. Thereafter, beginning with the year 1974, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be elected every four years at the general election. No person who has been elected Governor for two full successive terms shall be again eligible to hold that office until one full term has intervened.

15. The candidate for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor must be an eligible voter and must have been a citizen of the United States as well as a bona fide resident of the Virgin Islands for five consecutive years immediately preceding the election; he must also be, at the time of taking office, at least thirty years of age.

16. The Act provides that the Governor shall have general supervision and control of all the departments, bureaux, agencies, and other instrumentalities of the executive branch of the Government of the Virgin Islands. He shall appoint, and may remove, all officers and employees of the executive branch of the Government, except as otherwise provided in an Act of Congress, or under the laws of the Virgin Islands, and shall commission all officers that he may be authorized to appoint. He shall be responsible for the execution of the laws of the Territory and the laws of the United States applicable in the Virgin Islands. He may veto any legislation as provided in the act. He shall have the power to issue executive orders and regulations in accordance with the applicable law. He may recommend bills to the Legislature and express his views on any matter before that body.

17. Whenever it becomes necessary, in case of disaster, invasion, insurrection, or rebellion or imminent danger thereof, or to prevent or suppress lawless violence, the Governor may summon the posse comitatus, or call out the militia, or request assistance of the senior military or naval command of the Armed Forces of the United States in the Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico. The Governor may, in case of rebellion or invasion or imminent danger thereof, when the public safety requires it, proclaim the islands to be under martial law; the act provides that the members of the Legislature shall meet forthwith on their own initiative and may, by a two-thirds vote, revoke such proclamation.

18. The Governor shall make an annual report to the United States Secretary of the Interior on the transactions of the territorial Government for transmission to the United States Congress and such other reports as may be required by the Congress or under applicable federal law.

19. The recall procedures provide that the Governor may be removed from office by a referendum election, if the number of votes cast in favour of his recall is at least two-thirds of the number of votes cast for him at the last preceding general election, and if these are a majority of all those voting in the referendum election.

20. The Lieutenant Governor shall have such executive powers and perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Governor or prescribed by the act or under the laws of the Virgin Islands.

21. The act further provides that the Secretary of the Interior shall appoint a Government Comptroller for the Virgin Islands who shall be under the general supervision of the United States Secretary of the Interior. The Comptroller shall not be a member of any executive department in the Government of the Territory. His salary and expenses shall be paid by the United States from internal revenue collections appropriated for the Territory. The Comptroller shall be authorized to communicate directly with any person or with any department officer or person having official relations with his office. All departments, agencies, and establishments shall provide him with whatever information he may require regarding the powers, duties, activities, organizations, financial transactions and methods of business of their respective offices. The functions of the Comptroller shall be so directed as to (a) improve the efficiency and economy of government programmes; and (b) to ensure that federal revenues are properly accounted for and audited; the Comptroller shall not interfere with the administration of the executive branch of the Government of the Territory.

22. The following is a summary of some other important changes in the Revised Organic Act of 1954, which follow from the Elective Governor Act:

(a) The act eliminates the authority of the President of the United States to veto territorial legislation referred to him by the Governor of the Territory, after such legislation has been passed by the Legislature over the Governor's veto. The act also provides for the reconsideration of legislation returned to the Legislature by the Governor with his objections thereto.

(b) The approval of the Secretary of the Interior is no longer required for the establishment of any new department, agency, or other instrumentality in the executive branch by the Governor or the Legislature.

(c) Members of the school boards and members of the boards of elections which have been duly organized by the Government of the Territory shall be popularly elected (see also para. 29).

(d) The salaries and travel allowances of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, officers and other employees of the Government shall be paid by the local authorities.

(e) The Constitution of the United States and all its amendments shall have the same force and effect in the Virgin Islands as in the United States, to the extent that this is not inconsistent with the status of the Territory as an unincorporated Territory of the United States.

(f) The act extends to the Territory that portion of the general military laws which authorizes the President of the United States to call upon federal or local forces in cases of insurrection or other similar emergency.

(g) The act provides that the Secretary of the Interior shall have general administrative supervision of all matters affecting the Territory which are not the responsibility of other federal departments or agencies.

(h) The act removes the debt restrictions on the issuance of revenue bonds and notes and the interest rate limitation on such obligations.

23. Those provisions of the act necessary to authorize the holding of an election for Governor and Lieutenant Governor on 3 November 1970, will become effective on 1 January 1970. All other provisions, unless otherwise provided, will become effective on 4 January 1971.

24. The President of the United States on the occasion of the signing of the bill stated, inter alia, "This is the second time in the history of the United States that a territory has been empowered to elect its own Governor. The only precedent is the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, which first elected its Governor twenty years ago. This legislation ... represents an important stage in the political development of the Virgin Islands. We do not know today - and would not predict - what the ultimate status of the Virgin Islands may be. We do know, however, that the orderly progress of political development will continue."

25. In welcoming the new law, the Governor of the Territory called it "the realization of a long-cherished dream, to have a stronger voice in our own affairs, a greater autonomy, a new respect and a new and important responsibility". He said the islands would continue to press for the privilege of voting in United States presidential elections and for the right to seat an elected representative in the Congress.

26. Political parties. The Democratic and Republican Parties of the United States have branches in the Virgin Islands. The two factions of the Democratic Party, the Mortar and Pestle Democrats and the Donkey Democrats, were reported to have merged during 1963.

27. In November 1968 the Independent Citizens Movement entered two candidates in the elections. Although neither candidate was successful, the party received more than 5 per cent of the total vote cast, and therefore it qualified to register as a political party and to have a slate or symbol section on the ballot for the next elections in 1970.

28. Elections. Elections for the Legislature were held on 5 November 1968, at the same time as general elections were being held in the United States. The fifteen Senators who were elected were all Democrats. A total of 5,902 eligible voters in St. Croix (out of 8,582) and 6,753 eligible voters in St. Thomas-St. John (out of 8,255) cast their ballots during the election.

29. The Democratic Party also won twenty out of twenty-three seats in the Board of Elections and all nine seats in the Board of Education (see also para. 22 (c)).

30. For the first time, the voters also elected "a representative of the Virgin Islands to Washington, D.C.", Mr. Ronald de Lugo. He is paid by the Government of the Virgin Islands, which also pays for maintaining his office and staff. His function is to "work to bring about an understanding of Virgin Islands affairs in Washington".

31. Other developments. In January and in March 1969, two bills were introduced in the United States Congress to grant the Virgin Islands a form of representation in Congress by which the Territory would elect one representative who would sit in the House of Representatives without the right to vote. A similar bill which had been introduced during the 89th Congress, had been passed by the House but rejected by the Senate. A spokesman for the Department of the Interior was

reported as saying that approval of the measure would be "a logical step in the democratic development of the Territory"; he also stated that "any discussion of statehood status for the Virgin Islands at this point would be premature".

32. On 7 March 1969 the President of the United States appointed Mr. Peter A. Bove as Governor of the Territory, subject to confirmation by the United States Senate. The resignation of the former Governor Mr. Ralph M. Paiewonsky became effective on 12 February 1969.

33. Military bases. There is a United States submarine base in St. Thomas which covers an area of 197 acres and 33.32 acres used by the United States Navy for its Underwater Demolition Team (UDT). As reported by the administering Power in 1967 it was estimated that seventy-five of the 197 acres of the base and all 33.32 acres of UDT land were useable for industrial purposes.

34. On 1 September 1966, the UDT properties were made available to the Government of the Virgin Islands, under a thirty-day revocable permit from the Navy. The most important structures on the property consist of a three-story building now housing several government or government-related agencies, a warehouse and three piers.

35. On 28 February 1967, 196.3 acres of land at the submarine base, together with all improvements, were transferred from the Federal Government to the Government of the Virgin Islands. The land and improvements were appraised by the General Services Administration at \$US3,934,000. Acquisition was accomplished through an initial payment of 10 per cent, with the balance to be paid over a period of ten years, at an interest rate of 4-3/4 per cent.

36. The male population of the United States Virgin Islands is subject to the Military Selective Service Act of 1967. During 1967/1968, the total draft registration in the two local boards reached 9,309 an increase of 1,162 over 1966/1967. This increase was reported by the administering Power as having resulted from the large number of aliens admitted for permanent residence. The Territory's induction quota for 1967/1968 was 231, an increase of 55 per cent over the previous year. Two hundred and twenty inductions were actually made.

Economic conditions

37. General. According to the report of the administering Power, the Territory has enjoyed a period of uninterrupted economic growth for the last seven years. The impetus for this development has come largely through the Government's programme for promoting tourism and commercial and industrial activities. An active programme of introducing new industries has been encouraged, in particular, by fiscal and other inducements.

38. In the fiscal year 1967/1968, per capita income was estimated in excess of \$2,500, the highest in the Caribbean, compared with about \$2,100 in the years 1965 to 1967, \$1,761 in 1963/1964 and \$1,543 in 1962/1963. There are no official statistics giving a breakdown of income by sectors of economy.

39. On 27 November 1968 preliminary proposals for a comprehensive plan for the Virgin Islands were submitted to the local authorities by Lawrence Halprin and Associates, a firm of architectural planners which had been given a \$550,000 contract to study urban growth and tourist influx. The plan envisages the building of a new airport and a new town in the Territory, which would provide about 3,000 low-income and middle-income housing units. Charlotte Amalie, the capital, would be redeveloped with emphasis on the waterfront. The plan has been endorsed by the United States Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of the Territory.

40. The Charter of the Virgin Island Corporation expires on 30 June 1969. It is not planned to renew the Charter and steps have been taken gradually to transfer the Corporation's responsibilities to the territorial Government. The Corporation was responsible for the management of the power generating facilities on St. Croix and St. Thomas, together with the sea-water desalting plant on St. Thomas and for operation of the Harry S. Truman Airport and commercially developed sections of the submarine base in St. Thomas. The Corporation was also one of the principal producers of sugar in the Territory. (See also A/6700/Add.14 (part I), chapter XXIII, paras. 55 and 56.)

41. Tourism. Tourism continued to be the Territory's most important industry. It is estimated that in 1967/1968, 923,000 tourists visited the Territory (compared with 718,000 in 1966/1967, 640,000 in 1965/1966, 631,000 in 1964/1965 and 448,165 in 1963/1964).

42. Cruise ship visits to the Territory increased substantially during 1967/1968 with calls at St. Croix increasing from twenty-eight in 1966/1967 to forty and those at St. Thomas from 268 to 301. The following table shows the total cruise ship traffic in the years 1963 to 1968:

	<u>Number of ships</u>	<u>Passengers</u>
1963/1964	261	110,625
1964/1965	238	109,341
1965/1966	255	117,659
1966/1967	296	133,357
1967/1968	341	165,381

43. In 1967/1968, 648,137 persons arrived by air, compared with 516,295 in 1966/1967. Of this total St. Thomas and St. John showed an increase from 400,475 during 1966/1967 to 481,437 in 1967/1968 and St. Croix an increase from 115,820 to 166,700.

44. The following table shows the total expenditure by tourists in the years 1963 to 1968:

(United States dollars)

1963/1964	48,158,074
1964/1965	54,014,852
1965/1966	59,456,245
1966/1967	75,035,860
1967/1968	100,894,303

45. Mineral resources. The Territory provides stone, sand, and gravel as building materials but there are no minerals of commercial significance.

46. Water. One of the main problems faced in the Virgin Islands has been the provision of adequate supplies of water and power; for many years water has been brought in by barge from Puerto Rico. In 1967/1968 the water shortage reached a near-critical point since rainfall was about one half of the normal precipitation. As a result, wells on St. Croix ran dry or became contaminated with sea water and it was necessary to barge over 17 million gallons of water from St. Thomas to Canell Bay and Cruz Bay on St. John.

47. Until 1965, responsibility for water and power rested with the federally owned Virgin Islands Corporation; however, on 1 June 1965, those responsibilities were handed over to the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, owned by the Government.

48. Average daily demand on fresh water from the St. Thomas distribution systems increased by 50 per cent during 1967/1968, rising from 1 million gallons to 1.5 million gallons daily. By the middle of 1968, there were two water distillation plants on St. Thomas with a total capacity of 1.25 million gallons per day. In May 1968, a water desalting plant with a daily capacity of 1 million gallons was completed on St. Croix. In November 1968 a desalting plant with a daily capacity of 2.5 million gallons, combined with a steam generating plant of 15,000 kw capacity was opened on St. Thomas; it was constructed by Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corp. of Philadelphia, Pa., a subsidiary of Armour and Co. and International General Electric Co. Total water distillation capacity for St. Thomas and St. Croix is now close to 5 million gallons per day.

49. Power supply. The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority produces and distributes electricity on St. Thomas and St. Croix islands. In 1968 the total power production on St. Croix was 65 million kwh or 14.1 million kwh higher than in 1967. On St. Thomas, the total production was 97.5 million kwh or 12.7 million kwh higher than in 1967. St. John, Water Island and Hassel Island are supplied with electric power by means of submarine cables.

50. Agriculture. Because of the steep sloping mountainsides, very little land at St. Thomas and St. John is tillable. St. Croix however is well suited for agriculture.

51. Until recently, sugar cane was the only important crop, although it was of a marginal nature and had cost the local government large sums of money to cover milling losses. Consequently, sugar has been phased out and terminated as a commercial crop. It is believed that future growth in agriculture will require intensive land use with economically feasible crops rather than the extensive use with sugar cane and cattle grazing that has been the practice in the past.

52. St. Thomas and St. John produce a number of cattle for dairy and beef purposes. The Department of Agriculture has been experimenting with the production of sorghum with a view to reducing the cost of importing feed for local livestock. The first crop was harvested in October 1968.

53. Fisheries. There is no large commercial fishing industry in the Territory, but the Virgin Island waters are rapidly becoming recognized as a prime fishing area, particularly for game fishing.

54. Industry. According to the report of the administering Power, efforts continued towards the creation of a broader industrial base within the Territory's economy. Although St. Croix remained the centre of industrial development, the Government is trying to stimulate industrial development on St. Thomas.

55. Virgin Islands manufacturers of goods that contain not more than 50 per cent of foreign raw materials are allowed duty-free entry of their products into the United States, under the United States Tariff Act. The watch assembly industry is the chief industry to have taken advantage of this provision.

56. The watch assembly industry was established in the Territory in 1959. In 1968, there were fourteen watch companies operating in the islands, three on St. Thomas, and eleven on St. Croix. These companies employed 800 persons and had a combined annual payroll of \$2,662,059.

57. Under the provisions of legislation, enacted by the United States Congress and effective 1 January 1968, the Federal Government, through the Department of Interior and Commerce took over regulation of watch production in the Virgin Islands and Guam. Under regulations issued by these federal departments, the local Department of Commerce continues to play an administrative role with respect to the watch industry since it controls the issuance of shipping permits to manufacturers licensed under the terms of the federal law.

58. In the calendar year 1967, watch movements and parts were imported to the Territory as follows: Japan, \$6,585,169; Hongkong, \$1,277,938; Federal Republic of Germany, \$1,272,842; France, \$1,185,447; Soviet Union, \$678,717; Switzerland, \$106,776. In the fiscal year 1967/1968, 3,222,571 movements and parts with an approximate value of \$19,353,426 were exported to the United States.

59. The production, distillation and sale of rum, which is one of the major industries of the Territory, is promoted through the Virgin Islands Rum Council, supported jointly by the rum distillers and the territorial Government. The

following table shows the total production of rum in the Territory during the calendar years 1964 to 1968:

	(Proof-gallons) ^{a/}				
	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Brugal and Co.				39,600	54,054
West Indies Distillers, Ltd.	157,470	327,072	180,102	416,361	333,525
Virgin Islands Rum Industries, Ltd.	<u>832,204</u>	<u>878,917</u>	<u>980,065</u>	<u>1,155,637</u>	<u>1,151,346</u>
Total proof-gallons	989,674	1,205,989	1,160,167	1,611,598	1,538,925

^{a/} Proof-gallon: The alcoholic equivalent of a U.S. gallon at 60° F., containing 50 per cent of ethyl alcohol by volume.

60. From 1964 to 1968 the total production of denatured alcohol (in wine gallons) ^{5/} by the Virgin Islands Rum Industries, Ltd. was as follows: 4,370 in 1964; 3,018 in 1965; 5,895 in 1966; 4,900 in 1967; and 3,622 in 1968.

61. Alcoholic beverages exported to the United States in the calendar years 1964 to 1968 were as follows:

	(Proof-gallons)			
	<u>Rum</u>	<u>Whiskey</u>	<u>Cordials, liqueurs, etc.</u>	<u>Total proof- gallons</u>
1964	735,077	2,568	28,571	766,216
1965	1,230,257	2,160	17,796	1,250,213
1966	1,099,928	...	3,204	1,103,132
1967	1,359,817	...	500	1,360,317
1968	1,367,856	...	2,046	1,369,902

62. The Territory's two newest industries, aluminium production and oil refining, began operations during 1966/1967. The 1968 production of the Harvey Aluminum Corporation, which is situated on St. Croix, was reported to be 800 tons of aluminium daily valued at \$23 million annually, and was expected to rise to nearly \$60 million when the enlarged plant came fully into operation. In 1968, the plant employed between 375 and 450 persons.

63. The Hess Oil Corporation, whose plant is also situated on St. Croix, was not able to sell its oil in the United States until late 1967. At that time an agreement was concluded between the United States Secretary of the Interior, the Hess Oil Company and the Virgin Islands Government whereby the United States

^{5/} One wine gallon equals a United States gallon of liquid measure equivalent to the volume of 231 cubic inches.

granted the company an import quota of 15,000 barrels of oil a day (three fifths of the quota requested). Under that agreement the Virgin Islands treasury would receive substantial royalties (about \$2.7 million a year), to be used for air and water pollution control, the development of recreational areas and general conservation.

64. On 15 January 1969 the Legislature voted to establish a board of three members within the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs to advise on the most effective and efficient utilization of the Hess Oil Fund. Subsequently the Secretary of the Interior of the United States released to the territorial Government \$2.04 million from the Fund for use in 1968/1969.

65. Transport and communications. In 1968, there were 298 miles of roads in the Territory compared with 288 miles in 1962 and 255 miles in 1955. In 1967/1968 a total of 6.5 miles of roads and streets was reconstructed and paved on St. Thomas and 13.5 miles on St. Croix. The final 1 1/2-mile stretch of the 8-mile Centerline Road on St. John was reconstructed and paved and streets and secondary roads on the island were improved. It is reported that the Territory will be the object of a highways study, ordered by the United States Congress, preparatory to including the United States Territories in the federal highway network.

66. The main airports in the Territory are the Harry S. Truman Airport on St. Thomas and the Alexander Hamilton Airport on St. Croix. Recommendations have been made for a new jetport on the east end of St. Thomas, since the Truman Airport is considered to be inadequate. A number of reports and studies on the feasibility of such a new airport have been compiled and presented to the Legislature and the public.

67. The islands are now serviced by daily direct jet lines from New York City and Miami in the United States. A regular seaplane service operates between the principal islands.

68. St. Croix has two harbours. A deep water harbour at Frederiksted on the east end of the island accommodates ocean liners and cruise ship traffic to the island; the harbour at Christiansted accommodates medium-sized commercial crafts and pleasure yachts. St. Thomas is one of the ranking ports of call for cruise ships.

69. All three main islands have a dial telephone system. Marine cables to Puerto Rico and to the United States mainland have been installed. International radio telegraph service is also available.

70. It was reported in March 1969 that construction work on the new underground telephone cables connecting the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted, St. Croix, was nearing completion.

71. Trade. The Territory's trade continued to expand. The value of exports in the calendar year 1967 totalled \$74.5 million compared with \$56.2 million in 1966. Imports also continued to rise. The total value of imported goods in 1967 was \$172.1 million (\$103 million from the United States) compared with \$137.7 million in 1966.

72. Public finance. There are three principal sources of revenue for the Territory. The largest source, which is growing every year, is from local income

taxes. Another major contributor to the treasury is the federal excise taxes collected in the United States on imports of Virgin Islands products and returned to the territorial Government as matching funds. In order to receive these funds, the Territory must raise sufficient funds through local taxes to match the amount in excise taxes to be rebated. In addition, the Federal Government assists the Territory by appropriations and grants-in-aid allotments for a number of activities. There are over sixty such aid programmes and appropriations.

73. The following table shows the trend in revenue and expenditure since 1960/1961:

<u>Fiscal and administrative year</u>	(dollars)	
	<u>Revenue</u> ^{a/}	<u>Expenditure</u>
1960/1961	17,429,650	15,662,923
1961/1962	19,950,288	20,050,808
1962/1963	23,124,450	18,111,861
1963/1964	29,305,906	30,182,901
1964/1965	39,976,942	34,903,324
1965/1966	45,988,338	40,614,684
1966/1967	65,959,681	61,197,859
1967/1968	78,747,766.27	80,856,031

a/ Including contributions from the United States in matching funds, grants and loans.

74. It is reported that a record budget of \$70.1 million was submitted to the Legislature in February 1969. Highest on the list of appropriations is the Health Department with a figure of \$11,576,818, followed by the Department of Education, with an appropriation of \$11,499,659.

75. Tax exemptions and subsidy benefits have been used by the territorial Government to encourage industrial development. Incentives for private investment in hotels, guesthouses, industrial concerns and housing projects include tax exemptions of up to sixteen years and a return of 75 per cent of income taxes in the form of a subsidy. The industrial incentive programme was broadened to include commercial buildings and condominiums as subjects of tax exemptions; the financial qualification in the housing project category was lowered from \$100,000 to \$75,000.

76. In the last two years, the Department of Finance has made the following subsidy payments to tax exempt businesses:

<u>Item</u>	<u>1966/1967 (dollars)</u>	<u>1967/1968</u>
Customs duties	1,332,633	2,447,717
Dividend claims	14,448	49,951
Income tax	1,181,626	3,382,451
Excise tax	696,173	380,536

77. A law was signed in December 1968 providing for the creation of a Virgin Islands Port Authority to manage and administer public airports, submarine base facilities, public lands, pier and wharves facilities which are revenue-producing and are at present under the jurisdiction of different public departments. The Port Authority would be permitted to issue bonds of not more than \$36 million to finance public improvements and undertakings.

78. In September 1968, the Legislature created a Land Bank Fund for purchases of real estate for public housing, outdoor recreation, conservation or other relevant use. The initial capital of this fund was \$400,000 to be obtained as a loan from the government insurance fund.

79. There are five banks in the Territory: the Virgin Islands National Bank, the Chase Manhattan Bank, the New St. Croix Savings Bank, the First Federal Savings and Loan Association and the Bank of Nova Scotia. United States banking legislation applies in the Territory. Banking activities continued to expand, with bank assets exceeding \$230 million in 1967/1968.

80. Federal aid. The Territory received nearly \$18.24 million in federal aid in 1966/1967, as follows:

	<u>(million dollars)</u>
Conservation grants	11.08
Anti-poverty funds	2.00
Urban development and public works	1.76
Education	1.09
Public assistance (welfare)	0.67
Child care programmes	0.57
Food distribution	0.38
Health services and research	0.24
Unemployment insurance	0.23
Agricultural conservation research and extension work	0.12
Vocational rehabilitation	0.10
	<hr/>
	18.24

Social conditions

81. Labour. The employment requirements of the Territory's economy continue to exceed the local labour supply, and it is still necessary to supplement the labour force from neighbouring islands and other areas. The following table shows the total labour force, employment and unemployment in the Territory in the years 1965 to 1968:

	<u>1965/1966</u>	<u>1966/1967</u>	<u>1967/1968</u>
Total labour force	23,374	26,048	27,107
Total employment	23,216	25,911	26,897
Insured unemployment	81	79	140
Insured unemployment rate . . .	0.43	0.37	0.63

82. In 1968, the number of alien workers in the Territory was estimated between 13,000 to 14,500. At the end of January 1969, in a letter to the Virgin Islands Legislature, the Representative of the Territory in Washington, D.C. stated that "the alien population is more than 25 per cent of the entire islands' population and represents 45 per cent of the labour force"; he called the alien section of the population an "essential part of the economy". In 1967 alien workers accounted for more than 40 per cent of the total labour force.

83. In order to be able to continue to work, an alien has to make a trip every six months to an island under the flag of his own citizenship, register and return, and accept reprocessing under a United States re-entry rule. The majority of non-resident employees are in the low-income, unskilled classifications, many in construction; a number of them are employed as truck drivers, domestic servants, in hotels, shops and laundries etc.

84. The Assistant Administrator of the United States Bureau of Employment Security was reported to have said in January 1969 that "besides wages that average about \$1.05 per hour, aliens also suffer from bad housing, social services and apparent lack of education for their children". In March 1969, a survey of the alien workers had been completed in St. Thomas by the Alien Interest Movement, Inc. According to the survey "the average alien worker lives in a social and economic setting that is not conducive to his personal health, to the well-being of his family or the goal of the society as a whole".

85. Minimum wages for aliens in the Territory are now established as the prevailing wage in the industry in which they work, for example, about \$US1.15 per hour in the hotel industry. At the end of 1968 and early in 1969, business groups such as the American Hotel and Motel Association, the National Restaurant Association, the Rotary Club of St. Thomas and the Chamber of Commerce strongly protested a proposal to fix the minimum wage at \$US1.60 per hour for alien labourers; the proposal was made by the United States Department of Labor in Washington. In a letter to the United States Secretary of Labor, the Governor of the Territory stated that the proposed new rate would have a destructive effect on some of the Virgin Islands' most important industries and would inhibit their continued economic growth. On 16 January 1969 it was reported that the decision on the proposed minimum wage for alien labourers would be left to the new United States Administration.

86. On 5 February 1969, a bill was passed by the Legislature providing for the establishment of a special commission to study the question of the non-resident population of the Territory. The commission will deal with problems connected with the alien sector in such areas as wages, education, medical care and housing. The Legislature appropriated \$20,000 to implement the provisions of the bill.

87. There are two labour unions in the Territory, the St. Croix Labor Union with a membership of about 500 and the Virgin Islands' Labor Union with a membership of about 1,500; the Alien Interest Movement represents alien workers. At the end of 1968, Virgin Islands teachers became affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers.

88. A strike of several hundred construction workers at the Litwin Construction Inc. and the Hess Oil Refinery took place in October 1968. The strike ended after six days without any change in the union contract, which runs until March 1970. In December 1968, there was a strike of sanitation, road construction and utility workers and truck drivers. At the end of January and beginning February 1969, the Virgin Islands Labor Union organized a strike against the Bata Shoe Stores.

89. Cost of Living. The high cost of living in the Territory has been a matter of concern to the local administration. There is no official cost-of-living index, but it has been reported that prices in Puerto Rico, New York City and Washington, D.C. are lower for almost all commodities.

90. Public health. Hospitals and clinics operate under the authority of the Department of Health. There are two general hospitals and one clinic in the Territory. In 1968, construction started on two new health centres. Each centre will consist of a 250-bed general hospital, a 70-bed long-term facility, a public health centre and an out-patient clinic. The estimated cost for each centre is \$20 million. A dozen mobile units, with medical, dental, X-ray and other facilities were ordered by the Government in September 1968 for use in various parts of St. Thomas and St. Croix.

91. Expenditure on public health in 1967/1968 was \$11,426,853 or 14.13 per cent of total budgetary expenditure (compared with \$8,350,704 or 13.65 per cent in 1966/1967).

92. On 7 January 1969, the Department of Social Welfare opened two centres, one in Frederiksted, the other in Christiansted. Expenditure on social welfare in the fiscal year 1967/1968 was \$3,126,324 or 3.87 per cent of total budgetary expenditure (compared with \$2,614,084 or 4.27 per cent in 1966/1967).

93. A record number of births, 2,272, was registered in 1967, an increase of 316 over the previous year. Increases in the number of live births and population resulted in a birth rate of 41.7 per thousand population in 1967, compared with 38.5 in 1966. The infant mortality-rate increased from 30.7 per thousand live births in 1966 to 30.8 per thousand in 1967. The death-rate fell from 7.6 per thousand in 1966 to 6.8 per thousand in 1967.

Educational conditions

94. The Board of Education now consists of nine members to be elected for two-year terms at the general election, (four members from St. Croix, four from St. Thomas and one from St. John). The Board is "to conduct a study of the primary and secondary public educational systems in the Virgin Islands" and to review the respective laws of the Virgin Islands (see also paras. 22(c) and 29).

95. There are government, private and church run schools, providing primary, junior and secondary education. Higher education and degree courses are provided at the College of the Virgin Islands in St. Thomas. The educational programme in the Territory continued to expand during the period under review. Nevertheless a shortage of school facilities and staff persisted. Private and parochial schools, in particular, experienced a number of difficulties in maintaining their schedules and retaining adequate teaching staff,

96. Under a school-building programme, begun in 1965, 120 new classrooms have been added to the educational system, including the new forty-room Wayne Aspinall Junior High School in St. Thomas and the new forty-two room Central High School in St. Croix. Sixteen new mobile classroom units were acquired either for emergency use until standard classrooms can be constructed or to serve the needs of children who cannot get to regular classes.

97. The following table shows the total enrolment in public and non-public (private and parochial) schools over the last five years:

	<u>1963/1964</u>	<u>1964/1965</u>	<u>1965/1966</u>	<u>1966/1967</u>	<u>1967/1968</u>
<u>Public schools</u>					
Kindergarten	564	690	813	810	921
Grades I-IV and ungraded	5,197	5,536	5,993	6,361	6,757
Grades VII-XII	<u>2,910</u>	<u>3,173</u>	<u>3,448</u>	<u>3,423</u>	<u>3,819</u>
Total	8,671	9,399	10,254	10,594	11,497
<u>Non-public schools</u> (private and parochial)					
	<u>3,470</u>	<u>3,860</u>	<u>3,993</u>	<u>4,546</u>	<u>5,065</u>
Grand total	12,141	13,259	14,247	15,140	16,562

98. The College of the Virgin Islands, established in 1963, reached an enrolment of 272 full-time students and 1,145 part-time students in the year 1967/1968.

99. Alien children are not accepted in the public schools if they are not permanent residents. Only a fraction of these children were attending daily classes in church schools at the end of 1968. At a mass meeting of alien parents held at Barrensport, St. Croix, in December 1968, demands were voiced for the establishment of free, compulsory and universal education in the Virgin Islands.

At the beginning of January 1969, the Department of Education had announced that alien children on St. Croix would eventually be admitted to public schools. A total of 293 children applied for enrolment.

100. Salary schedules and the rising cost of living resulted in the teacher unrest in 1967/1968. Bargaining sessions were held through the school year and resulted in the settlement of basic principles for contract agreements for the 1968/1969 school year.

101. Expenditure on education in 1967/1968 was \$9,608,697 or 11.88 per cent of total budgetary expenditure (compared with \$9,984,649 or 16.31 per cent in 1966/1967). The Department of Education received a total of \$1,616,717 of federal grants-in-aid during 1967/1968.

102. A law establishing public television to serve the three main islands of the Territory was signed on 18 November 1968. Construction of two television stations was due to begin early in January 1969. The Territory has three radio stations and five newspapers (three of them dailies). The Virgin Islands Institute of the Arts began operating officially on 1 March 1969. There is one public library on St. Thomas, one on St. John and two public libraries and a book mobile service on St. Croix.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the United States Virgin Islands at its 122nd to 124th and 130th to 132nd meetings between 21 April and 11 September 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.122 to 124 and 130 to 132).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United States of America, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United States as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory, subject to the reservations expressed by the representatives of Italy and Norway concerning sub-paragraphs (4), (6) and (7) of the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.597.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 9 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXV

BERMUDA

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer Bermuda to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 659th, 716th and 717th meetings on 5 June, 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including Bermuda, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee 'to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution'.
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. In addition, the Special Committee had before it a letter dated 5 June 1969 from Mr. W.G. Brown, General Secretary, Bermuda Constitutional Conference, containing a request for a hearing (A/AC.109/PET.1099).
6. At its 695th meeting, on 5 June, the Special Committee, by adopting the 144th report of the Sub-Committee on Petitions (A/AC.109/L.567), decided to grant the request for hearing contained in the petition referred to in paragraph 5 above. Following this decision, Mr. W.G. Brown made a statement and replied to questions put to him by the representative of Syria at the same meeting (A/AC.109/PV.695).
7. At the 716th meeting, on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
8. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October. At the 717th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Italy. Statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Kingdom.

9. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 11 below.

10. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

11. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 9 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory, in particular those adopted at its 603rd and 613th meetings on 17 May and 25 June 1968, and those approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence.

(4) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory.

(5) The Special Committee notes with regret that no significant constitutional progress towards the implementation of the Declaration has taken place in the Territory since the item was last examined by the Special Committee and by the General Assembly in 1968.

(6) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.

(7) The Special Committee expresses its concern over the racial inequalities and discrimination prevailing in the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to take effective measures, in addition to the legislative measures which have been introduced, to ensure that the people of the Territory are given equal opportunities without any distinction.

(8) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the

Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(9) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution according to which, "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(10) The Special Committee, considering that the information at its disposal does not enable it to assess the actual situation in the Territory or the degree of general awareness of the people concerning the exercise of their right to self-determination, urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.559.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of Bermuda has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted on 17 May 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, expressed concern over the developments in the Territory that took place at the end of April 1968, and over the action taken by the administering Power in declaring a state of emergency and in sending troops to the Territory; took note of the information provided by the administering Power that the state of emergency was lifted on 8 May 1968 and requested the administering Power to withdraw speedily the troops it had sent to the Territory as a result of developments; requested the administering Power to defer the elections scheduled for 22 May 1968 until conditions in the Territory were completely brought back to normal; called upon the administering Power to ensure the necessary conditions in which the people of the Territory may express their views in full freedom and without any restrictions; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the holding of elections was desirable for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory might exercise their right to vote without any restrictions; and urged the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a special mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. In further conclusions and recommendations adopted on 25 June 1968, ^{3/} the Special Committee, inter alia, recalled its conclusions and recommendations concerning the situation in the Territory of Bermuda, as approved on 17 May 1968; expressed regret that the administering Power did not respond positively to the request by the Committee "to defer the elections scheduled for 22 May 1968 until conditions in the Territory are completely brought back to normal" and "to ensure the necessary conditions in which the people of the Territory may express their views in full freedom and without any restrictions"; reaffirmed that the

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session. Annexes Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXIV, paras. 133-134; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chapter XXIII, para. 1,033; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II A.

^{2/} A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II A.

^{3/} A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II B.

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that the administering Power had not taken further measures necessary to implement the Declaration with respect to the Territory and urged it to do so without further delay; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

4. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including Bermuda, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{4/}

General

5. The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a group of small islands in the western Atlantic Ocean, about 570 miles east of the North Carolina coast of the United States of America. They consist of about 150 islands and islets (there are actually some 300 islands and islets but many of these are mere rocks). The ten principal islands are connected by bridges or causeways and are about twenty-two miles long with an average width ranging from one half to one mile. Until 1940 the islands had a total area (including a small lake and a few ponds aggregating about half a square mile) of 19.34 square miles. The United States

^{4/} The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports and from the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 18 November 1968 for the year ending 31 December 1967.

authorities, by uniting and enlarging some of the island with material dredged from the surrounding area, increased that area by 1.25 square miles to a total of 20.59 square miles, of which 2.97 square miles are at present leased to the Government of the United States for naval and military bases, leaving 18.29 square miles available to the civilian population. The islands are generally hilly with a maximum elevation of 259.4 feet above sea level. The largest island, known as the main island, which is about 14 miles long and two miles wide, lies approximately in the centre of the group and contains about 9,000 acres of land.

6. Hamilton, the capital since 1815, which has an estimated population of about 3,000, is situated on the main island. The town of St. George on St. George's Island was formerly the capital. Its population is estimated at about 2,000.

7. At the last census, taken in 1960, the population was 42,640, compared with 37,403 in 1950. At June 1967, the estimated total resident civilian population was 49,748, compared with 49,092 at June 1966 and 48,383 at June 1965. According to approximate figures released in February 1968 by the Registrar General's Office, the Territory's population topped the 50,000 mark at the end of 1967. The density of the population based on an area of 18.29 square miles was 2,720 per square mile at mid-year 1967. About two thirds of the population is of African or mixed descent and the remainder is of European origin.

Constitutional developments

8. Constitution. The Territory's new Constitution was agreed upon at a constitutional conference held in London between 8 and 22 November 1966. In addition to the Governor and the Attorney General, the delegation of Bermuda included eighteen members of the Legislature. These comprised three members of the Legislative Council and fifteen members of the House of Assembly, of whom eight belonged to the United Bermuda Party (UBP), three to the Progressive Labour Party (PLP) and four were independent members. The conference majority report, signed by fourteen of the twenty delegates, favoured the establishment of internal self-government after the general election to be held in 1968. 5/ There were two minority reports, one submitted by the three PLP delegates and the other by two of the independent delegates. The main difference between the majority and minority positions was on the question of constituency boundaries, but agreement was reached on the appointment of a Boundaries Commission to revise constituencies before 1968. The Boundaries Commission Act, which provided for the establishment of the commission, was passed in the Legislative Council on 3 March 1967. 6/

9. The new Constitution is set out in the Bermuda Constitution Order, 1968, which came into operation on 21 February 1968; the Constitution itself came into force on 8 June 1968.

5/ The majority report was adopted by the Legislative Council on 7 February 1967.

6/ For further details, see A/6700/Rev. 1, chap. XXIII, paras. 425 to 467; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, annex I, section II A, paras. 7 to 14.

10. Governor. Under the Constitution, executive authority is exercised by the Governor, who is appointed by the Queen. Generally, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council. The Constitution reserves certain powers concerned with external affairs, defence (including armed forces), internal security and control of the police to be exercised by the Governor in his discretion, provided that "he keeps the Executive Council informed of any matters which may involve the economic or financial interests of Bermuda or the enactment of laws by the Legislature".

11. Legislature. The Legislature consists of a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of Bermuda, subject to the assent of the Governor.

12. The Legislative Council consists of eleven members of whom four are appointed by the Governor, acting in accordance with the advice of the Government Leader; two by the Governor, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition; and five by the Governor, acting in his discretion. The Council elects a president and a vice-president from among its members.

13. The House of Assembly consists of forty elected members. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected from among the members of the House. Other key figures in the House are the Leader of the Government and the Leader of the Opposition, both appointed by the Governor.

14. Executive Council. The Council has general direction and responsibility for the day-to-day affairs of the Territory and is collectively responsible to the Legislature. The Council consists of the Government Leader and not less than six other members; the maximum number of members of the Council is twelve, including parliamentary secretaries. The Governor, acting in his discretion, appoints as the Government Leader the member of the House of Assembly who appears to him to be best able to command the confidence of a majority in the House. The other members of the Council are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the advice of the Government Leader. Not more than two members are appointed from among the members of the Legislative Council; the others are appointed from among the members of the House of Assembly. The Council is presided over by the Governor.

15. Judiciary. The system of law in force is the common law, the doctrines of equity and Acts of Parliament of general application.

16. The Supreme Court is a superior court of record. It consists of a Chief Justice and judges whose number is prescribed by the Legislature. The Court of Appeal consists of a President and at least two justices whose number is prescribed by the Legislature.

17. The Court of Summary Jurisdiction has jurisdiction over all petty offences, as well as over some less serious criminal offences, and has limited civil jurisdiction. Two magistrates preside over courts of summary jurisdiction, held in Hamilton, St. George and Somerset.

18. Local government. The city of Hamilton and the town of St. George are each governed by a corporation, consisting of an elected mayor, aldermen and councillors. The main sources of revenue are charges for water and dock facilities and municipal taxes. Elsewhere in Bermuda, the main unit of local government is the parish (of which there are nine in all). The parish vestries raise revenue by means of levies on land and personal property and have authority to manage local affairs.

Political developments

19. Political parties. There are three political parties in the Territory: the Progressive Labour Party (PLP), the first political party in the Territory, formed in May 1963, the United Bermuda Party (UBP), formed in August 1964; and the Bermuda Democratic Party (BDP), formed in March 1967.

20. The positions of the PLP and UBP with regard to constitutional development in the Territory were outlined in the Special Committee's reports to the General Assembly at its twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. 7/

21. On 10 May 1968, Mr. Brown, an organizer for the PLP, stated before Sub-Committee III, that if his party won the election, it would try to obtain, in consultation with the United Kingdom Government, a better constitution in preparation for self-determination and independence. He also stated that it was difficult to say whether the island was ready for independence, particularly in such areas as defence, but that its leaders wanted to have complete freedom to achieve progress for the Territory (A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.105).

22. Electoral arrangements. According to the new electoral arrangements, proposed by the Boundaries Commission and approved on 31 March 1967 by the House of Assembly (and also reflected in the Bermuda Constitution Order, 1968), the parish of Pembroke is divided into four constituencies and each of the other eight parishes of the Territory is divided into two constituencies. Each constituency returns two members to the House of Assembly.

23. According to the new Constitution, members of the House of Assembly are elected under a system of universal adult franchise. A person is qualified to be registered as an elector (a) if he is a British subject aged twenty-one years or over; (b) if he either possesses Bermudian status or has been ordinarily resident in the Territory throughout the three-year period immediately preceding the election.

24. General elections. Early in 1967, Bermuda's political parties began campaigning for the 1968 general election. Their political platforms were described in the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session (A/7200/Add.10; chap. XXVIII, annex I, section II A, paras. 23 to 33). At the end of April 1968, the Governor announced the dissolution of Bermuda's Parliament.

25. General elections, organized on the basis of the new Constitution, were held on 22 May 1968 and 91.4 per cent of the registered voters went to the polls. The UBP candidates received 21,346 votes and won thirty seats. The PLP candidates received 12,951 votes and won 10 seats. The BDP candidates received 2,517 votes

7/ A/6700/Rev.1, chap. XXIII, paras. 431 to 443; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, annex I, section II A, paras. 23 to 25 and 29 to 33.

and 883 votes were cast for the independents; neither the BDP nor any of the nine independent candidates won seats.

26. The UBP, having obtained a clear majority of votes, Sir Henry Tucker, Parliamentary Leader of the UBP, was invited by the Governor to accept office as Leader of the Government. The head of the PLP, Mrs. Lois Browne-Evans, was appointed Leader of the Opposition in the new House of Assembly.

27. Other developments. On 25 April 1968, as has been previously reported, unrest and what has been termed by the Press as "disturbances and riots" began almost spontaneously in Hamilton, Bermuda, and continued over the following two days (see also A/7200/Add.10, annex I, section II, paras. 35 to 41). According to the information provided by the administering Power, fifteen persons were injured and several fires caused extensive damage to property (A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.104). About 150 people were arrested. It was reported in January 1969 that the events resulted in total losses close to £1 million, including £400,000 in damage to property.

28. On 27 April 1968, the Governor of the Territory proclaimed a state of emergency in the Territory; meetings and processions were banned and a curfew was imposed.

29. On 28 April 1968, about 150 men from the First Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were flown out from the United Kingdom to Bermuda to assist the local authorities in dealing with the situation in the Territory. The Ministry of Defence stated on the same day that these troops would be provided with a small number of support troops from the Strategic Command. In addition, the frigate HMS Leopard, with fifteen officers and 230 men aboard was diverted while on the way from Norfolk, Virginia, to the Bahamas, and arrived in Hamilton on 28 April 1968.

30. The curfew was lifted on 5 May 1968 and the state of emergency on 8 May 1968. The HMS Leopard left the Territory on 6 May 1968.

31. On 26 August 1968, hearings began before the special commission appointed by the Governor to inquire into the causes of the disturbances; the hearings continued through 2 October 1968. In February 1969, the report of the commission was submitted to the Governor. The commission reached the conclusion that the events in April 1968 had social, racial and historical reasons. The report stated, inter alia:

"Through segregation at every level, and through discrimination in education and employment, the majority group at first were excluded from - more recently, have been and are greatly handicapped in winning for themselves - the benefits of economic progress and due recognition as equal

citizens... Class became identified with race so that even now the class distinctions which exist have racial overtones clearly recognizable above the clamour of the new integration. The corrosive psychological effects have affected both segments of the society and are at the heart of the problem with which Bermuda is faced."

32. Military installations. In 1941, there were 1.08 square miles of the Territory leased for naval and air bases to the Government of the United States; the bases are known as the Kindley Air Force Base and the King's Point Naval Base. At present, the United States bases occupy a total area of 2.97 square miles, or about one-tenth of the surface of the island (see also para. 5).

33. By an agreement dated 24 February 1948, between the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom, Kindley Air Force Field was opened to civil aircraft. ^{8/} In accordance with the agreement, all technical facilities, including air traffic control, meteorological forecasting, radio navigational aids and certain communications are provided by the United States. (See also paragraph 60). ^{9/}

34. At the 603rd meeting of the Special Committee, held on 17 May 1968, the representative of the United States stated that "plans were presently under way for the return of an additional portion of Kindley Field to Bermudian control in connexion with the expansion of the civil airfield for jet use." (A/AC.109/SR.603).

Economic conditions

35. General. As reported by the administering Power, the economy of Bermuda depends largely on the sale of goods and services to visitors and to the personnel of the United States bases. Other economic activities include repairs to shipping and light industries in the Freeport (established in 1956 at the site of the former Royal Naval Dockyard on Ireland Island).

36. Among the companies operating at present in the Freeport area are the mineral water concerns of Canada Dry and Pepsi-Cola, and the pharmaceutical company, Merck, Sharp and Dohme. These companies are exempted from customs duties on raw materials, on all machinery and equipment imported into the Freeport and on all goods exported to places outside Bermuda; their earnings in the area are also exempt from taxation.

37. In January 1968, the debate on a new bill designed to encourage new investments in Bermuda was opened in the House of Assembly. A joint select committee which had considered the question presented a report in which it recommended the following: (a) the granting of three concessions to promote economic development in the Territory; (b) the possible deferment of customs duties; (c) the relaxation of provisions concerning immigration; and (d) the

^{8/} United Nations, Treaty Series, 1950, No. 951.

^{9/} For details see A/72CO (Part II), annex, appendix VIII.B, paras. 12 to 31.

granting of privileges to foreign corporations to enable them to take up a lease for ninety-nine years. The report was unanimously adopted and the bill, known as the Industrial Development Act, was passed.

38. Following the 1968 general elections, an Industrial Development Council was set up by the new Government to help diversify the Territory's economy. The Council has four main tasks: (a) to determine the types of industry and manufacture available to, and suitable for, Bermuda; (b) to co-ordinate information on potential industries and disseminate it to Bermuda business; (c) to recommend methods of encouraging, soliciting and advertising for investment by overseas industrial concerns; (d) to frame regulations to protect the territory's main industry, tourism, from interference by the new industries.

39. Tourism. The economy of the Territory continued to depend primarily on the tourist industry, which provides about 90 per cent of Bermuda's over-all revenue and about 40 per cent of its dollar earnings. In 1967, the tourist industry had an estimated value to Bermuda of £18,421,631, compared with £14,477,000 in 1966 and £13,750,000 in 1965.

40. The total number of tourists visiting the Territory in 1968 was 331,379, compared with 281,167 in 1967, 256,772 in 1966 and 237,782 in 1965. The pattern of tourist origins remained relatively steady during the years under review, with about 85 per cent of the visitors arriving from the United States.

41. The number of hotel beds increased from 5,140 in 1965 to 5,360 in 1966 and to 5,655 in 1967. Future plans call for two new hotels to be in operation by 1970 or 1971. It is estimated that the hotel industry employs about 15 per cent of the Territory's labour force.

42. Responsibility for the promotion of tourism rests with the Bermuda Trade Development Board, which has its head office in Bermuda and branch offices in London, New York, Chicago and Toronto.

43. Mineral resources and forests. There are neither mines nor forests in the Territory.

44. Land. The continued increase in the population and the corresponding increase in housing, as well as the need for more playing fields and golf courses, has further encroached on the land available for agriculture. In 1967, a total of about 920 acres remained for agricultural purposes (930 in 1966 and 945 in 1965). This area has been increased to some extent by filling in coastal shallows and marshy areas with refuse, rubble from demolished buildings and surplus from excavated land.

45. Water. There are neither rivers nor freshwater lakes in the Territory. Rainfall is usually distributed fairly evenly throughout each year, and is generally adequate for local agriculture and normal domestic and other purposes. The Government and several large concerns operate sea-water distillation plants.

In 1967, the design of a third million-gallon storage tank, to be constructed in the moat at Fort Prospect, was completed and tenders for the work were under consideration at the end of the year.

46. Power supply. Electric power for public use is provided by the Bermuda Electric Light Company, Limited. Electric power for all purposes is provided by diesel driven generators. At the end of 1967, the total installed capacity was estimated to be 51,640 kw. There are no gas-works in the Territory and the only available gas, used mainly for cooking, is produced and distributed locally from ingredients imported in bulk from abroad.

47. Agriculture. Agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and fisheries are the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries administered under the new Constitution by a member of Executive Council.

48. Tenant farming accounts for about 80 per cent of the land under cultivation, principally in small holdings rarely exceeding ten acres each. These are leased to farmers who normally pay their rent after the crops have been harvested.

49. Bananas, citrus fruits and vegetables are produced for local consumption. The area of arable land, however, is diminishing so rapidly (see paragraph 44 above) that whereas formerly there was an adequate surplus of vegetables for a significant volume of exports to the North American market, at present four-fifths of all food consumed in the Territory has to be imported from overseas.

50. The cultivation of Easter lilies is undertaken for export to the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. However, owing to high labour costs and the shortage of suitable land, it is extremely doubtful whether their cultivation, despite the keen demand at Easter time, will be expanded beyond the present four to five acres. The following table gives details of the cultivation and export of Easter lilies in the years 1965 to 1967:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Bulbs planted</u>	<u>Boxes of flowers exported</u>	<u>Value (Pounds)</u>
1965	5.5	305,200	1,185	7,500
1966	5	302,000	2,089	7,101
1967	4	241,600	2,071	8,097

51. Livestock. Milk, eggs and meat are produced for the local market. The steadily diminishing area of arable land has resulted in a corresponding reduction of pasture land. The greater part of the resident population now consumes imported or dried milk. There has been a significant increase in egg production, however, resulting from the adoption of intensive methods of poultry farming in recent years.

52. Fisheries. There is a small fishing industry in the Territory. It is estimated that of the 530 registered fishermen only about 100 are engaged in full-time fishing.

53. To help professional fishermen lower their operating costs, the Government pays them grants equivalent to the customs duties payable on certain essential fisheries equipment; the fishermen are required to submit regular statistical information on their daily landings and operating expenses. A government freezing and cold storage plant, established in 1963, is available to commercial fishermen on a rental basis. It is estimated that approximately 1,450,000 pounds of fish and 140,000 pounds of spiny lobsters are landed annually, at a value of about £300,000. Research is being conducted into the development potential of deep sea fishing.

54. Industry. Efforts have been made in recent years to promote manufacturing industry in the Territory. The main industries are ship repairing, small boat building, cedar wood-work for carpentry, joinery, etc. Others include the production of furniture, cedar-wood ornaments and souvenirs, the distillation of various perfumes, flavouring extracts, pharmaceuticals, mineral water extracts, etc.

55. Transport and communications. The Territory has 132 miles of government roads which are maintained by the Public Works Department. The use of these roads is regulated by the Transport Control Board, which is responsible for organizing, improving and controlling means of transport within the Territory. In 1967, there were 240,500 square yards of asphalt surfacing laid on public and private roads, car parks, playgrounds and various other sites.

56. Public passenger transportation is operated by the Public Transportation Board, a government body, which operates a fleet of eighty-six buses; passengers numbered 3,826,587 in 1966 and 3,458,572 in 1967. At the end of 1967, there were 29,086 licensed mechanized vehicles, compared with 26,316 in 1966 and 24,362 in 1965.

57. Bermuda has three ports, Hamilton, St. George and the Freeport. The principal port is Hamilton at the centre of the main island; the total length of berths in Hamilton is 1,650 feet and there are off-shore anchorages for large vessels in the harbour. St. George's port has a total length of berths of 1,036 feet. On the north of St. George's Island there is an oil dock operated by Esso Standard Oil S.A. The Freeport at Ireland Island has two deep-water basins and the main wharf is 800 feet in length. The Shell Company of Bermuda, Ltd. operates for commercial use the former Royal Navy fuelling depot.

58. Passenger and cargo sea-borne services are maintained, with varying frequency and regularity, with all parts of the world by the following shipping lines: Alcoa, American Union Transport, Bermuda Shipping Company, Cunard, Independent Gulf Line, Isbrandtsen, Manz, Pacific Steam Navigation, Royal Mail, Royal Netherlands Steamship Company and Saguenay Shipping Lines.

59. In August 1964, the Governor appointed a commission of enquiry to investigate port facilities in the Territory. The Commission reported in April 1965 and recommended that a central port authority be established to operate the ports of Hamilton and St. George and also to be responsible for the operation of the civil air terminal. The proposed port authority would operate on an independent financial basis. The recommendation was not accepted by the Legislature, but in 1967 the Marine Board was renamed the Marine and Ports Authority and was given responsibility for the co-ordination, development, administration and control of all ports in Bermuda.

60. The only airfield is at the United States Air Force Base, Kindley Field, which was originally constructed during the Second World War solely for military purposes. In 1948, this base was opened to civil aircraft (see paragraph 33 above). Both military and civil aircraft use the same runways and technical facilities. The airfield and its technical services are administered by the United States Air Force.

61. In 1967, further work at a cost of £112,000 was carried out at the civil air terminal. Additional facilities provided include extensions to both passenger arrival and departure areas and to the aircraft maintenance buildings. Among the commercial airlines providing service to the Territory are Air Canada, British Overseas Airways Corporation, Eastern Airlines, Pan American Airways and Qantas Empire Airways Ltd. The application of Lloyds International Airways for a scheduled tour service between London and Bermuda, filed in 1966, was refused by the Bermuda licensing authority in January 1968. British Eagle International Airways, with authority from Bermuda and the United Kingdom to operate a similar service, was scheduled to begin operations in 1968. At the end of 1967, five local aircraft had been registered, four being private and one for public transport.

62. The following table shows the number of aircraft arrivals and passengers handled during the years 1965-1967:

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Scheduled aircraft arrivals	3,242	3,385	4,110
Non-scheduled aircraft arrivals	360	464	380
Passengers handled	578,533	631,649	721,782

63. Overseas communication channels are provided by Cable and Wireless, Ltd. which also operates the telegraph offices for the acceptance of cables in Hamilton, St. George and Kindley Field. The Overseas Telephone Service is operated in conjunction with the Bermuda Telephone Company, Limited, and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Cable and Wireless, Ltd. also provides international telex services.

64. Trade. The value of trade during the years 1964 to 1968 was as follows (in pounds sterling):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total imports a/</u>	<u>Recorded re-exports</u>	<u>Local exports</u>	<u>Total exports</u>
1964	20,987,925	12,488,645	726,928	13,215,573
1965	20,942,177	18,505,657	945,723	19,451,379
1966	23,665,231	18,464,277	723,680	19,187,957
1967	24,697,462	21,142,744	553,878	21,701,622
1968	30,449,458	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

a/ Excluding imports into Ireland Island Freeport which amounted to £9,897,584, £15,424,724, £14,584,197 and £16,686,237 respectively in the years 1964 to 1967.

65. Although the visible balance of trade continued to be adverse, there was substantial and fully compensating revenue from invisible items, including the tourist business; repairs to shipping; accommodation, goods and services supplied to the United States bases in the Territory; considerable investments of United Kingdom capital in Bermudian enterprises at generally low rates of interest; the continued establishment in Bermuda of large numbers of international companies which involved the payment of a government fee of £200 each per annum, as well as substantial legal, banking and accountant fees and other local expenditure. The operation of the Ireland Island Freeport also earned revenue for the Territory from rents, services, etc., so that the over-all balance of trade was favourable.

66. Principal exports are concentrated essences, beauty preparations, pharmaceutical items and flowers. Principal imports include food-stuffs, consumer goods, electrical supplies, hardware, lumber, clothing, furniture, motor vehicles, gasoline and diesel oil. Principal re-exports include pharmaceutical items, bunkers, aircraft supplies, machinery, motor vehicles and parts and consumer goods.

67. Most of the Territory's exports for the years 1964 to 1968 went to the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada. The bulk of the imports originated in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Caribbean Territories.

68. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1964 to 1969:

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
	(pounds sterling)	
1964	6,554,063	6,384,975
1965	6,659,883	6,872,519
1966	7,643,518	7,250,439
1967	8,071,866	8,647,615
1968 (estimate)	10,691,565	9,944,788
1969 (estimate)	11,512,999	11,660,313

69. Customs receipts are the main source of revenue; they totalled £4,884,018 in 1967 (or 60.5 per cent of the total revenue), compared with £4,639,150 (60.7 per cent) in 1966; £4,168,072 (62.6 per cent) in 1965; and £4,191,943 (64 per cent) in 1964. Changes in the Customs Tariff Act became effective on 21 July 1967 and resulted in the reduction or abolition of duties on certain basic food-stuffs and drugs and increased duty on hard liquor.

70. There is no income tax or estate duty, but on 1 July 1967, a land tax was introduced and levied, with certain exceptions, on the owners of real property in the Territory. The tax, which is at present 2/- per pound per annum, is based on the annual rental value of any land, building or part of a building occupied or capable of beneficial occupation as a separate unit. Units with an annual rental value of under £900 are either wholly or partly exempt from the tax.

71. The companies operating from Bermuda are exempted from income taxes and taxes on corporate profits. At the beginning of 1969 there were 1,031 registered foreign

companies in the Territory (compared with 367 in 1963, 753 in 1967 and 703 in 1965), the majority of which are from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

72. There are two banks operating in the Territory: the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, with its head office in Hamilton and branches in St. George and Somerset; and the bank of N.T. Butterfield and Son, Limited, with its head office in Hamilton and a branch in St. George. In February 1969, two new banks were given the Royal Assent to begin their operations in Bermuda. The Kirkland Company, Ltd. will open the Bermuda National Bank, Ltd. and the Provident Trust Company, Ltd. will open the Provident People's Bank.

73. Talks between representatives of the Bermuda and the United Kingdom Governments to maintain the stability of the Bermuda economy in the light of developments in the world monetary system began on 25 March 1968 in London. It was reported that the main points of the agreements were as follows: Bermuda is to be allowed to hold some reserves in dollars instead of everything in sterling; a decimal currency system will be adopted in the near future which will include special Bermuda coins; and a Central Bank will be established to maintain the internal and external value of the Territory's currency. It was reported in October 1968 that the United Kingdom had promised to protect most of Bermuda's sterling holdings (about 90 per cent) against devaluation for the next five years.

74. In February 1969, the Bermuda Monetary Authority was created by an act passed by the Legislature. One of the principal functions of the Authority is to centralize Bermuda's government and private financial reserves.

75. Imperial standard weights and measures are used in the Territory. In March 1968, the Legislature approved a proposal, submitted by the Executive, to introduce a decimal system in the Territory in 1970. The Decimal Currency Committee announced in September 1968 that the system would be introduced on 2 February 1970.

Social conditions

76. Labour. The total number of employed at the 1960 census was 19,493 comprising 12,737 men and 6,761 women (45.73 per cent of the population). Four hundred and sixty-three people (182 men and 281 women) declared themselves unemployed. Of the experienced labour force, 2.32 per cent declared themselves unemployed, compared with 3.65 per cent at the 1950 census.

77. The principal occupations at the 1960 census were as follows:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Domestic, private and hotels	306	1,856	2,162
Office clerks, etc.	389	1,450	1,839
Shop assistants	668	798	1,466
Labourers	1,353	7	1,365
Masons	992	9	1,001
Wood-workers	745	2	747
Waiters and waitresses	193	358	551
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	470	31	501
Teachers	112	374	486
Truck drivers	424	2	426

78. In 1967, there were 2,236 non-Bermudians allowed by immigration authorities to accept employment in the Territory (compared with 2,325 in 1966). Of these, 872 were employed in hotels and guest houses. Of the total number, 1,074 were British and 545 were United States citizens.

79. There is no department of labour as such, but there is a Labour Relations Officer whose main functions are: (a) assistance in the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes; (b) promotion of good industrial relations and encouragement of responsible trade union practices; (c) supervision of employment practices, with particular reference to legislation governing contracts of employment and protection of wages; (d) factory inspection and enforcement of safety and health standards; (e) supervision of employment of children and young persons and administration of apprenticeship schemes; and (f) supervision of the Government Employment Service.

80. The Government Employment Office was brought under the control of the Labour Relations Officer in December 1967. This office provides an employment and advisory service to employers and workers. There are also a few private fee-charging employment agencies.

81. There were seven employees' unions registered in the Territory in 1967 and 1968: the Bermuda Industrial Union (membership 2,001); the Amalgamated Bermuda Union of Teachers (304); the Bermuda Dockworkers' Union (178); the Bermuda Civil Service Association (439); the Bermuda Federation of Music and Variety Artists (237); the Electricity Supply Trade Union (168); and the Union of Government Industrial Employers (254). There is one employers' organization, the Bermuda Employers' Council (membership 90). In May 1968, the Bermuda Dockworkers' Union disbanded and became a division of the Bermuda Industrial Union (BIU). In June 1968 over 100 taxi drivers formed a division of the BIU.

82. An inter-union dispute over recognition rights led to a stoppage of work on 24 April 1967 by seventy-nine members of the BIU employed by the Public Works Department; on 1 May 1967, postal workers and Marine Board employees went on strike in sympathy. The dispute arose when the Union of Government Industrial Employees was accorded recognition and the BIU challenged this and demanded a secret ballot to determine which union had the support of the majority of the departments' workers. The stoppage ended on 4 May after it had been agreed to hold a vote; the result favoured the Union of Government Industrial Employees by a margin of ten votes. Two other disputes which caused stoppages during 1967 affected thirty-nine longshoremen and fifty hotel employees. The longshoremen refused to work in certain areas of the dock on the grounds of inadequate safety measures and the issue was referred to the industry's Grievance Committee which found in favour of the workers.

83. In January 1968, dock workers and bus drivers went on strike for higher wages. It was estimated that the ten-day dock strike cost shipping lines about £24,000. In August 1968, the BIU's 250 airport workers struck for higher wages and better working conditions; the strike lasted four days. In September 1968, BIU members struck at the Bermuda Bakery. In the same month teachers went on strike and a number of schools were closed; the strike ended in October 1968.

84. Local services. Welfare work in the Territory is carried out by the Social Welfare Board, the Social Welfare Department, the Medical and Health Department, the Probation Service and various voluntary organizations.

85. A contributory pension scheme went into effect in August 1963; at the end of the year about 2,700 persons were in receipt of old-age pensions.

86. The Bermuda Housing Trust Act, 1966, established a corporate body of trustees to provide low-cost housing for the needy elderly. Its first project, the Elizabeth Hills Estate, was completed in 1967. It comprises sixteen housing units.

87. Cost of living. A retail price index was established in January 1961 and is computed quarterly. The index for 1963 to 1969, taking January 1961 as 100, was as follows:

January 1963	101.8
January 1964	104.3
January 1965	103.4
April 1966 ^{a/}	106.9
January 1967	109.2
January 1968	116.9
January 1969	125.6

a/ No data collected for January 1966.

88. The following table shows the retail price index for January 1968 and 1969 (taking January 1961 as 100):

<u>Item</u>	<u>January 1969</u>	<u>January 1968</u>
All items	125.6	116.9
Food	131.4	120.0
Rent	106.5	101.2
Clothing	132.8	118.5
Tobacco and liquor	140.5	138.3
Fuel and power	106.2	101.0
Household and personal	147.1	139.3

89. In February 1969, ocean freight rates between the United States and Bermuda were raised by 9 per cent. It was expected that the increase would lead to a further rise in the cost of living.

90. The devaluation of the pound in November 1967, which resulted in a sharp rise in the cost of living, brought urgent claims from unions for increases to offset its effects on members. The Chamber of Commerce recommended a 5-per cent increase, while the BIU and some other unions claimed that a 15-per cent increase was needed. The Hotels Association awarded a 10-per cent increase from 1 December 1967 and, subsequently, the Government and the Bermuda Employers' Council gave a

5-per cent increase from 1 December 1967 and an additional 5 per cent from 1 January 1968, based on wages at 30 November 1967. The Bermuda Dockworkers' Union, which had refused to accept a similar offer from the stevedores on the grounds that its members were casual workers, called a strike at the end of 1967. A 10-per cent wage increase was given to all the employees in the Civil Service.

91. Racial discrimination. In November 1967, a bill to abolish discrimination in legal instruments was adopted by the House of Assembly. The bill invalidates any provisions in legal instruments which restrict the transfer of property or the benefit of property from accruing to a person or class of persons by reference to colour, race or ethnic origin.

92. Public health. There are four hospitals in the Territory. King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, a general hospital, and Prospect Hospital, a geriatric unit, are run by a Board of Trustees. St. Brendan's Hospital for mental disorders and Lefroy House for geriatric cases are run by the Medical and Health Department. All of the hospitals are supported by fees charged to patients, voluntary contributions and government grants.

93. The Medical and Health Department is responsible for out-patient clinics, clinics for school-children, women and babies and for dental clinics. The department also runs the school medical service, and supervises foster homes, day nurseries and nursery schools. In addition, it operates a training centre for mentally and physically handicapped young children, and co-operates with the Committee for Handicapped Children which runs a workshop for handicapped adults and teenagers unable to obtain regular employment.

94. The number and rate of births and deaths per thousand of population and infant mortality per thousand live births for the years 1965 to 1967 were as follows:

	<u>1965</u>		<u>1966</u>		<u>1967</u>		<u>10-year average</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Live births	1,115	23.05	1,006	20.49	980	19.70	1,130	24.46
Deaths	358	7.40	346	7.08	330	6.63	346	7.49
Infant mortality	33	29.60	30	29.82	27	27.55	35	31.15

95. Total government expenditure for health in 1968 amounted to £1,179,286 compared with £1,145,537 in 1967.

Educational conditions

96. Under the provisions of the Education Act, 1954, the general administration of education is the responsibility of the Board of Education. The Board consists of no fewer than seven or more than eleven persons appointed by the Governor. The Department of Education consists of the Director (the chief executive officer) and his staff.

97. The Schools Act, 1954 and Amendment Act, 1965, established the right of all children of compulsory school age (5 to 14 in 1965, 5 to 15 in 1967 and 5 to 16 in 1969) to receive free primary and secondary education at public schools.

98. From the administrative point of view, schools are classified as "aided" and "maintained". Management of the former (which are partly free) is vested in local committees or governing bodies, to whom the Board of Education makes annual per capita grants under certain conditions. The maintained schools (with few exceptions) are directly administered by the Board of Education and there is no committee between the school and the Board. In 1967, there were seven aided and thirty-one maintained schools (including a school for physically handicapped children). With the exception of two private schools, which receive no government aid, there are no denominational schools. There is no university or other institution of higher education in the Territory.

99. In 1967, the average enrolment in "aided" and "maintained" schools was 11,018, compared with 10,470 in 1966, and average attendance was 10,438, compared with 9,795 in 1966. These numbers include pupils who were receiving secondary education.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Bermuda at its 125th, 128th, 129th and 131st to 133rd meetings between 20 June and 15 September 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.125, 128, 129 and 131 to 133).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat. (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory, subject to reservations expressed by the representative of Norway on sub-paragraphs (6) and (8) of the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.600.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 11 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXVI

BAHAMAS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer the Bahamas to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including the Bahamas, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. At the 716th meeting on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
6. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October. At the 717th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela and Jamaica. Statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Mali and the United Kingdom (A/AC.109/PV.717).
7. At its 717th meeting, on 2 October, the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 9 below.
8. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

9. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the Bahamas, in particular those adopted at its 613th meeting on 25 June 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence.

(4) The Special Committee expresses its regret that despite some advancement in the political field, the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to this Territory.

(5) The Special Committee takes note of the new Constitution which came into effect in May 1969 and calls upon the administering Power to take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.

(6) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(7) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular, its decision contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which, "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(8) The Special Committee, considering that the information at its disposal does not enable it to assess the actual situation in the Territory or the degree of general awareness of the people concerning the exercise of their right to self-determination, urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.556.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the Bahamas has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. 1/ The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted in 1968, 2/ the Special Committee, *inter alia*, reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that the administering Power had not taken further measures necessary to implement the Declaration with respect to the Territory and urged it to do so without further delay; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including the Bahamas, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXIV, paras. 133-134; *ibid.*, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469; *ibid.*, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chapter XXIII, para. 1033; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II B.

2/ A/7200 (Part I), chapter I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II B.

resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{3/}

General

4. The Bahamas is an archipelago of about 700 islands, of which about thirty are inhabited, and over 2,000 rocks and cays, extending from the Florida coast of the United States of America for over 500 miles to the south-east. Andros is the largest island (about 2,300 square miles), but the most important is the relatively small island of New Providence (with Nassau the capital city) and Grand Bahama (with Freeport the main city), the fourth largest in the chain. The total land area of the Territory is 5,386 square miles. The islands are generally long, narrow and low-lying; the highest point, on Cat Island, is 215 feet above sea level.

5. Censuses are taken every ten years. At the last census, taken in November 1963, the population was 130,220, made up of 63,485 males and 66,735 females. The estimated population at 31 December 1967 was 145,896, compared with 142,846 at the end of 1966 and 138,107 at the end of 1965. The population is very unevenly distributed. About two thirds of the people live on New Providence; in December 1967, the population of the island was estimated to be 100,000 (58,000 in Nassau), compared with 89,354 in December 1966, 85,967 at the end of 1965 and 80,907 at the 1963 census. Grand Bahama had about 22,408 inhabitants at the end of 1967, compared with 21,000 at the end of 1966 and 8,230 at the 1963 census. The population of Andros was estimated at about 3,000 at the end of 1967, compared with 7,461 at the 1963 census.

6. The population figures for the other principal islands at the 1963 census were as follows: Abaco, 6,490; Harbour Island, 997; Cat Island, 3,131; Long Island, 4,176; Mayaguana, 707; Eleuthera, 7,247; Exuma, 3,440; San Salvador, 968; Acklin's Island, 1,217; Crooked Island, 766; Inagua, 1,240; Bimini, 1,652; Spanish Wells, 849; and Ragged Island, 371.

7. More than 80 per cent of the population is of African descent.

Political and constitutional developments

(a) Constitution

8. The present Constitution of the Bahamas is set out in the Bahama Islands (Constitution) Order in Council, 1963, which came into force on 7 January 1964, giving the Territory full internal self-government.

^{3/} The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports and from the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 21 October 1963 for the years 1966 and 1967.

9. Governor. Under the Constitution, executive authority is exercised by the Governor, who is appointed by the Queen. Generally, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet. The Constitution reserves certain powers concerned with external affairs, defence, internal security and control of the police to be exercised by the Governor in his own discretion, provided that he keeps the Cabinet informed of any matters relating to external affairs or defence which may involve the economic or financial interests of the Bahama Islands, or the enactment of laws by the Legislature (see also para. 61). The Governor's assent is required to all bills, except the relatively few which require assent by the Queen. The Governor may prorogue both chambers of the Legislature and may dissolve the House of Assembly at any time.

10. In 1965, the Governor of the Bahamas was additionally designated Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

11. Legislature. The Legislature is bicameral and consists of a Senate and a House of Assembly. The Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Bahama Islands, subject to the assent of the Governor. Legislation involving taxation or expenditure of public money is restricted; usually it may only be enacted on the recommendation or with the consent of the Governor.

12. The Senate consists of fifteen members of whom eight are appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Premier and such other persons as he may in his discretion decide to consult, five by the Governor on the advice of the Premier, and two by the Governor on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition. The Senate elects a President and Vice-President from among its members. The Senate has the power to delay legislation, particularly laws relating to taxation, which can be held up for a period of up to fifteen months.

13. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-eight members. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker are elected from among the members of the House. The Speaker presides over all business sessions; he has no original vote, but only a casting vote to be used in the case of a deadlock or tie in the voting. Other key figures in the House are the Leader of the Government and the Leader of the Opposition.

14. To qualify for membership in the House, a candidate must be a British subject, twenty-one years of age or over who has resided in the Territory for at least five years before the date of his nomination and for not less than six months immediately preceding his nomination.

15. Cabinet. The Cabinet has general direction and responsibility for the day-to-day affairs of the Territory and is collectively responsible to the Legislature. It consists of the Premier and not less than eight other Ministers. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly. The remaining ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. At least one and not more than three ministers are members of the Senate; the others are members of the House of Assembly.

16. Judiciary. The law of the Territory consists of the Common Law of England, the Statutes of the Imperial Parliament, and certain Statutes of the Colonial Legislature. The Supreme Court is a superior court of record; it consists of a

Chief Justice and two puisne judges. It sits regularly in Nassau and in such other places in the Territory as the presiding judge may direct. Criminal sessions are held quarterly and civil suits are heard throughout the year.

17. A Chief Magistrate and two stipendiary and circuit magistrates are stationed in Nassau, and there is a stipendiary and circuit magistrate at Freeport. Out islands commissioners have jurisdiction within their districts in criminal summary matters and in certain civil causes.

18. Appeals from commissioners lie to a stipendiary and circuit magistrate. From the stipendiary and circuit magistrates' courts appeal is to the Supreme Court, except for an indictable offence, when it is to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal comprises a President and two other judges.

19. Proposals for constitutional advance. On 20 December 1967, the House of Assembly adopted a motion calling for the establishment of a committee to consider the question of "constitutional advance for the Bahamas". 4/

20. On 11 January 1968, the Government's proposals for constitutional advance which were based on the majority report of the Committee were presented to the House of Assembly.

21. Lord Shepherd, Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs, visited the Territory from 15 to 19 January 1968 and held preliminary talks with members of the Bahamas Government and representatives of the other political parties. It was then agreed that a constitutional conference would be held in London later in the year.

(b) Bahamas Constitutional Conference

22. The Conference met in London and held fourteen plenary sessions between 19 and 27 September 1968. The United Kingdom delegation was headed by Mr. George Thomson, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs. Mr. Lynden O. Pindling, Premier of the Bahamas, led a delegation from the governing Progressive Liberal Party (PLP); Sir Roland Symonette, Leader of the Opposition, headed delegates from the United Bahamian Party (UBP); and Mr. Randol Fawkes represented the Bahamas Labour Party (BLP). The Conference was also attended by three independent delegates.

23. Mr. Thomson presided over the opening and closing sessions of the Conference while the other sessions were conducted under the chairmanship of Lord Shepherd, Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs, and Mr. William C. Whitlock, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs.

24. In his introductory statement, Mr. Thomson said, inter alia, ".... My understanding is that all the political parties (in the Bahamas) regard independence as the ultimate status for their country. But the proposals put forward by the parties at this time do not ... seek independence".

5/ For background information see A/72CO/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, annex I, part II B, paras. 35-90.

25. The Conference agreed that changes should be made in the Constitution, as set out in the following paragraphs:

26. Title of the Territory. After consideration of various suggestions it was agreed that the Bahama Islands would in future be known as "the Commonwealth of the Bahama Islands" instead of "the Colony of the Bahama Islands".

27. Governor. The Conference discussed the procedure to be followed in connexion with the appointment of the Governor or Acting Governor. It was agreed that, although the responsibility for advising the Queen on the appointment of a Governor would continue to rest with the Secretary of State, there should be informal consultation with the Bahamas Government before the appointment was made. The Conference took note of the need to develop the administrative machinery available to the Governor to assist him in the exercise of his special responsibilities, particularly that for external affairs. The Conference therefore agreed to establish a post for a Deputy Governor, who would act for the Governor whenever necessary, and would be appointed on instructions from the Queen.

28. It was further agreed that the existing constitutional provision empowering the Governor to authorize the Chief Secretary or a minister to sign grants of Crown land should be deleted.

29. Legislature. It was agreed that the Legislature should consist of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Assembly.

30. It was also agreed that the Senate should be composed of sixteen members, of whom nine will be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier, four on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition and three by the Governor acting after consultation with the Premier and such other persons as the Governor, acting in his discretion, might decide to consult. The representative of the Labour Party recorded his dissent from the method of appointment for the three last mentioned senators. It was also agreed that a further requirement for qualification for appointment as a senator should be the possession of Bahamian status (see para. 49 below).

31. It was further agreed that the life of the Senate would be concurrent with that of the House of Assembly and senators, once appointed, would have security of tenure until the next ensuing dissolution. The period for which the Senate would be empowered to delay non-money bills and taxation bills would be reduced from fifteen to nine months. The President of the Senate would have only a casting and not an original vote.

32. It was agreed that members of the House of Assembly would have the title of "Representative". A further requirement for qualification for election would be the possession of Bahamian status.

33. It was also agreed that the Governor's power to reconvene the Legislature in case of an emergency arising between a dissolution and the next ensuing general election would be exercised by the Governor if the Premier so advised, and might also be exercised by the Governor after consultation with the Premier.

34. Agreement was also reached that bills affecting internal security and the police force would remain within the categories of bills that the Governor might be required to reserve for signification.

35. The Conference recognized that the existing constitutional provision which requires the Governor to reserve any bill which appears to him to involve a breach of public faith was, so far as could be ascertained, unprecedented; it was also unhappily worded and could convey the misleading impression that, without such a provision, a government of the Bahama Islands might enact bills in breach of public faith. It was agreed to substitute a new provision requiring the Governor to reserve for signification any bill which appeared to him to be inconsistent with any subsisting obligation (except those relating to the entry of persons into the Territory and the maintenance of internal security) entered into by the Government under authority especially conferred by an act of the Legislature.

36. The matter of constituencies was given lengthy consideration by the Conference, but it was not possible to reach agreement between conflicting proposals. It was therefore decided to leave the existing constitutional provisions unchanged, save that constitutional provision would be made for single-member constituencies.

37. Parliamentary secretaries. It was agreed that provision should be made to enable parliamentary secretaries to be appointed to assist ministers in the exercise of their functions. The UBP considered that the Constitution should prescribe a maximum number of ministers and parliamentary secretaries. The Labour Party considered that there was no need for parliamentary secretaries.

38. Executive. It was agreed that the style and designation of "Premier" should be altered to "Prime Minister".

39. Police and internal security. The representatives of the PLP asked that the special responsibility of the Governor for the police and internal security should be discontinued and that full control over, and responsibility for, the police and internal security should be transferred to Bahamas ministers. This proposal was not acceptable to the representatives of the UBP and the BLP. The position of the United Kingdom representative was that so long as the United Kingdom Government retained responsibility for the Bahamas as a dependent Territory, the ultimate responsibility for the police and internal security must rest with the Governor. The United Kingdom Government recognized, however, the legitimate aspirations and concern of Bahamas ministers in this important field of government and expressed readiness to associate them more fully with these matters.

40. After considerable discussion, the Conference reached the following conclusions:

- (i) So long as the United Kingdom Government retained responsibility for the Bahamas, the ultimate responsibility for the police force and for internal security would rest with the Governor.
- (ii) On the coming into operation of the new Constitution, the Governor would entrust immediate responsibility for the police and internal security to a minister designated on the advice of the Premier. The minister entrusted with this responsibility would keep the Governor and the Security Council (see below) informed on all important matters of policy within the field of entrusted responsibility.

- (iii) A Security Council would be set up which would consist of the Governor, the Premier and another minister and such other persons as the Governor might from time to time appoint after consultation with the Premier. The Governor would also have the power, after consultation with the Premier, to summon other persons to meetings of the Council as occasion might require. The functions of the Council would be: (a) to consult together and exchange information on questions of policy relating to external affairs, defence, the police and internal security; (b) to consider in particular any questions relating to the police or internal security on which a difference of opinion is reported by either the Governor or the designated minister to exist between them; and (c) to advise the Governor on the discharge of his ultimate responsibility for the police and internal security.
- (iv) In the discharge of his ultimate responsibility, the Governor would not be obliged to accept the advice of the Council, and might, in his discretion, act on his own account and give to the Commissioner of Police such directions as he may think fit. In the exercise of his responsibility, the Governor might revoke or suspend the minister's entrustment.
- (v) The functions of the Attorney-General under the existing Constitution in regard to the institution and discontinuance of prosecutions would continue.

The representatives of the UBP and the BLP recorded their dissent from these conclusions on the ground that they considered it premature to give ministers such a degree of responsibility for the police and internal security.

41. Defence and external affairs. It was agreed that the Governor would retain his present special responsibility for defence and external affairs. He should, however, be required to consult Bahamas ministers through the Security Council on matters relating to external affairs or defence, which might involve the political as well as the economic and financial interests of the Territory.

42. Furthermore, the United Kingdom Government would delegate to Bahamas ministers authority for the conduct of external affairs as follows:

- (i) Authority to negotiate and conclude trade agreements with other countries, whether bilateral or multilateral, relating solely to the treatment of goods.
- (ii) Authority to arrange or permit visits of up to thirty days for trade or commercial purposes by representatives or residents of the Bahama Islands to any other country, and by representatives or residents of any other country to the Bahama Islands. Questions relating to the establishment of permanent or temporary representation of other countries in the Bahamas or of the Bahamas in other countries will continue to be determined by the United Kingdom Government after consultation with the Government of the Bahama Islands.

- (iii) Authority to negotiate and conclude agreements of purely local concern with any independent member of the Commonwealth or any Associated State or British dependent Territory or the United States of America or such other authorities as the Bahamas Government may request and the United Kingdom Government may approve.
- (iv) Authority to negotiate and conclude agreements for technical assistance or of a cultural or scientific nature with any independent member of the Commonwealth or the United States or such other authorities as the Bahamas Government may request and the United Kingdom Government may approve.
- (v) Authority to negotiate and conclude agreements with other countries, whether bilateral or multilateral, relating to migration to and from those countries and to migrant labour schemes.
- (vi) In addition, the United Kingdom Government would give sympathetic consideration to any request by the Bahamas Government for authority to take action on individual questions of external relations not covered by the above provisions.

43. The authority referred to in paragraph 42 above would not extend to the negotiation and conclusion of trade agreements relating to establishment matters, i.e., those affecting the rights of persons and companies of the contracting parties, or agreements relating to civil aviation and shipping. These would continue to be dealt through consultations between the United Kingdom Government and the Bahamas Government.

44. It was further agreed that in view of the general responsibility of the United Kingdom Government for the external affairs of the Territory, the Bahamas Government should inform the United Kingdom Government in advance of any proposal for the exercise of the authority to conduct negotiations as indicated in paragraph 42 (i), (ii), (iv) and (v) and to keep the United Kingdom Government informed of the progress of any such negotiations. The United Kingdom Government would inform the Bahamas Government if it appeared that the actions or proposal of that Government conflicted, or might conflict, with the international commitments, responsibilities or policies of the United Kingdom Government. In that event, the Bahamas Government would have to abide by the decision of the United Kingdom Government.

45. The United Kingdom representatives confirmed that their Government would be willing to assist in the training of officials from the Bahama Islands in external affairs. It would also consider the attachment of an official of the Bahamas Government to a mission exercising consular functions for persons who possessed Bahamian status, if such an appointment were at any time felt to be necessary. It would further consider the inclusion of a representative of the Bahamas Government, either as an adviser or as an observer or in some similar capacity, in any United Kingdom delegation attending international discussions on civil aviation, shipping or finance in which the interests of the Bahamas were materially involved.

46. Judicial and Legal Service Commission. It was agreed that the present Judicial Service Commission should be replaced by a Judicial and Legal Service Commission which would have jurisdiction over the offices of Solicitor-General,

Chief Magistrate, Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Registrar General, Crown Counsel and such other public offices as might be prescribed by the Governor acting on ministerial advice. The Judicial and Legal Service Commission would consist of the Chief Justice as chairman, the Attorney-General and two other members. The chairman of the Public Service Commission would continue to be an ex officio member. The fourth member would be appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Justice from among persons who held or had held or were qualified to hold high judicial office.

47. Public Service Commission and Public Service Board of Appeal. It was also agreed that the present constitutional provision for part-time members of the Public Service Commission should be deleted. The Public Service Commission would consist of a Chairman and between two and four other members appointed by the Governor acting after consultation with the Premier. It was agreed that the present constitutional provision, which requires the Public Service Commission to consult the Premier on the appointment of departmental heads, should be extended to the appointment of permanent secretaries.

48. It was agreed that constitutional provision should be made for a Public Service Board of Appeal to hear appeals in disciplinary cases from officers subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission. The Chairman of the Board of Appeal would be appointed by the Governor acting in his discretion. There would be two other members; one appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier and one appointed by the Governor in accordance with the advice of the appropriate representative body. Members of the Legislature would be disqualified from membership in the Board of Appeal.

49. Fundamental rights. The Conference agreed that the expression "person who belongs to the Bahama Islands" used in the present Constitution dealing with freedom of movement should be altered to "persons who possess Bahamian status". The intention of the Conference was that persons who were deemed to belong to the Bahama Islands immediately before the coming into force of the new Constitution would be given Bahamian status with the same rights and upon the same terms and conditions as those attached to their previous status. This would include the provision covering any person who had obtained the status of a British subject by virtue of a certificate of naturalization granted by the Governor under the relevant British legislation.

50. Prerogative of mercy. The Conference agreed that the prerogative of mercy should be exercised by the Governor on the advice of a minister who would be designated by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. In addition, the Constitution would provide for an Advisory Committee consisting of the designated minister, the Attorney-General and not less than three nor more than five other members appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. The designated minister would not be required under the Constitution to act in accordance with the advice of the Advisory Committee in advising the Governor on the exercise of the prerogative of mercy.

51. Other provisions. It was further agreed that the special constitutional provision for advisory public boards should be removed; the post of Chief Secretary should be abolished; future appointments to the office of Attorney-General should be made on the recommendation of the Judicial and Legal Service

Commission; judges of the Court of Appeal should in future be appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Premier; and future appointments to the office of Auditor should be made by the Governor acting on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission.

52. It was agreed that the Order in Council to confer a new Constitution embodying the changes agreed to should be submitted for approval to the Queen and thereafter be brought into effect as soon as possible. Although no precise information is available nevertheless it seems clear that the new Constitution will come into force during 1969.

(c) Other developments

53. Political parties. There are four political parties in the Territory. The Progressive Liberal Party (PLP), the present ruling party, is led by Premier Lynden O. Pindling. The PLP draws most of its support from people of African descent, who form about 80 per cent of the Territory's population. The opposition United Bahamian Party (UBP) is generally described as representing the Territory's commercial and industrial interests. The Labour Party (LP) gave its support to the PLP in the 1967 general elections, thus making it possible for Mr. Pindling to form his Government (see para. 58 below). The National Democratic Party (NDP) was formed in 1965 by a group of former PLP members.

54. Electoral arrangements and elections. Members of the House of Assembly are elected under universal adult franchise in thirty-eight constituencies. The candidate who secures the highest vote in each constituency is declared elected to the House of Assembly. The votes cast for unsuccessful candidates in any constituency cannot be transferred to other candidates or to other constituencies.

55. A Constituencies Commission is charged with reviewing, at least once every five years, the boundaries and number of constituencies and the number of seats within each constituency.

56. On 4 December 1967, the House of Assembly ratified the new constituency boundaries for the Bahamas recommended by the report of the Commission. According to these arrangements, the number of constituencies in New Providence was increased from seventeen to twenty and the number of Out Islands representatives reduced from twenty-one to eighteen. The minority report submitted by the only Opposition member of the Commission agreed with the majority report in so far as it recommended that all constituencies be single-member constituencies; it disagreed with the recommendation that New Providence should consist of twenty constituencies and the rest of the Bahamas eighteen.

57. On 13 November 1967, the House of Assembly passed the Representation of the People Bill, which was designed to revise and simplify the procedure for registration and voting, to reduce the age of persons eligible to vote from twenty-one years to eighteen years and to increase the residency qualification from six months to five years. On 23 November 1967, however, the Senate rejected the bill by a vote of eight to seven. The bill was reintroduced by the Government in the House of Assembly on 20 November 1968.

58. The first general election for the House of Assembly under the 1964 Constitution was held on 10 January 1967. The PLP and the UBP each won eighteen seats in the thirty-eight-member House of Assembly with one seat

going to a BLP member and one to an independent; the independent member accepted the Speaker's chair. Mr. L.O. Pindling, the leader of the PLP, formed a government after he had gained the support of the BLP member.

59. On 28 February 1968, the Premier announced that he had advised the Governor to dissolve Parliament and hold general elections on 10 April 1968. This announcement followed the death of one of the governing party's supporters in the House of Assembly on 18 February 1968, which left the Government without a majority in the House.

60. The elections, which were held on the basis of the new arrangements for constituencies (see para. 56 above), were contested by the PLP and the UBP. The NDP announced on 1 March 1968 that it would not contest the elections so as to give the electorate an unhampered opportunity to give a clear mandate to the Government, if it so wished. At the elections, the PLP won twenty-nine seats, the UBP won seven seats; the BLP won one seat; and the remaining seat went to an independent.

61. Cabinet changes. In January 1969, three new ministries were created, namely, the Ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs and Transport; three existing ministries were disbanded, namely, the Ministries of Out Island Affairs, Internal Affairs and Trade and Industry. The Premier retained responsibility for information services, relinquished the portfolios of tourism and development and assumed responsibility for the police and internal security. The Deputy Premier has the new title of Minister of Home Affairs; his responsibilities include immigration, prisons, lotteries and gaming; he is also responsible for advising the Governor on the prerogative of mercy. The portfolio of the Minister of Finance has been enlarged to include trade and industry. In announcing the changes, the Premier declared that he made the changes "in anticipation of the new responsibilities which the Government will shortly assume when the new Constitution comes into effect".

62. Local authorities. On 21 August 1968, a White Paper was introduced in the House of Assembly by the Government, containing a proposal to establish local authorities in certain Out Islands. The following are some of the functions of these authorities: town planning, minor public works, maintenance of all public ferries and public roads and streets, maintenance of wharves and jetties, general health and sanitation, clinic services, minor water supplies and shop licensing. The paper did not specify which islands had been selected for initiation of the scheme, but pointed out that the necessary legislation would be introduced in the House "in due course".

63. Conditions at Freeport. 5/ On 3 April 1967, the Premier defined the duties and functions of the newly appointed Government Administrative Officer at Freeport. The person holding this post presents the views of Government to the Port Authority and communicates the views of the Port Authority to Government. In addition, all government departmental heads in Grand Bahama channel their communications through the Government Administrative Officer.

5/ For background information see A/6300/Rev.1, chap. XXII, paras. 248-251; A/6700/Rev.1, chap. XXIII, paras. 516-522 and A/7200/Add.10, paras. 96-106. See also paras. 123-128 below.

64. According to the Government's White Paper of 21 August 1968 (see para. 62 above), Freeport, with its rapid rate of development, was eminently suited for the establishment of a local authority. "It was foreseen", stated the document, "that the time would come when Freeport would have developed to the stage when some or all of its rights, powers and obligations under the Hawksbill Agreement should be transferred to the local authority; however, such a transfer could take place only with the agreement of the Port Authority and the consent of 80 per cent of the licencees." The paper stressed that "the Government will, of course, abide strictly by the terms of this agreement" and added that "it was the Government's intention to have discussions with the Port Authority and the licencees with a view to arriving at a solution which would be in the best interest of all concerned".

65. Operation of casinos. 6/ In January 1968 the Premier declared in the House of Assembly that "there would be no more casinos in the Island". In November 1968 the Premier was quoted as saying in an interview with a reporter from the Miami Herald that "there will be no extension of gambling casinos in the Bahamas at this time or in the near future".

66. On 29 January 1969, the Government introduced a Lotteries and Gambling Act in the House of Assembly. The bill makes lotteries generally illegal except for charitable and other purposes approved by the Government. It provides for a Gaming Board to control casinos and prohibits those who live, work, or were born in the Territory from gambling.

Economic conditions

67. General. According to reports of the administering Power, the Territory has enjoyed a period of rapid economic growth for the last several years. The main impetus for this development has come through the Government's programme for promoting tourism and associated service industries.

68. Efforts are being made to diversify the economy. Services of a number of industrial consultants have been retained on a long-term basis, and an Economic Advisory Council, comprising representatives of industry, commerce, banking and the trade unions, has been set up to work in collaboration with the consultants.

69. Owing to the absence of income tax, the nominal excise duties and liberal company taxation laws in the Territory, considerable foreign investment has been attracted to the Islands. United States, Canadian and British companies have invested more than \$US1,000 million in the last seventeen years in land, hotels and other tourist attractions. Accurate statistics are not available. The most spectacular tourist and industrial development has taken place at Freeport, a tract of Crown land made over by the Government to a private company in 1955.

70. In September 1968, the Premier was reported as saying that the Bahamas economy was likely to develop along certain lines similar to Puerto Rico. He added, "we are studying ways to promote light manufacturing industries and want

6/ For previous information see A/6300/Rev.1, chap. XXII, paras. 248-251, A/6700/Rev.1, chap. XXIII, paras. 516-522 and A/7200/Add.10, paras. 96-106.

industry to grow alongside tourism. The geographical position which enabled us to build up tourism is of the same importance to industry."

71. Tourism. Tourism continued to be the Territory's most important industry. Activities were further expanded with the appointment of a director in 1967 and the setting up of a department within the Ministry of Tourism and Development. In 1967 and 1968, tourism accounted for about 90 per cent of the gross national product and a major part of the total labour force was engaged directly in providing tourist services. The principal areas of tourist activities are concentrated around Nassau on New Providence and at Freeport on Grand Bahama.

72. There has been a substantial increase in hotel capacity. During 1967, more than sixty agreements were entered into under the Hotels Encouragements Act, either for new hotels or for extensions to existing hotels. In 1968, there were 9,596 hotel rooms in the Territory (more than 2,500 of them in Freeport).

73. Plans were announced in the middle of 1968 for the construction of a \$100-million city near Nassau, with a new airport able to handle jumbo jets, and beachside hotels serving as the nucleus for a new resort city. The plans were drawn up by the Garth Group with the co-operation of the Parco Company of New York.

74. It is estimated that a total of 1,072,213 tourists visited the Territory in 1968 (compared with 915,273 in 1967, 822,317 in 1966, 720,420 in 1965, 605,171 in 1964 and 546,404 in 1963). Expenditures by tourists in 1967 amounted to \$B124,866,390. 7/

75. The following table shows the number of tourists in 1966 and 1967 by countries of origin:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
United States	762 362	849 532
Canada	32 120	32 813
United Kingdom	10 269	11 725
Europe	4 544	5 170
Elsewhere	<u>13 022</u>	<u>16 033</u>
Total	822 317	915 273

76. Expenditure on tourism in 1968 was \$B6,160,230, compared with \$B5,499,405 in 1967, \$B4,992,491 in 1966 and \$B4,269,653 in 1965.

77. Mineral resources. In 1967 there were six companies holding seventeen concessions for oil exploration covering both land and off-shore areas. The companies have carried out a number of geological and geophysical surveys, but to date no oil has been found. Licences and leases for oil exploration, prospecting and mining are granted by the Governor on the advice of the Cabinet.

7/ \$B2.45 equals £1; \$B1.02 equals \$US1. See also para. 118.

78. On Cat Key, huge deposits of aragonite, from which calcium carbonate is made, have been discovered.

79. Land. It is reported that about one third of all the land of the main islands has now been alienated to private developers. Land speculation has driven land prices to a very high level. For example, sea-front prices near Lyford Cay Club have reached \$B500 to \$B600 for a front foot of beach. According to reports, land on Paradise Island now sells for \$B300,000 an acre.

80. Water. The Territory's great problem is lack of water. There are no streams or fresh-water lakes and the water supply has to be obtained either from shallow wells or from rain water collected in catchments and cisterns; several sea-water evaporators have been installed.

81. Power supply. The Ministry of Works has the over-all responsibility for all electricity supply systems in the Territory.

82. New Providence and Paradise Islands are served by the Bahamas Electricity Corporation, a public body set up in 1956. The corporation is subject to the direction of the Ministry of Works on matters of policy. In 1966/1967 the total kW units generated by the various power stations operated by the corporation amounted to 174,905,340, compared with 154,923,655 units in 1965/1966. There are twenty-three privately owned electricity undertakings in the Out Islands, not including the Grand Bahama Port Authority area on Grand Bahama.

83. In 1967, the total number of electricity consumers was 21,098, compared with 19,531 in 1966.

84. Agriculture. Agriculture is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. In 1967, arable land under cultivation was estimated at 50,000 acres. There are also about 3,200 acres of improved pasture.

85. More than 3,000 acres on Andros and about 19,000 acres of pine land on Abaco have been used by the "off-shore" companies for growing sugar-pineapples and vegetable crops which are exported to the United States and Canadian markets.

86. Apart from sugar-cane and pineapples, the principal crops of the Territory include fresh vegetables, tomatoes, bananas, citrus fruits, avocados, mangoes, eggplant, squash and sisal.

87. Farming enterprises are of two types, small holdings and large, highly specialized mechanized holdings. The small holdings are cultivated as family farms and supply the bulk of the local produce consumed by the home market. This, however, is only a small fraction of what could be grown locally. In 1966, the cost of commodity imports that could have been produced in the Bahamas amounted to nearly \$B7 million. In 1968, over 66 per cent of the Territory's food-stuffs were imported from the United States.

88. Livestock. Livestock is owned mainly by small farmers. The Government encourages the establishment of beef and dairy herds. Two herds, Canadian and United States-owned, are run commercially and production is about 1,000 gallons of milk per day. There is also one herd of Charollais on Eleuthera, to provide

pedigree breeding stock for the Canadian market; it also provides cross-breed animals which are a source of fresh meat for the local market. There are four fairly large commercial enterprises which provide most local requirements for poultry meat and eggs. Estimated numbers of livestock at the end of 1966 were as follows: sheep 22,900; goats 14,100; pigs 10,700; cattle 3,460; horses 3,600; and poultry 650,000.

89. Forestry. There are over 750,000 acres of forest (pine) land in the Territory; most of which is the property of the Crown. The three areas having exploitable timber are the islands of Grand Bahama, Great Abaco and Andros. Lumber production for 1966 showed a decrease of 173,000 broad feet against the output for 1965. All pulpwood produced by the concessionaires was shipped to their own processing plant in Florida (United States). No data on prices paid to the producers are available.

90. Fisheries. The fishing industry continued to be an important source of food and income for many Bahamians. It is estimated that between 2,000 and 3,000 men are gainfully employed in the industry and that there are about 100 auxiliary powered craft in use. It was reported in March 1969 that the Government had decided to extend the fisheries limits of the Bahamas from three to twelve miles.

91. The fisheries for both the consumer and export markets tend to be concentrated around the north-western group of islands - New Providence, Abaco, Grand Bahama, Andros and the Berry Islands. Nassau is the main market for fish.

92. It is the policy of Government to reserve all aspects of the fishing industry - catching, processing and export - to the local citizens. There are no overseas fishing companies established in the Territory. There is no government scheme for financing the industry, credit being available from normal commercial sources.

93. The main export fishery is that for crawfish or spiny lobster. In 1967, exports were valued at \$B703,369, compared with \$B535,755 in 1966. The catch of scale fish in 1967 was 2 million pounds, valued at \$B374,310, compared with 2.8 million pounds valued at \$B1,347,092 in 1966. In 1967, landing of edible conch amounted to 1.31 million units valued at \$B264,000 compared with 1.26 million units valued at \$B200,000 in 1966. In 1967, a total of 1,494 live turtles were landed for slaughter at Nassau market, compared with 1,160 in 1966. Natural sponges totalling 221 cwts. and valued at \$B32,639, were exported in 1967, compared with 163 cwts. valued at \$B43,720 in 1966.

94. Industry. In 1965, the first major industrial plant was brought into operation at Freeport, namely, the Bahama Cement Company, a subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation, with an annual production capacity of 5 million barrels of cement. In 1967, the Syntex Corporation, a large manufacturer of pharmaceuticals, established at Freeport a \$B7.5-million factory for the manufacture of steroid compounds. A \$B60-million oil refinery, the first in the Bahamas, is being constructed at Freeport by the Bahamas Oil Refining Co., jointly owned by New England Petroleum (65 per cent) and Standard Oil of California (35 per cent). The plant, which is expected to be operational early in 1970, will have an annual capacity of 10 million tons (200,000 barrels

daily), making it one of the largest in the world. It is expected that the refinery will attract a number of satellite petrochemical and other industries.

95. There are many other industries at Freeport, among them two concrete plants, a paint factory, a distillery, a plant for the production of reconstituted milk, and a factory for the manufacture of rubber products. Altogether, some 50,000 acres are being developed at Freeport under a special agreement as an industrial, commercial and residential area.

96. On Inagua Island there is a comparatively large salt industry. A United States company extracts the salt by solar radiation and exports it in bulk form to the United States. Another United States company is in the early stages of production at its \$5-million solar salt plant in the south of Long Island. It is expected that the annual output of salt will reach at least 500,000 tons within four years. Exports of salt were valued at \$B1,241,755 in 1967, compared with \$B1,900,693 in 1966.

97. The Bahamas Agricultural Industries has built a multi-million-dollar raw sugar factory at Snake Cay on Great Abaco Island. There are also several canneries for processing tomatoes, pineapples and pigeon peas and three factories in Nassau for processing crawfish. Straw work is produced as a cottage industry.

98. Transport and communications. There are 157.5 miles of bituminous surface and 47 miles of unsealed surface roads in New Providence, about 100 miles of asphalt roads on Eleuthera and 65 miles on Grand Bahama. Roads are under construction on Andros Island and on some other islands. At the end of 1967, there were 36,194 registered motor vehicles in New Providence and the Out Islands; this was an increase of 7,592 over the number registered in 1966. There are no railways in the Territory.

99. In March 1966, the Government embarked upon a major Nassau Harbour Development Scheme to deepen the harbour's main channel and turning basin, and to construct an artificial island, two breakwaters, a new pier and a terminal building. The project, which is to cost \$US20 million was still in progress in 1968. The Freeport deep-water harbour is one of the largest man-made ports on or off the United States eastern seaboard.

100. There are direct steamship connexions between the Territory and the United Kingdom (mainly cargo vessels), United States, the West Indies and South America. The principal lines that call at Nassau and Freeport are the Saguenay Shipping Ltd., Royal Mail Line, Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Royal Netherlands Line; the Harrison Line calls at Nassau.

101. The following table gives details of shipping, cargo and passenger movements through the ports of Nassau, for the years 1964 to 1967:

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Number of ships entered and cleared	11 391	11 064	...	...
Net tonnage	10 977 593	10 529 852	...	...
Tonnage of cargo landed at Nassau	342 489	365 130	491 177.5	769 655.5
Number of passengers inward	207 786	283 150	546 141	644 451
Number of passengers outward	225 207	296 164	528 967	601 090

102. There are forty-four airports and landing strips in the Territory. The principal airport is situated at Nassau, New Providence (runway 8,233 feet). The airport carries all facilities and is in operation twenty-four hours a day. The other principal airports are at Freeport, Grand Bahama (runway, 3,300 feet), and at West End, Grand Bahama (runway, 8,000 feet). United States Air Force airfields are located at Grand Bahama (runway, 7,200 feet), Mayaguana (runway, 7,700 feet), San Salvador (runway, 4,500 feet) and Eleuthera (runway, 6,000 feet).

103. Commercial airlines in international services to the Territory include Air Canada, Bahamas Airways, Ltd., British Overseas Airways Corporation, Eastern Airlines, Pan American Airways, Qantas Empire Airways Ltd. and Northeast Airlines.

104. Internal air services are carried out by Bahamas Airways, Ltd., which provides daily flights between Nassau and most of the Out Islands. The Island Flying Service has a daily schedule service between Nassau and North Eleuthera, and, with Colony Airlines, provides charter services within the Bahamas and to Florida (United States).

105. Aircraft movements at Nassau International Airport in 1966 and 1967 were as follows:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Landings	29 735	34 745
Take-offs	29 734	34 744
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	59 469	69 489

106. The Bahamas Telecommunications Corporation operates all types of telecommunications services, telegraph, telex, long distance and overseas and local telephone for the Territory, except private telephone systems serving the Freeport area of Grand Bahama, certain areas of Andros and Spanish Wells. In September 1968, the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation announced in New York that they had negotiated a \$US5 million contract for further expansion of the telephone communications system.

107. Trade. The following table shows the total value of exports and imports in the years 1965 to 1967:

(Bahamas dollars)

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Exports	15 975 967	22 780 583	32 270 861
Imports	89 834 815	141 639 156	165 568 351
Re-exports	5 126 054	6 114 649	14 487 242

108. Principal exports are cement, pulp wood, crawfish, sponge, rum, salt, sugar, pineapples and vegetables. Principal imports include hardware, motor cars and trucks, iron and steel, machinery, electric goods, fuel oil, lumber, clothing, furniture, foodstuffs, consumer goods and medicines.

109. Most of the Territory's exports (including re-exports) for the years 1966 and 1967 went to the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States and Haiti. The bulk of imports for the years 1966 and 1967 originated in the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States and Jamaica.

110. Many small manufacturers and a number of European firms use Freeport as a warehousing and forwarding base for markets in the Caribbean and Latin America.

111. Public finance. The following table shows revenue and expenditure for the years 1963 to 1969:

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
	(pounds sterling and Bahamas dollars) ^{a/}	
1963	£9 599 255	£9 834 388
1964	£12 163 983	£11 841 916
1965	\$42 291 720	£12 832 805
1966	\$52 264 463	\$44 749 690
1967	\$57 249 858	\$53 374 994 (estimate)
1968 (estimate)	\$66 245 363	\$66 230 345
1969 (estimate)	\$78 705 619	\$78 261 330

^{a/} See para. 118 below.

112. Customs duties are the main source of revenue, followed by licences and internal revenue. Customs duties totalled \$B36,039,664 in 1967, compared with \$B28,788,841 in 1966, \$B23,260,724 in 1965 and £6,875,588 in 1964.

113. There are fourteen major banks operating in the Territory, some of which have branches in Freeport, Grand Bahama, and in the Out Islands. They are: Bank of London and Montreal (BOLAM), Barclays D.C.O., Butlers Bank Limited, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, E.D. Sassoon Banking Company Limited, First National City Bank, Roy West Banking Corporation, the Bank of Nassau Limited, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), the Royal Bank of Canada, World Banking Corporation Limited, the Wellington Bank and the People's Penny Savings Bank. There is also a Post Office Savings Bank in Nassau (New Providence) with branches in the major Out Islands.

114. It was reported in mid-1968 that three more United States banks, the Fidelity Bank of Philadelphia, the Franklin National Bank of Mineola, New York, and the Chemical Bank New York Trust Company, had filed applications to open branches in Nassau.

115. On 11 September 1968, the House of Assembly passed a bill setting up a Monetary Authority. The Authority will gather economic information for economic planning and monetary control and provide liaison on financial matters between the Government and the public.

116. Apart from a tax on real property of 12.5 per cent of assessed rental value, there is no direct taxation in the Territory. Provision is made for the exemption from duty of supplies for British Armed Forces and certain industrial and educational goods. (See also paras. 119-124.)

117. On 19 February 1969, during a meeting of the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce, the Minister of Finance outlined the Government's new taxation proposals. He said that a bill would be introduced in the House of Assembly, which would amend some of the existing tax legislations. The main features of the new tax legislation would be a real property tax, a registered companies tax, an annual fee on business and professional practices, an annual licence fee for shops and other businesses, a graduated scale of immigration fees, the revision of the Stamp Act and the amendment of the Tariff and Emergency Tax Acts.

118. Until May 1966, the pound sterling was in use in the Territory. The Currency Act of 1965 made provisions for the Territory to change over to the decimal system which was introduced on 25 May 1966. According to the act, the Bahamian dollar replaced sterling and on 31 December 1967 became the sole legal tender. Owing to the proximity of the Territory to the North American continent and its dependence on tourism, United States currency circulates freely and is accepted at the standard rate. A total of \$B13,199,000 was in circulation at the end of 1966 and \$B18,749,500 at the end of 1967.

119. Freeport. Freeport, on Grand Bahama Island, has attracted considerable foreign investment. In 1955, the Bahamas Government and a company known as the Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited, entered into an agreement which was embodied in the "Hawksbill Creek, Grand Bahama (Deep Water Harbour and Industrial Area) Act of 1955". This agreement awarded the Port Authority 50,000 acres of Government land, later expanded to almost 150,000 acres. The Authority undertook to dredge and construct a deep-water harbour, to promote and encourage the establishment of commercial and industrial undertakings and to provide such industrial and commercial facilities and social amenities as were required. In addition, the Authority undertook to provide medical and educational facilities. It financed the entire undertaking from private sources.

120. The Government, for its part, embodies the following tax concessions within the Act:

(a) Until the year 2054, the Port Authority and its licencees will not be required to pay import duties (except on goods for personal consumption).

(b) Until the year 1990, no real property taxes, and no real property levies (whether capital or periodic) of any kind will be levied against any land, building or structure within the Freeport area; the Authority and its licencees will be free from personal property taxes, capital levies, capital gains taxes and capital appreciation taxes.

(c) The Authority and its licencees will pay no taxes of any kind against their earnings in the Freeport area; the employees of the Authority and its lessees or licencees (provided that they are ordinarily residents in the Freeport area) will pay no income tax on their salaries or bonuses.

(d) The Authority and its licencees will pay no excise duties (except on consumable goods imported into the Freeport area), no export duties or levies and no stamp duties on bank remittances.

121. The right to issue licences to individuals and firms for the operation of businesses within the Freeport area, and the enjoyment of the unique taxation freedoms granted to the area, lie entirely with the Port Authority. The licencees pay a percentage of their gross receipts to the Port Authority.

122. In October 1968, the Government announced changes in the customs and immigration procedures at Freeport. These changes are aimed at bringing Freeport more into line with the rest of the Bahamas. The Freeport Chamber of Commerce was most concerned with the requirement that certain Port Authority licensees provide a financial guarantee before receiving permission to import goods duty-free. The new immigration provisions require, inter alia, that persons already working in Freeport apply for a new immigration permit, and that expatriate employees pay an annual fee.

123. The Freeport Chamber of Commerce contended that the new procedures might infringe businessmen's rights under the Hawksbill Creek Act. After a general meeting of licensees held on 14 January 1969, the Chamber asked the Bahamas Government to delay the changes while counsel had an opportunity to consider their legality.

124. On 30 November 1968, the Premier told the Freeport Chamber of Commerce that he believed the time had come for the full integration of the economy of Freeport with that of Grand Bahama and the Bahama Islands. The Premier was quoted as saying: "There has often been the impression that the city of Freeport is really a suburban town in South Florida (United States), and there has been a trend unfortunately for some in Freeport to incline to that erroneous belief, but I am hoping that Freeport will not become a suburban South Florida town, but will be established without doubt as a Bahamian town in every sense of the word".

125. United Kingdom aid. It was reported that the United Kingdom had disbursed bilateral aid to the Territory amounting to £14,000 in 1966/1967 and £17,000 in 1967/1968 (fiscal years) in the form of technical assistance.

126. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to the Bahamas has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968, assistance rendered to the Territory amounted to approximately the equivalent of \$US36,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of \$US50,000 annually for the period 1969/1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in town planning, concrete prefabrication and self-help housing and water supplies. 8/

Social conditions

127. Labour. According to the report of the administering Power, there is generally full employment in the Territory, the main occupations being the tourist (hotels) and construction industries. In 1966/1967 the total labour force was estimated at 65,000, an increase of 13,000 since the 1963 census was taken.

128. A Labour Office and Employment Exchange has been in operation in Nassau since 1958. The Department carries out regular inspections of places of employment and also administers the Workmen's Compensation Act. In 1966 the Labour Department established an office and Employment Exchange at Freeport.

129. On 15 April 1967, the Ministry of Labour issued an "Industrial Relations Charter" setting out the reciprocal obligations and responsibilities of employers and trade unions in the settlement of labour disputes, and in having recourse to machinery for negotiations, conciliation and conciliation. It also emphasizes the role and the terms of reference of joint industrial councils and enumerates various principles relating to employment policy and the training of Bahamians on job sites.

130. Fifteen trade unions and six employers associations have been registered as such under the Trade Unions and Industrial Conciliation Act. In addition, the Bahamas Confederation of Employers was formed in 1966 and in 1967 the Bahamas Federation of Labour and the Bahamas Trade Union Congress amalgamated and became the Bahamas Federation of Trade Unions.

131. No minimum wages order has yet been made, and there is no industrial welfare scheme in the Territory. According to reports, 90 per cent of the population earns less than \$100 a week, and 50 per cent of the population earns between \$30 and \$60 a week.

132. There were thirteen short-term stoppages of work in 1967. In February 1968, a nine-day strike by 350 longshoremen at Nassau port was ended by the introduction of a labour contract, raising wages by an average of 32 per cent.

133. Cost of living. A new retail price index came into operation on 1 January 1966 and the relative figures up to 31 December 1967 were as follows:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Index at</u>		
		<u>1 January</u>	<u>31 December</u>	<u>31 December</u>
		<u>1966</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Food	320	100	115.7	120.8
Clothing and footwear	60	100	102.8	103.4
Housing	180	100	101.2	101.2
Fuel, light and household goods	90	100	98.6	102.6
Transport	100	100	100	99.8
Other goods and services	250	100	107.2	114.4
All items	1,000	100	106.9	110.9

134. According to the report of the administering Power, prices of food in New Providence tend to be high, especially as local food production is limited and much of the basic foodstuffs have to be imported. The high cost of living is also reflected in rents and hotel tariffs. It is reported that the cost of living on the other main islands is similar.

135. In presenting the 1969 budget in the House of Assembly, the Minister of Finance warned that a rising cost of living and spiralling wages could pose a threat to the entire Bahamian economy. He pledged the Government's determination to tackle the problem in close consultation with the Chamber of Commerce, the trade unions and representatives of employers.

136. Public health. Medical and health services are the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, of which the Chief Medical Officer is the executive officer.

137. There are four main government hospitals, with more than 800 beds; the Princess Margaret Hospital on New Providence Island, with approximately 500 beds, caters for general medical surgical and paediatric cases, obstetrics and gynaecology, ophthalmology, pathology and chest diseases, including tuberculosis. The Ministry of Health maintains forty-nine centres and clinics in the Out Islands. In addition, there are several non-government medical institutions.

138. Live births in 1967 numbered 4,262 or 29.2 per thousand of the estimated population, compared with 4,627 births or 32.4 per thousand in 1966. There were 1,212 deaths or 8.3 per thousand in 1967, compared with 996 or 7.0 per thousand in 1966. The infant mortality-rate was 54.2 per thousand in 1967 compared with 36.0 in 1966; the number of still births was 156 in 1967 and 54 in 1966.

139. Total recurrent expenditure on health services was \$B7,407,310 in 1968 compared with \$B6,307,287 in 1967, \$B4,947,451 in 1966 and \$B4,135,823 in 1965.

Educational conditions

140. Education is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education. The responsibilities of the Ministry include the direction and control of all government-financed primary, secondary and further education. Under the Bahamas Education Act of 1962, education is free and compulsory between the ages of 5 and 14 years of age in government schools. Literacy is estimated to be 90 per cent. In 1968, expenditure on education was \$B10,687,550 as against \$B7,316,887 in 1967, \$B4,879,735 in 1966 and \$B4,720,936 in 1965.

141. The number of schools, children enrolled and teachers for the school years ending August 1966 and August 1967 were as follows:

	<u>Schools</u>		<u>Children</u>		<u>Teachers</u>	
	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
<u>Primary schools</u>						
Government	154 ^{a/}	160 ^{a/}	21,173	22,834	454	505
Private and denominational	63	68	9,821	10,175	268	321
<u>Secondary schools</u>						
Government	129 ^{b/}	136 ^{b/}	8,336	9,743	170	221
Private and denominational						
Aided	14	15	2,194	2,927	111	144
Unaided	10	8	1,323	778	54	44

^{a/} Including all-age rural schools.

^{b/} Secondary sections of all-age schools were reclassified as separate schools in 1966.

142. The Technical College, established in 1962, provides full-time as well as part-time and evening courses in technical and commercial subjects, crafts and the hotel trade. The Bahamas Teachers College provides full-time teacher-training courses of one and two years' duration.

143. There are no institutions of higher learning in the Territory, but the Bahamas have a special relationship with the University of the West Indies to which Bahamian students are admitted. A number of Bahamians enter universities in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. The Government provides scholarships to the University of the West Indies and other institutions abroad.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the Bahamas at its 125th to 129th and 131st to 133rd meetings between 20 June and 15 September 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 131, 132 and 133).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory, subject to reservations expressed by the representative of Norway on sub-paragraphs (4), (5) and (6) of the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.601.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 9 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXVII

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer the Turks and Caicos Islands to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. At the 716th meeting, on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
6. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October. At the 717th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the United Republic of Tanzania, Iraq, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Norway and Italy (A/AC.109/PV.717). In reply to a point raised by the representative of the United Kingdom, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.717). At the same meeting, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom and Iraq (A/AC.109/PV.717).
7. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained

therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 9 below.

8. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

9. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the Turks and Caicos Islands, in particular those adopted at its 613th meeting on 25 June 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence.

(4) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory.

(5) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(6) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.

(7) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(8) The Special Committee urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.546.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the Turks and Caicos Islands has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted in 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that the administering Power had not taken further measures necessary to implement the Declaration with respect to the Territory and urged it to do so without further delay; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chapter XXIV, paras. 133-134; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chapter XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chapter XXIII, para. 1033; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II B.

^{2/} A/7200 (part I), chapter I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXVIII, section II B.

should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status, and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{3/}

General

4. The Turks and Caicos Islands are geographically part of the Bahama Islands. They are situated about ninety miles to the north of the Dominican Republic, 720 miles to the south-west of Bermuda and 450 miles to the north-east of Jamaica. They consist of two groups of islands separated by a deep water channel, about twenty-two miles wide, known as the Turks Islands Passage. The Turks Islands lie to the east of the passage and the Caicos Islands to the west. The entire group extends for a distance of seventy-five miles from east to west and fifty miles from north to south. The land area of the islands is estimated to be 166 square miles (430 square kilometres). The islands lie in the hurricane zone.
5. The Turks Islands consist of two inhabited islands, Grand Turk and Salt Cay, six uninhabited cays and a large number of rocks. The principal islands of the Caicos group are South Caicos, East Caicos, Middle (or Grand) Caicos, North Caicos, Providenciales (usually called locally Blue Hills) and West Caicos.
6. A census was held on 7 April 1960. The total population was 5,668 of whom 3,468 lived in the salt-producing centres of Grand Turk, Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour, and 2,200 in the Caicos settlements; 2,557 of the total population were children. Five thousand three hundred fifteen persons were of African descent, 216 of mixed descent and 77 of European descent (not classified, 60). The estimated population at the end of 1964 was 6,628.

Constitutional and political developments

7. Constitution. The present Constitution is contained in the Turks and Caicos Islands (Constitution) Order in Council of 29 October 1965, which revoked the Order in Council of 1962, and came into effect on 5 November 1965.
8. According to the 1965 Constitution, the Governor of the Bahamas is also the Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Constitution also provides for appeals from the courts of the Turks and Caicos Islands to lie in the Bahamas Court of Appeal. No other political links have been established between the two Territories.
9. The 1965 Constitution provides for a Governor and/or an Administrator who is advised and assisted by the Executive Council and the Legislative Assembly.
10. Administrator. The Administrator is selected and appointed by the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs. He is the head of the Administration and is

^{3/} The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 4 November 1968, for the years 1967 and 1968.

responsible to the United Kingdom Government, through the Governor. He is required to consult the Executive Council on all important matters within the scope of his responsibilities, except as otherwise provided. He is also assisted by a Legislative Assembly. The Governor may, when he is present in the Territory, perform any of the functions conferred upon the Administrator.

11. Executive Council. The Council consists of two official members and one nominated member appointed by the Administrator with the approval of the Secretary of State, and two elected members elected by the nominated and elected members of the Assembly from among the elected members. The Council is presided over by the Administrator.

12. Legislative Assembly. The Assembly is responsible for the enactment of legislation. It consists of two or three official members, two or three nominated members appointed by the Administrator, and nine elected members, representing nine constituencies, chosen by secret ballot and by universal adult suffrage. It is presided over by the Administrator or, in his absence, by a Deputy President elected by the members of the Assembly. The Assembly can legislate on all aspects of the Islands' affairs, subject to the assent of the Administrator. Legislation may be disallowed by the Queen.

13. In 1968, further changes in the Constitution were under consideration. According to the information provided by the administering Power in June 1968, the main feature of the new proposals was the establishment of a single State Council with both executive and legislative functions. The Administrator would continue to be responsible, in his discretion, for the public service, internal security and external affairs. In other executive matters, he would be bound by the conclusions of the Council and if he wished to act contrary to them he would have to seek the approval of the Secretary of State.

14. The seat of Government is at Grand Turk. A District Commissioner, stationed at Cockburn Harbour, is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Caicos Islands.

15. Judiciary. The law in force in the Territory consists of the Common Law of England as it existed at the time of the settlement, certain applied Acts of the United Kingdom Parliament and the Bahamas and Jamaica Legislatures, and the ordinances passed by the local Legislature.

16. The administration of justice is in the hands of the Magistrate. The Magistrate also exercises extended jurisdiction as an acting Judge of the Supreme Court. In serious criminal cases the preliminary inquiry is either taken by one of the justices of the peace, of whom there are thirty in the islands, or a judge may be sent from Jamaica or the Bahamas to hold the necessary hearings.

17. Appeals from the courts of the Territory lie to the Bahamas Court of Appeal. The Magistrate also acts as Registrar of Deeds.

18. Political parties. There are no political parties in the Territory.

19. Electoral system. The Legislative Assembly is elected every five years by universal adult suffrage. Voters must either have resided in the islands for at least twelve months before the date of registration or be domiciled in the islands and resident at that time. The last elections were held on 2 September 1967.

20. Military bases. There are two United States military establishments on Grand Turk - the United States Air Force Guided Missile Base and the United States Naval Facility. There is also a United States Coast Guard Station on South Caicos. According to the reports of the administering Power, there are between 200 and 300 United States servicemen and civilians stationed in Grand Turk. In 1965-66 a total of eighty-two islanders were employed in the bases, sixty-eight at the United States Air Force Guided Missile Base and fourteen at the United States Naval Facility.

Economic conditions

21. The economic situation of the Territory is precarious. The islands are barren and the agricultural potential is very small. The salt industry, which is the main industry in the islands, is in a depressed state because of competition from new solar salt plants.

22. The development plan for 1966-68 was aimed primarily at improving communications and public services which are essential to tourist development.

23. Salt industry. The production of salt by solar evaporation from sea water, the traditional and basic industry of the Territory, continued to decline. Salt operations at Grand Turk and Cockburn Harbour were closed down in December 1964; it was decided that the operation at Salt Bay should continue, as no alternative livelihood could be found for the inhabitants.

24. Forty-three persons were employed at Salt Bay in 1967, compared with an average of fifty-five in the preceding two years. Production was 2,901 tons in 1965, 5,550 tons in 1966 and 4,193 tons in 1967. The 1967 production was valued at £4,195. In 1965 a government subsidy of £8,017 was required to keep the industry in Salt Cay operating; the revised subsidy in 1966 was £12,000.

25. The following table shows the volume of salt shipments in the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Value</u> (pounds)
1963	26,588	37,455
1964	8,271	12,603
1965	6,773	10,800
1966	5,580	9,732
1967	3,770	6,251

26. At the end of 1966 negotiations were proceeding with a large chemical company in Jamaica aimed at resuscitating the industry and increasing production

to 15,000 tons per annum. Plans included the purchase of new equipment to cost £4,000 and extension of the jetty to berth large ships. No information was available on the outcome of the negotiations.

27. Mining. The oil exploration licence granted to the Bahamas California Oil Company in 1955 was reissued in 1965 and renewed in 1966. The results have so far been negative.

28. Land. On Grand Turk suitable land for farming and building is becoming more difficult to find. The Salinas and the United States bases account for a large part of the available land, and the increase in building has continued. In the Caicos Islands there is no shortage of land but the soil is of poor quality and water is always a problem.

29. A land surveyor arrived in the Territory in November 1966 on secondment from the United Kingdom Directorate of Overseas Surveys to undertake a complete survey of government land, register title to private land, and establish a land office in which complete land records and land titles would be registered. A Lands Department was established in 1967 to begin the task of recording the ownership of land. It is expected that adjudication will be completed late in 1969 or in 1970. A Planning and Development Authority was also appointed to control and supervise all building and future planning in the Territory.

30. Water. There is a serious shortage of water in the Territory. Most of the existing wells are unfit for irrigation or human consumption. The people in the three salt islands (Grand Turk, Salt Cay and South Caicos) rely for their water supply on the public tanks, where rainfall water is sold at 1/4-1/2d per gallon. There are thirty-four of these tanks with a total capacity of 1,324,000 gallons.

31. Power supply. The public electricity utility on Grand Turk has a capacity of 250 kilowatts and serves about 180 customers. Following a study in 1967, a licence was issued to the Caicos Company Ltd. (formerly Caicos Holdings Ltd.) in 1968 to construct a privately owned electricity plant in South Caicos. Work on the project was scheduled for completion by end of 1968.

32. Agriculture. Practically no agriculture is carried on in the salt islands. Corn, beans and other crops are grown on the Caicos Islands in sufficient quantities to satisfy local needs. The main problems are the saline conditions and the uncertain rainfall.

33. Sisal production continued to decline and neither the quantity nor quality of the fibre is reported to warrant any optimism for the future. The following table shows exports of sisal in the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Value</u> (pounds)
1963	29	3,045
1964	26	2,772
1965	29	3,389
1966	18	1,900
1967	20	2,399

34. Fisheries. Fisheries are of substantial economic importance and the spiny lobster (crawfish) has become the chief export of the Territory. The following table shows the exports of crawfish in the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Value</u> (pounds)
1963	87,530	27,906
1964	89,050	25,778
1965	83,165	25,989
1966	95,875	29,968
1967	122,165	38,228

35. The export of dried conch to Haiti is the second largest export of fish products. Following are the export figures for the years 1963 to 1967:

	<u>Dried conch</u>		<u>Frozen conch</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Value</u>
1963	757,000	1,695	...	...
1964	776,500	2,468	3,000	22
1965	628,000	2,183	11,250	196
1966	624,650	2,152	...	...
1967	485,100	2,713	...	...

36. Conch shells are exported to the United States. The following amounts of shells were exported in the years 1963 to 1966:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Value</u> (pounds)
1963	394,286	2,800
1964	480,260	3,530
1965	250,601	1,886
1966	192,779	1,200

37. A Fisheries Officer was appointed to the Territory in April 1966 to develop the industry. In 1968 a fishing co-operative was formed on Salt Cay with a view to sending fresh fish and crawfish to Grand Turk. Two companies are now engaged in exporting crawfish to the United States. A Puerto Rican co-operative has started fishing for scale fish.

38. Forestry. In 1966 a start was made on a scheme to reafforest the beaches on Grand Turk.

39. Tourism. Since 1965 there has been an active interest in developing the tourist potential of the Territory. Actual development began in 1967. The island of Providenciales has attracted a private development company, Provident Ltd., which has laid out a network of roads, built an airstrip and terminal building and completed a small hotel. Subdivisions for private houses are being sold and a large resort-style hotel is envisaged. Plans for development of the uninhabited island of East Caicos also are under way and negotiations are proceeding for a small hotel and yacht marine on Salt Cay. Work has started on a hotel on Sand Cay.

40. The privately owned Admirals Arms Hotel in South Caicos has been enlarged. The small government-run guest house on Grand Turk, the Turks Head Inn, which was opened in June 1965, has been sold to a private developer and it is expected that it will be enlarged in the near future.

41. Transport and communications. During 1965-66, with the assistance of the contractors from the United States Air Force Base, the main roads on Grand Turk were resurfaced and over 4-1/2 miles of road were improved. However, in 1968, it was reported by the administering Power that the condition of the roads had continued to deteriorate, especially in South Caicos and Grand Turk where there has been a considerable increase in the number of vehicles. Work is expected to begin shortly on a major road improvement scheme for South Caicos and Grand Turk. A new road linking the town with the airport and the northern part of the island is being constructed on South Caicos.

42. In 1968 airstrips were constructed on Salt Cay and Providenciales, and temporary airstrips were made on North and Middle Caicos. In 1968 the South Caicos airstrip was lengthened to 6,000 feet and paved so that it could be used by the Avro 748 turbo-jets. Work has also been started on a terminal building. On Grand Turk a new airport terminal building and parking apron were built.

43. Bahamas Airways Ltd. which provides the most important communication link with the other Territories continued its service from Nassau to South Caicos and Grand Turk. The service, however, is still inadequate for the needs of the Territory. An air cargo service from Miami, Florida, was introduced in 1967. A private company, Caicos Airways Ltd., was formed to provide an internal air service for all the inhabited islands.

44. There are three ports in use: Grand Turk, Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour. At Grand Turk there is a pier, the property of the United States Government, with a water depth of 15 feet. Ships of the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company provide an important service from Amsterdam to Grand Turk. In 1967 negotiations were started with the Royal Mail Lines for a direct shipping link with the United Kingdom, and in May 1968 the first scheduled call was made.

45. Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. operates a radio telephone service to Kingston, Jamaica, with connexions to North America. The cable privileges of the company were renewed for a further twenty years in 1962; the company's wireless licence was renewed at the same time.

46. The government radio-telephone system, run in co-operation with Cable and Wireless, Ltd., provides a service between Grand Turk, Salt Cay and Cockburn Harbour. The Government also operates a telephone service for 100 subscribers on Grand Turk.

47. Trade. The principal imports are food, beverages, tobacco, manufactured articles and raw materials. The main exports are crawfish, shells, salt and sisal. Imports and exports for the years 1963 to 1967 were valued as follows:

	<u>Imports</u> (pounds)	<u>Exports</u> (pounds)
1963	299,880	72,901
1964	300,786	47,273
1965	360,922	44,444
1966	422,795	44,953
1967	356,943	50,692

48. Public finance. Revenue and expenditure for the years 1963 to 1966 were as follows:

	(Pounds)			
	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u> (estimate)
Recurrent revenue	215,545	220,411	262,470	286,870
Capital revenue	<u>10,181</u>	<u>47,222</u>	<u>41,357</u>	<u>32,934</u>
Total revenue	225,726	267,633	303,827	319,804
Recurrent expenditure	207,727	196,245	229,837	286,870
Capital expenditure	<u>43,502</u>	<u>43,046</u>	<u>37,368</u>	<u>32,934</u>
Total expenditure	251,229	239,291	267,205	319,804

49. The principal sources of revenue are customs duties and sales of stamps, which in 1967 amounted to £69,508 and £54,238 respectively (corresponding figures for 1966 were £50,500 and £21,125, and for 1965, £50,718 and £9,137).

50. Grants-in-aid from the United Kingdom, first approved at the end of 1955, were continued until the end of 1958, when responsibility for the grants was assumed by the West Indies Federal Government. The United Kingdom resumed responsibility for the grants in 1962. The following table shows the grants-in-aid since 1963:

	(Pounds)
1963	139,483
1964	159,116
1965	176,369
1966	186,397
1967	127,148

51. It was reported in September 1967 that the Turks and Caicos Islands were among eleven Caribbean Territories which would benefit from a £3 million grant and loan scheme approved by the United Kingdom Government under its Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Under the scheme, a number of engineering projects, such as, the provision of airstrips, roads, jetties, water supplies, navigational lights and sea defences, are being undertaken.

52. There is a Government Savings Bank and a commercial bank (Barclays Bank D.C.O.) in the Territory. In 1967, Barclays opened a branch on Grand Turk and later started a sub-branch on South Caicos.

53. There are no land, property or income taxes in the Territory.

54. The currency in circulation consists of Jamaican notes and British silver of all denominations, the Jamaican Government having agreed to the use of its

currency. 4/ In 1966, approximate amounts in circulation were estimated to be as follows:

Jamaican notes	£82,000
Jamaican nickel	100
United Kingdom silver	2,000
United Kingdom cupro-nickel	2,000
United Kingdom copper	50

United States dollars are freely accepted.

55. International assistance. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provides milk powder or a corn-soy-milk blend, which is distributed to some 1,500 mothers and children in the Territory, through maternal and child health centres and schools. 5/

Social conditions

56. Labour. There is no governmental administrative organization responsible for the inspection of labour conditions, the settlement of disputes, relations with trade unions, or the operation of employment exchanges. There is one registered trade union in the Territory - the St. George's Trade Union in Cockburn Harbour.

57. As mentioned in paragraph 23 above, salt production continues in Salt Cay, primarily to provide work for the inhabitants who have no alternative source of income. Other sources of employment are provided by the two United States bases on Grand Turk and by the crawfish and conch industry on South Caicos. A number of young men from the islands continue to find work in various shipping companies. Owing to limited job opportunities and the low level of wages paid in the islands, an increasing number of the population migrate to the Bahamas for employment.

58. Cost of living. As reported by the administering Power in 1968, there was a considerable increase in the cost of living in the Territory as a result of devaluation. Prices of basic food-stuffs and of other foods are disproportionately expensive. In addition, because of the acute shortage of suitable housing on Grand Turk, and the increased demand brought by the families of personnel serving on the United States Air Force Base, rents are relatively very high.

59. To compensate for the effects of devaluation, a 12 per cent cost-of-living allowance was to be paid as from 1 January 1968 to all salary and wage earners (including expatriates) in the public service, to pensioners and those receiving relief payments.

60. Social security. There are no schemes for social security in the islands, but relief is paid to persons over the age of sixty years in the case of females and sixty-five in the case of males, if they are destitute. The most active welfare association in the islands is the Child Welfare Association on Grand Turk.

4/ The Jamaican pound is equal to one pound sterling.

5/ E/ICEF/581, p. 49.

61. Public health. Medical services in the Territory are under the administration of the Government Medical Officer stationed in Grand Turk. Government recurrent expenditure on medical and public health, including cost of staff totalled £23,766 in 1966 and £29,845 in 1967, or 8.8 and 9.6 per cent respectively of the total recurrent expenditure. There is a 20-bed hospital in Grand Turk and dispensaries at all settlements. Two government registered physicians and one dentist serve the Territory.

62. Gastro-intestinal diseases continued to be the most common health problem in the Territory, owing to the difficulty of maintaining the purity of the water supply, most of which is rain water collected in tanks. Facilities for general sanitation, and the collection, removal and disposal of garbage are not provided.

63. The problem of flies is still very serious in the Islands. In 1966, the United States Department of Agriculture ended its programme of fly eradication because the scheme had not been successful.

64. The average death-rate in the Islands is approximately 8.66 per thousand. The highest percentage of deaths is still amongst infants under the age of one year; in 1967 the infant mortality-rate per thousand live births was 65.7.

Educational conditions

65. The educational system in the Territory is administered by the Board of Education which is appointed by the Administrator. The Administrator is chairman of the Board. Funds for the Board are voted annually by the Legislative Assembly. Recurrent expenditure on education totalled £29,421 in 1966 and £41,651 in 1967, or 10.9 and 13.5 per cent respectively of total government expenditure. In addition, Colonial Development and Welfare funds were provided for the training of teachers in the United Kingdom and other countries.

66. Education is free in all the Islands and compulsory for all children between the ages of 7 and 16 on Grand Turk, Salt Cay and South Caicos.

67. There are 13 primary public schools and 2 primary independent schools, which serve the 6 inhabited islands. Grand Turk School, consisting of a primary school and a secondary school, provides the only secondary education in the Territory. In 1967, a total of 1,548 pupils attended primary schools, with a teacher strength of 72. One hundred thirty-five students attended secondary school, with a teacher strength of 7. The total number of children of school age in the Territory was 1,748.

68. In 1967, illiteracy in the Territory was 3.5 per cent of the total population 10 years of age and over.

69. There are no newspapers or periodicals in the Islands. The Government Printing Office prints the Official Gazette each week (circulation 250). Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. distributes a limited number of copies of a daily news bulletin for which the Government pays a subsidy.

70. There is a public library with 6,000 volumes and a reading room at Grand Turk. Grand Turk School also possesses a library, as does the school at Cockburn Harbour; several of the other schools possess small libraries.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the Turks and Caicos Islands at its 121st to 123rd, 128th and 129th meetings between 14 April and 28 August 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.121 to 123, 128 and 129).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory, subject to comments expressed by the representatives of Italy and Norway concerning sub-paragraphs (4), (5) and (6) of the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.598

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without any modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 9 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXVIII

CAYMAN ISLANDS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer the Cayman Islands to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including the Cayman Islands, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. At the 716th meeting, on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/PV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
6. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
7. At its 717th meeting, on 2 October, following a statement by the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/AC.109/PV.717), the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by the representative of the United Kingdom would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 9 below.
8. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

9. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

- (1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the Cayman Islands, in particular those adopted at its 613th meeting on 25 June 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.
- (2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.
- (3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence.
- (4) The Special Committee notes with regret that no constitutional progress has taken place in the Territory since the item was last examined by the Special Committee and by the General Assembly.
- (5) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory.
- (6) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.
- (7) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions or reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.
- (8) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.
- (9) The Special Committee urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.102/L.544.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the Cayman Islands has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted in 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that the administering Power had not taken further measures necessary to implement the Declaration with respect to the Territory and urged it to do so without further delay; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including the Cayman Islands, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXIV, paras. 133-134; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chap. XXIII, para. 1033; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, section II B.

^{2/} A/7200 (Part I), chap. I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, section II B.

and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{3/}

General

4. The Cayman Islands consist of three islands - Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman (the latter two also being known as Lesser Caymans). Grand Cayman is located about 180 miles west-north-west of the westernmost point of Jamaica and 150 miles south of Cuba; Cayman Brac lies eighty-nine miles east-north-east of Grand Cayman and Little Cayman lies five miles west of Cayman Brac. The total area of the Territory is about 100 square miles (259 square kilometres).

5. Grand Cayman is 21 miles long and varies from 4 to 8 miles in breadth. It has a total land area of about 76 square miles. The chief settlements are George Town (the capital), West Bay, Boddentown, East End and Northside; all these settlements are on the sea coast. Cayman Brac is 12 miles long and 1.25 miles wide. It has a total land area of about 14 square miles. The chief settlements are Stake Bay, Creek, Spot Bay and West End. Little Cayman is 9 miles long and about 1.5 miles wide. It has a total land area of about 10 square miles. The chief settlement is South Town.

6. In 1960 the total population of the Islands was 7,622 according to the census (excluding 1,187 persons, mostly seamen, absent during the census held that year). Most of the population lives in Grand Cayman (6,345 at the 1960 census). Between 1962 and 1966, the population increased from 8,064 to 8,981. About 20 per cent of the population are of African origin, 20 per cent of European origin and 60 per cent of mixed descent. The population of George Town, the capital, is approximately 2,400.

Constitutional and political developments

7. Constitution. The existing Constitution, which came into effect on 5 November 1965, provides for an Administrator who as chief executive is advised and assisted by the Executive Council and the Legislative Assembly.

8. Administrator. The Administrator is appointed by the Queen and is the head of the administration. He is constitutionally required to act on the advice of the Executive Council, except as otherwise provided. He is empowered to make laws with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly.

9. Executive Council. The Council is the main executive authority in the Territory. It consists of two elected members chosen by the Legislative Assembly from among its elected members, two official members, and one nominated member appointed by the Administrator. The Council is presided over by the Administrator.

^{3/} The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports. Also used in the preparation of this section has been the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 5 July 1968, for the year ending 31 December 1967.

10. Legislative Assembly. The Assembly may legislate on all aspects of the Territory's affairs, subject to the assent of the Administrator. Legislation may be disallowed by the Queen. The Assembly consists of twelve elected members, two or three official members, and two or three nominated members appointed by the Administrator, who also presides over the Council.

11. Judiciary. The judiciary consists of the Grand Court of the Islands, the quarterly Petty Court and the Petty Sessions Court. Decisions of the Grand Court are subject to appeal to the Court of Appeal of Jamaica, and thence to the United Kingdom Privy Council. In June 1967, the Court of Appeal of Jamaica sat for the first time in history in the Cayman Islands to hear appeals; the Court announced its intention to hold regular annual sessions in the Territory.

12. Political parties. There are two political parties in the Territory, the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) and the Cayman National Democratic Party (CNDP).

13. Elections. Persons qualified to vote must be British subjects, over 21 years of age who have either resided in the Territory for at least twelve months before the date of registration or who are so domiciled in the Territory and are residing there on that date. Elections are held every three years.

14. At general elections held on 16 November 1965, the CDP won four seats, the CNDP one seat, and the independents seven seats. Elections were last held in the Territory on 7 November 1968. They were not contested on a party basis. There were twenty-three candidates for twelve seats. In one of the six constituencies, George Town, voting had to be stopped following complaints that the names of some people entitled to be registered were not on the registers. A revised register was drawn up and a new vote was held on 24 January 1969. The Legislative Assembly was due to meet on 12 February 1969.

15. Other developments. In January and February 1967, a committee composed of all members of the Legislative Assembly considered the question of possible constitutional advancement. However, after members had held consultations with their constituents, the Committee decided not to change the existing constitutional arrangements except to replace the Stipendiary Magistrate (who also acts as judge of the Grand Court) by an Attorney-General. The new Attorney-General, an Australian, took up his appointment in the middle of 1968.

16. It was reported in May 1968 that a law had been passed which empowered the Government to deport British subjects who had resided in the Territory for a period up to seven years. Previously, the Government could not deport British subjects who had resided in the Islands for two years or more. According to the information provided by the administering Power, the law was disallowed because it contained a provision that it should be retrospective.

Economic conditions

17. General. Estimates of per capita income in the Territory range from £200 to £400 annually. (There are no official statistics giving a breakdown of income by sections of the population.) The economy relies mainly on marine products, the growing tourist industry and the benefits derived from the activities of foreign companies who use the Territory as a tax free base. The economy also depends to a great extent on the wages earned by Cayman Islands seamen employed on United States ships. At any time about 1,000 to 1,600 seamen are so employed,

and most of them make regular dollar remittances to their families. The seamen's annual earnings are estimated at £500,000.

18. Tourism. The tourist trade continues to expand. In 1967 there were fifteen hotels or residential clubs in the Territory, in addition to a number of guest houses and private cottages. At the beginning of 1960 there were seventeen hotels (with 500 beds) of which fifteen were on Grand Cayman.

19. The number of tourists visiting the Territory has almost tripled in four years, rising from 4,834 in 1964 to 14,460 in 1968. It is reported that 90 per cent of the tourist business comes from the United States. In 1968 a full-time tourist office was opened in Miami, Florida. Tourist promotion is handled by the Cayman Islands Tourist Board, a government appointed and financed institution, established in 1966 under the Tourist Board Law of 1965. The Board's initial budget of £2,500 ^{4/} was subsequently increased to £38,500 in 1968 and is expected to be raised by 50 per cent in 1969.

20. It is estimated that in 1968 the tourist industry earned about £1.3 million.

21. Mineral resources. There is no mining in the Territory. In 1955 a two-year oil exploration licence was issued for the island of Grand Cayman, and some exploratory drilling was carried out. In 1960 a two-year prospecting licence was issued, but no operational work was carried out and the licence has been terminated by mutual agreement.

22. Land. Until 1960, there was no proper system of land registration. In that year, a law came into effect making the registration of all land transactions compulsory. Land owners were encouraged to register their titles; unchallenged registration for five years established a valid title.

23. All land suitable for building has greatly increased in price in recent years. It is reported that prime beach land now sells at £250 to £350 per foot while land on second-class beaches sells from about £40 per foot.

24. Water. The Territory's great problem is lack of water. There is no public water supply and present water sources are mainly wells and roof catchments.

25. Power supply. The Territory has two public utilities. Caribbean Utilities Co. Ltd., which purchased the assets of the former Cayman Islands Public Service Ltd., supplies electricity to George Town and West Bay on Grand Cayman, while Cayman Brac Power and Light Company Ltd. provides electricity for the island of Cayman Brac.

26. It was reported in June 1968 that arrangements had been completed for the purchase of the Boddentown electricity franchise by the Government. As a result of this purchase, the electricity franchise for the whole of Grand Cayman would be granted to Caribbean Utilities Co., Ltd.

27. Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture, which was established in 1966, was further expanded in 1967. There is relatively little agricultural activity

^{4/} For an explanation of the currency in use in the Territory see para. 45 below.

in the Territory, largely because good quality soil is found only in scattered pockets, interspersed by large areas of rock and swamps. The major part of land used for agriculture is excessively rocky, suitable for mechanized tillage only after expensive processing by heavy ripping and crushing equipment. Skilled agricultural labour is limited, the demand being unsatisfied owing to opportunities in preferred trades.

28. Agricultural production is limited to a three-phased activity based on beef cattle, field products and tree crops - coconuts, mangoes, citrus, avocados and breadfruit.

29. Forestry. The principal forest products are mahogany and thatch palm.

30. Fisheries. Turtle and shark fishing are fairly important industries. The value of exports of turtles, turtle skin, turtle shell and turtle meat amounted to approximately £20,000 in 1967 (or four-fifths of total exports), compared with £16,823 in 1966.

31. Industries. The manufacture of thatch rope (from species of *Thrinax* palms) is the Territory's main industry. The rope has a high resistance to salt water and finds a ready market mainly in Jamaica. Exports are as follows:

	Quantity (fathoms)	Value (pounds)
1964	1,302,750	15,740
1965	744,400	8,865
1966	575,600	7,954

32. In George Town there are two concrete block manufacturing plants, and a tile factory. There is also a seafood processing plant and a clothing factory.

33. Transport and communications. There are about ninety-six miles of road open for motor vehicles in Grand Cayman and twenty-five miles in Cayman Brac. Little Cayman is served by a jeep-track and foot paths. In 1967, there were approximately 2,000 privately owned motor cars and other vehicles in the Territory, compared with 1,200 in 1966.

34. In 1968, the sum of £500,000 was spent on extending the length of the runway and improving the lighting at the George Town airport which is used as a refuelling point for southbound cargo aircraft. The airport is now capable of taking jet aircraft. There is also an airport in Cayman Brac and a private air strip on Little Cayman.

35. The Territory is served by two overseas airlines, British West Indian Airways (BWIA) and Lineas Aereas Costarricenses, S.A. (LACSA). Internally, the islands are served by Cayman Brac Airways, Ltd., a subsidiary of LACSA (a 51-49 per cent partnership). At the beginning of 1969 there were approximately thirty-three incoming and outgoing flights weekly.

36. George Town is the principal port and the port of registry. Forty-four vessels totalling 19,300 gross tons are registered there. The Territory is linked by regular sea services with Jamaica, Florida and Costa Rica.

37. It is reported that there is an urgent need for a deep-water pier with modern facilities. The estimated cost is about £2 million.

38. An automatic telephone system is in operation in Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac with a dialling circuit to Little Cayman. International telephone service is available to most countries. The telephone and telegraph system is owned and operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited. It is expected that by 1970 the Territory will have direct access to the Cable and Wireless station in Jamaica and to the global space communications network.

39. Trade. The principal import items are footstuffs, textiles and fuel oil. The principal exports are turtles and turtle products, rope and shark skins. Approximately two-thirds of trade of the Territory is with the United States of America and most imports (about 60 per cent) are from this source. The other principal trading partner is Jamaica, from which sugar, coffee, cement, liquor, kerosene and condensed milk are imported. There are no re-exports from the Territory.

40. The value of imports and exports for the years 1963 to 1967 were as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Imports</u> (pounds)	<u>Exports</u> (pounds)
1963	838,886	34,490
1964	958,120	31,900
1965	1,157,156	21,438
1966	1,490,914	23,717
1967	1,711,408	23,791
1968 (estimate)	1,712,038	25,491

41. Public finance. The following table shows the increasing trend in revenue and expenditure since 1951:

<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>Revenue</u> (pounds)	<u>Expenditure</u> (pounds)
1951/1952	42,459	58,640
1955/1956	104,551	84,909
1959/1960	202,287	200,670
1960 (April to December)	160,46	153,680
1961	231,042	219,561
1962	241,628	231,889
1963	258,375	242,503
1964	299,856	296,606
1965	333,371	280,021
1966	436,719	360,522
1967 revised estimate	522,577	390,766
1968 estimate	500,934	481,822

42. Revenue is derived mainly from the sale of postage stamps and import duties which, in 1968, represented about 85 per cent of the annual revenue (65 per cent from import duties and 20 per cent from the sale of stamps),

compared with 80 per cent in 1967 and 70 per cent in 1966. The Territory, in relation to its size, is a significant net dollar earner. In 1964 the net total of Canadian and United States dollars earned was \$US837,535 and in 1966 \$US1,931,017.

43. There are no income, capital gains, property, sales, corporate, estate, excise or inheritance taxes in the Territory. In 1960, the Legislative Assembly passed the Companies Law, which came into effect on 1 December 1961. The law provides, inter alia, for the registration in the Territory of companies whose business is carried on outside the Territory and allows complete flexibility in their operations. In 1967 the Trust Law was enacted, incorporating all modern features of common-law trusts. The Cayman Islands thus offer business advantages not found in other Territories. George Town, Grand Cayman, is rapidly becoming an important international centre for financial transactions. There were about 900 international companies and foreign firms registered in Grand Cayman at the beginning of 1969 and about 400 trusts. It is reported that their business is growing between 50 and 100 per cent annually.

44. The first bank in the Territory was established eighteen years ago and the first trust company four years ago. At present, four major trust companies are operating in Grand Cayman - Bank of Nova Scotia Trust (Cayman) Ltd., Canadian Imperial Bank Trust Co. (Cayman) Ltd., Cayman International Trust Co. Ltd. (part owned by Barclays), and the Royal Bank Trust Co. (Cayman) Ltd. Other trust companies operate through representatives. Barclays, the Royal Bank of Canada, the Bank of Nova Scotia, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, and the Union Savings and Loan Association, are actively engaged in banking business.

45. British silver and copper coins and Jamaica coins are in circulation. Silver coins are legal tender up to 40s. and copper coins up to the value of 1s. Government of Jamaica notes 5/ of the denominations of £5, £1, 10s. and 5s. are in circulation. At the end of 1965, it was estimated that currency to a value of £100,000 was in circulation, compared with £71,000 in 1964 and £58,000 in 1963. United States and Canadian dollars are freely accepted. It is reported that the Jamaican decimal currency will be introduced in September 1969.

46. United Kingdom aid. According to the information provided by the administering Power, United Kingdom Government aid to the Territory in 1965 comprised £16,000, mainly in the form of technical assistance. In 1966 the figure was £274,000, of which £256,000 was in the form of development grants and the balance in technical assistance; in 1967 the figure was £317,000 and in 1968 it was £64,000. By the end of 1966, a total of eight experts had been working in the Territory under United Kingdom technical assistance schemes, one in education, three in public administration, one in works and communications and three in health (A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.110).

47. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to the Cayman Islands has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968 the cost of assistance approved for the Territory amounted to approximately \$US58,000. The Governing

5/ The Jamaican pound is equal in value to the pound sterling.

Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of approximately \$US25,000 annually for the period 1969-1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning of urban and rural development, low-cost housing, vocational training of maritime personnel, agricultural development, and the improvement of livestock production and animal health. The programme also includes fellowships in the field of agriculture and hospital administration. 6/

Social conditions

48. Labour. There is no administrative organization responsible for governmental activities relating to labour and employment conditions.

49. Most of the men are employed as seamen with relatively high wages; consequently the labour force ashore is limited, and expensive.

50. The Trade Union Law, 1942 provides for the formation, registration, rights, powers and control of trade unions. One trade union is registered in the Territory, the Global Seamen's Union, with an office in George Town. Membership is not restricted to Cayman Islands seamen; almost all Caymanians serving on United States ships are members. Total membership is about 6,100 of whom about one-third are Cayman Islanders.

51. Cost of living. The high cost of living reflects the fact that the bulk of the Territory's foodstuffs is imported and that there are high customs duties on most items of import. No detailed statistics are available.

52. Public health. The medical services in the Territory are under the control of government medical officers, one stationed on Grand Cayman, and one in Cayman Brac. The total expenditure on medical and public health during 1964-1967, including the cost of staff, was as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (pounds)	<u>Percentage of total expenditure</u>
1964	38,637	13.0
1965	41,947	14.2
1966	36,987	12.3
1967	42,595	8.4

53. It was reported in June 1968 that the new maternity wing of the hospital in George Town and new nurses' residence were completed.

54. There are two private medical practitioners in Grand Cayman one of whom receives a government subsidy. Dental services are provided by one government dental officer and one dentist in private practice.

55. The average death-rate in the Territory is about 7.7 per thousand. The highest death rate (25.9 per thousand live births) is found in infants of one year old and under.

6/ DP/TA/P/L.1/Add.2, p. 61-66.

56. One of the major problems of the Territory has been mosquitoes, especially during the summer months. To date about twenty-three species of mosquitoes have been found in the Islands. The Government, aided by the United Kingdom Ministry of Overseas Development, established a Mosquito Research and Control Unit in January 1966 to study the mosquito problem. In 1967-1968 the Department of External Aid of Canada made available the services of an entomologist. About £70,000 (£30,000 from local sources and £40,000 from the United Kingdom Government) is currently being spent on mosquito control.

Educational conditions

57. The educational system of the Territory is under the control of the Board of Education, of which the Administrator is chairman. The Board is responsible for the formulation of educational policy and for the making of regulations for the management of government schools. Recurrent expenditure on education during the period 1965-1967 was as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(pounds)</u>	<u>Percentage of total recurrent expenditure</u>
1965	47,553	16.0
1966	56,437	18.8
1967	62,988	21.6

58. Primary education is free and compulsory for all children between the ages of 7 and 14 years.

59. In 1967, there were nine government primary schools, two modern secondary schools and one secondary grammar school. In addition there were five church-sponsored primary schools of which one had a secondary department. Higher education is pursued in institutions abroad. The Territory is a contributor to the University of the West Indies. Most of the local teachers are recruited from Jamaica.

60. The Gospel of the Kingdom, a monthly English-language periodical, had a circulation of about 1,700 copies at the end of 1967. The Caymanian, a weekly English-language newspaper, had a circulation of about 2,000.

61. According to the report by the administering Power, there were six permanent cinemas in the Territory at the end of 1967.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the Cayman Islands at its 121st to 123rd, 128th and 129th meetings between 14 April and 28 August 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.121 to 123, 128 and 129).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex J to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory, subject to comments expressed by the representatives of Italy and Norway concerning sub-paragraphs (6) and (7) of the conclusions and recommendations.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.599.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 9 of the present chapter.

CHAPTER XXIX

MONTSELRAT

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided inter alia, to refer Montserrat to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 707th and 708th meetings, on 7 and 12 August.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including Montserrat, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. At the 707th meeting, on 7 August, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/FV.707), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
6. The Special Committee considered the report at its 707th and 708th meetings, on 7 and 12 August. At these meetings, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (A/AC.109/FV.707, and 708), the United Republic of Tanzania (A/AC.109/FV.707), the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, the Ivory Coast, Italy and Iran (A/AC.109/FV.708).
7. At its 708th meeting, on 12 August, the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 9 below.
8. On 5 September, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

9. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 708th meeting, on 12 August, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning Montserrat, in particular those adopted at its 613th meeting on 25 June 1968, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence, while emphasizing once again that the administering Power should enable the people to express their wishes concerning the future status of the Territory in full freedom and without any restrictions.

(4) The Special Committee notes with regret that no constitutional progress has taken place in the Territory since the item was last examined by the Special Committee and by the General Assembly.

(5) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory.

(6) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(7) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.

(8) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution, according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right to self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(9) The Special Committee urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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	<u>Paragraphs</u>
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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.541.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of Montserrat has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{1/} The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolution 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, resolution 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and resolutions 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.

2. In its conclusions and recommendations adopted in 1968, ^{2/} the Special Committee, inter alia, reaffirmed that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied fully to the Territory; noted with regret that the administering Power had not taken further measures necessary to implement the Declaration with respect to the Territory and urged it to do so without further delay; reiterated its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence; reiterated its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination would be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them; and urged once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including Montserrat, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXV, paras. 308 to 312, 322 to 326 and 333; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chap. XXIII; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII.

^{2/} A/7200 (Part I), chap. I, paras. 127 and 128; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, section II B.

resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY 3/

General

4. Montserrat lies twenty-seven miles south-west of Antigua and some forty miles north-west of Guadeloupe. It has a maximum length of eleven miles and a maximum width of seven miles. The area has recently been established at 39 1/2 square miles (7 more than had previously been thought). The Territory lies in the hurricane zone.

5. According to the census held in 1960, the population of the Territory was 12,167. The estimated population at the end of 1968 was 14,689, almost all of whom were of African or mixed descent. The population of Plymouth, the capital, is approximately 3,500.

Constitutional and political developments

6. Constitution. The existing Constitution, which was introduced in 1960, provides for the execution of government through an Administrator appointed by the Crown, who is advised by the Executive and Legislative Councils.

7. Administrator. The Administrator has the status of the Queen's representative. He is constitutionally required to act on the advice of the Executive Council, except as otherwise provided.

8. Executive Council. The Council is responsible for the general control and direction of the Government. It consists of four elected members, namely the Chief Minister, two other ministers and a member without portfolio, and two ex officio members, namely the Principal Law Officer and the Financial Secretary; the Council is presided over by the Administrator. The Administrator appoints as Chief Minister the member of the Legislative Council who, in his judgement, is most likely to command a majority. The other unofficial members are appointed on the advice of the Chief Minister.

9. Legislative Council. The Council consists of two ex officio members, namely the Principal Law Officer and the Financial Secretary, one nominated member and seven elected members. It is presided over by the Administrator.

10. Judiciary. The judiciary consists of the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court, the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and two Magistrates Courts. The Supreme Court is a superior court of record and consists of a Court of Appeal and a High Court of Justice.

3/ The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports. Also used in the preparation of this section has been the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 17 September 1968, for the year ending 31 December 1967.

11. Political parties. There are two political parties in the Territory, the Montserrat Labour Party (MLP) and the Montserrat Workers' Progressive Party (MWPP). The declared objectives of the MLP are to foster economic and industrial development and to improve education and housing, agriculture and medical services. The objectives of the MWPP are to improve labour conditions and welfare services and to promote agricultural and industrial development.

12. Elections. Elections to the Legislative Council are held every five years and are based on universal adult suffrage in single-member constituencies. Elections were last held in the Territory on 31 March 1966, when the MLP was returned to office. The MLP won four seats, the MWPP two seats and an independent took one seat. The Chief Minister of the Territory is Mr. W.R.H. Bramble, leader of the MLP.

13. Other developments. As has been previously reported, on 15 December 1967 the representative of the United Kingdom stated in the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly that his Government was prepared to convene a conference to consider constitutional changes in the Territory, whenever the local political parties indicated that they were ready. 4/ On 3 June 1968, the representative of the United Kingdom stated in Sub-Committee III of the Special Committee that the Chief Minister had recently informed the United Kingdom Government that he did not at the moment wish to accept that offer, since he and his Government were for the time being more concerned with economic development. 5/

Economic conditions

14. General. According to the report of the administering Power the economy of the Territory continued its upward momentum in a satisfactory manner during 1967. The Territory's tourist facilities and associated real estate development projects continued to be the main economic stimuli. The construction and engineering sector and hotels and services have overtaken agriculture and livestock as the biggest domestic earners.

15. Gross domestic product. The improvement in the total gross domestic product over the past five years is shown in the following figures (thousand Eastern Caribbean dollars) 6/

<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
3,883	4,500	5,612	6,375	6,585

16. Development plan. The Government has drawn up a development plan for the public sector for the period 1966-70. The plan, which calls for an expenditure of

4/ A/C.4/SR.1751; A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXVIII, para. 213.

5/ A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.110; see also A/AC.109/278.

6/ A new currency board, the East Caribbean Currency Authority, was established in 1965 under the East Caribbean Currency Agreement made on 18 January 1965 between the Governments of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. On 6 October 1965, the Authority issued new currency notes. The new unit of currency is the East Caribbean dollar (\$EC); \$EC1.00 equals \$US.50.

\$EC13.5 million over the five-year period, envisages development in two main fields: (a) the development of a tourist industry on as broad a base as possible; and (b) the development of agriculture to replace uneconomic peasant subsistence farming with viable mixed farms. A Development Planning Committee has been constituted to carry out the necessary preliminary studies and to advise the Government on the implementation of the plan.

17. Natural resources. The Territory has few natural resources. No minerals have yet been discovered in commercial quantities. During 1967 three applications were received for prospecting licences. The Government signed an agreement with one of the applicants, a Canadian company, to conduct mineral explorations in the Territory. Interest is centred in the sulphur deposits.

18. Water. The development of water supplies is of urgent priority. In addition to the investigation by the Government a Canadian engineering team under the auspices of the Canadian External Aid Programme has been carrying out an island-wide survey and a comprehensive drilling programme for wells. No reports are available on the results of the surveys.

19. In November 1967, the Government acquired control from the Montserrat Company of four major springs, thus bringing all surface water under its control.

20. Power supply. In 1967, the island-wide electricity scheme was commissioned and put into service. By the end of that year, 1,492 consumers were utilizing the electric power supply. Complete statistics are not, however, available.

21. Agriculture. On the basis of reports by economists and agriculturists, the Government has adopted a policy of extensive development of the Territory's agricultural resources which it believes will give the economy its greatest impetus, apart from tourism.

22. The Department of Agriculture is responsible for various activities, including animal production, land use, forestry, fisheries and marketing. Departmental expenditure amounted to \$EC440,116 in 1967, compared with \$EC235,630 in 1966.

23. The Territory's main crop - sea island cotton - continued to show a decline in quantity and variations in yield, as indicated by the following statistics:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Area planted</u>	<u>Quantity of lint</u>	<u>Lint yield</u> <u>per acre</u>
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
1935	4,438	1,016,387	229
1936	4,550	457,249	101
1945	3,770	551,517	136
1950	3,576	400,191	100
1955	1,500	283,065	113
1960	982	168,282	178
1965	912	140,760	154
1966	1,180	186,343 a/	170
1967	1,250	57,867 a/	46 b/
1968	690	...	...

a/ Total clean lint.

b/ The very low yield in 1967 was due to hurricane "Inez" and very wet harvesting conditions.

The total value of exports was \$EC72,000 in 1967. The corresponding figures for 1965 and 1966 were \$EC175,708 and \$EC241,800.

24. In 1967 a group of experts in industry and marketing undertook an investigation into the future of the cotton industry. Their report is not available.

25. Sweet potatoes now challenge cotton as the principal agricultural export. The bulk of the crop is exported to Antigua. It is estimated that there are some 600 acres of sweet potatoes on the island.

26. Sugar-cane cultivation has declined sharply over the last five years. The reduction in acreage after 1963 was so drastic that a new mill which had been constructed at Lees had to be abandoned, leaving Parsons as the only government mill on the island.

27. Growers are paid in terms of cane juice extracted; the juice is processed into thick syrup. Following is a summary of syrup production:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Syrup</u> <u>(gallons)</u>	<u>Value</u> <u>(Eastern Caribbean dollars)</u>
1961	17,720	24,884
1962	12,120	8,606
1963	5,040	4,132
1964	8,496	5,997
1965	8,920	7,825
1966	6,873	5,513
1967	4,800	4,448

28. Some parts of the island are well suited for banana production. In many areas, however, the bananas cultivation has proved uneconomic because of the cost of establishing windbreaks. The entire banana crop is produced by the Government Marketing Depot, shipped to Dominica and then sold to Geest Industries for export to the United Kingdom.

29. The Territory is traditionally well known for its vegetables. In previous years Montserrat exported up to 600 tons of tomatoes and 200 tons of onions annually. Other vegetables which can be grown on the island are cabbage, egg-plant, peppers, peas, lettuce, watercress, cucumber, okra and carrots. Mangoes grow well in most parts of the Island and are exported to Bermuda and Canada. The Territory is also capable of producing high quality limes; however, in 1966, there was only one lime orchard on the island, owned by the Montserrat Company.

30. The following table shows the trade in those vegetables for which statistics are available:

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Carrots (lb)	31,690	4,269	...	...
Tomatoes (lb)	137,690	230,000	60,000	40,000
Eschalots (lb)	2,118	3,819	969	...
Mangoes (single)	...	45,159	16,360	23,064
Hot peppers (lb)	...	17,493	17,273	43,721

31. The Territory had a cattle population estimated at 5,000 in 1967. About 500 animals are slaughtered annually. Sheep and goats numbered about 6,000 head, and pigs about 1,200. Efforts have been started to increase poultry production as part of an import substitution programme.
32. Forestry. The total area of forests is approximately 5,000 acres. A small amount of cedar lumber is exported to neighbouring islands.
33. Fisheries. In 1967, the monthly average of catches of wet fish recorded by the Fisheries Assistant was 11,083 pounds.
34. Industries. Industries which are limited to the processing of local products, include cotton ginning, processing of sugar cane, distillation of rum, lime juice and lime oil processing, soap manufacturing, canning and handicrafts. There are also two small furniture factories.
35. Transport and communications. There are about 120 miles of roads open for traffic, of which some 60 miles are suitable for motor vehicles. It was reported in September 1968 that United Kingdom grants amounting to \$EC153,000 were made available for the improvement of the road system and for the installation of a new and wider bridge at Pea-Ghaut to be completed by the end of March 1969. In 1967, a total of 768 vehicles were licensed, compared with 717 in 1966.
36. In 1967 the new runway at Blackburne Airport was completed at a cost of \$EC680,000. The airport is now able to accommodate Avro 748 aircraft.
37. In December 1968, Anchor Construction, of Fredricton, New Brunswick (Canada), began work on an air terminal building at Blackburne Airfield, financed under the Canadian External Aid Programme (see also paragraph 46). The building is scheduled for completion in July 1969.
38. Leeward Islands Air Transport Service maintains regular daily services between Montserrat and Antigua. Air Antilles also operates a twice weekly service between Guadeloupe and Montserrat.
39. Shipping services to Plymouth are provided by West Indies Shipping Line and the Harrison Line. Other lines which make regular calls with cargo are Atlantic Lines from New York and Florida and Blue Ribbon Line from Florida (United States). It was reported at the beginning of 1968 that the Shaw Steamship Line, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, would shortly start a direct service between Canada and the Territory.
40. In April 1967, Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited commissioned a modern dialling telephone system under a twenty-year contract. By the end of 1967 there were 393 subscribers.
41. Tourism. In 1967, the number of visitors to the Territory was 6,181, compared with 7,314 in 1966 and 7,412 in 1965.
42. Trade. The Territory's exports consist exclusively of agricultural products except for limited sales of handicrafts. The main imports and exports during 1964-1967 were as follows:

A. Imports

(Eastern Caribbean dollars)

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>First half of</u> <u>1967</u>
Food and beverages	1,153,957	1,297,396	...	944,576
Cement	120,745	122,694	...	94,266
Manufactured goods	853,265	734,738	...	673,958
Passenger cars	195,780	284,516	...	156,303
Machinery and transport equipment	472,764	718,958	...	661,916
Furniture and fittings	95,325	174,655	...	98,296
Miscellaneous	558,537	802,699	...	344,717

B. Exports

Cotton lint	195,000	175,708	241,800	72,000
Bananas	19,666	15,524	4,937	...
Tomatoes	12,360	13,806	9,000	5,000
Mangoes	374	3,756	2,119	3,250
Vegetables	3,927	14,371	24,850	25,000

43. Total trade for the first six months of 1967 by country of origin was as follows:

<u>Country</u>	<u>(Eastern Caribbean dollars)</u>
United Kingdom	1,220,381
West Indies	726,631
United States	643,129
Canada	548,726
Netherlands	126,690
Denmark	65,742
Puerto Rico	45,307
Italy	38,689
Other	252,454

44. The Government Marketing Depot (GMD) operates as an export marketing service for surplus fruits and vegetables; operations are irregular and their scale relatively limited.

45. Public finance. Revenue and expenditure for the last two years were as follows:

A. Revenue

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
	(Eastern Caribbean dollars)	
<u>Recurrent revenue</u>		
United Kingdom grants-in-aid	689,896	632,200
Other grants, including Colonial Development and Welfare	<u>111,280</u>	<u>218,558</u>
Total	801,176	850,758
Local revenue	<u>1,719,852</u>	<u>2,045,402</u>
Total recurrent revenue	2,521,028	2,896,160
<u>Capital revenue</u>		
United Kingdom grants-in-aid	130,104	63,000
Other grants, including Colonial Development and Welfare	<u>606,126</u>	<u>391,708</u>
Total	736,230	454,708
Local revenue	<u>766,402</u>	<u>211,863</u>
Total capital revenue	1,502,632	666,571
<u>Total grants</u>	1,537,406	1,305,466
Total revenue	4,023,660	3,562,731

B. Expenditure

Recurrent expenditure	2,651,330	2,958,658
Capital expenditure	<u>1,616,211</u>	<u>1,110,830</u>
Total expenditure	4,267,541	4,069,478

46. It was reported in April 1967 that a grant of \$500,000 (Canadian) had been made to Montserrat under the Canadian External Aid Programme to construct a new airport building and to provide navigational aids (see paragraph 37 above).

47. In a message transmitted to the Special Committee by a letter dated 9 October 1967 (see A/AC.10./278), the Chief Minister stated, inter alia, that the Territory was "presently desperately in need of \$4 million for deep-water pier and port development, \$1.5 million for hospital and health services, \$5 million for roads and \$1 million for low-cost housing to clear slums. This is in addition to \$1.2 million already granted by the United Kingdom Government and \$.5 million by the Canadian Government".

48. On 29 February 1968 the Chief Minister and Minister of Finance presented the budget for that year to the Legislative Council. This budget, which was the largest ever presented to the Montserrat Legislature, comprised recurrent revenue estimated at \$EC3,629,510 and recurrent expenditure at \$EC3,625,510. The estimates of recurrent revenue included grants-in-aid totalling \$EC609,600.

49. There are three banks in the Territory, all of them situated in Plymouth: Barclays Bank, D.C.O., the Royal Bank of Canada and the Government Savings Bank.

50. The new income tax law came into force with effect from 1 January 1968. There were no changes in the tax rates, the maximum of both personal and corporate rates being 20 per cent.

51. United Nations technical assistance. United Nations technical assistance to Montserrat has been provided since 1965, first through the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) and subsequently under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). By the end of 1968 assistance rendered to the Territory amounted to approximately the equivalent of \$US114,000. The Governing Council of UNDP has approved as a target for assistance to the Territory the equivalent of approximately \$US35,000 annually for the period 1969/1972. The Territory's programme for the same period includes the services of experts in physical planning for the development and conservation of the Island's land resources; low-cost housing; handicrafts and handicraft marketing; agricultural marketing; hospital and public health services; and the improvement of postal administration. 7/

52. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is providing some basic health and sanitation equipment, health education materials and teaching aids. 8/

Social conditions

53. Labour. The Labour Department is the administrative organization primarily responsible for governmental activities relating to labour and employment conditions. The labour force is relatively small and largely untrained. The three trade unions of employees registered under the Trade Union Act have a total membership of about 500. According to the administering Power, there were two labour disputes in the cotton industry and tractor services administered by the Government Agricultural Department in 1967; 249 man-days were lost as a result of these disputes.

54. Cost of living. As reported by the administering Power, there was a considerable increase in the cost of living in 1967 as a result of devaluation; detailed statistics are not available. At the end of 1967, a Statistical Unit was established in the Ministry of Finance and work has been started on 1968 statistical data.

55. Public health. The responsibility for public health services lies with the Medical and Public Health Department. The total expenditure on medical and health services in 1967 was \$EC320,414 as against \$EC267,235 in 1966.

56. In 1967, there was one general hospital with about seventy beds, three health centres and seven outpost dispensaries which continued to provide facilities for the examination and treatment of patients suffering from general and minor surgical conditions, as well as for ante-natal and infant welfare clinics. There were three government-registered and two private physicians, as well as two dentists.

7/ DP/TA/P/L.1/Add.2, pages 226-232.

8/ E/ICEF/581, page 35.

Educational conditions

57. Educational policy is directed by the Education Division of the Ministry of Social Services. In 1967, recurrent expenditure on primary education amounted to \$EC236,116 while that on secondary education was \$EC96,300, compared with \$EC232,388 and \$EC,81,344 in 1966. Capital expenditure in 1967 amounted to \$EC163,551, compared with \$EC75,464 in 1966. The total 1967 recurrent expenditure on education was 10.6 per cent of the recurrent expenditure of the Territory, compared with 11.83 per cent in 1966.

58. In 1967, the Government maintained twelve primary schools and one secondary school. There was one aided primary school, two unaided and one private primary school in the Territory. Construction of a new primary school at Lees, which was begun in September 1967, was nearing completion at the end of the year. The school will accommodate 150 children, thus relieving some of the congestion in the schools at Plymouth and Harris.

59. In 1967, a total of 2,908 pupils attended primary schools, with a teacher strength of 103 (1965 enrolment was 2,698). Two hundred sixty-eight students attended secondary school (compared with 275 in 1966 and 271 in 1965), with a teacher strength of sixteen (including two British Volunteer Programme graduates).

60. It was reported in August 1968 that a United Kingdom grant of \$EC12,000 would assist in providing equipment and furniture for the secondary school.

61. Radio Montserrat, a government-owned station for broadcasting information, educational and entertainment programmes, operates about sixty-five hours a week. Radio Antilles, a powerful commercial station which was opened in February 1966, operates twelve hours daily in French, English and Spanish.

62. Television transmissions can be received from Antigua (Leeward Islands Television Service) via a translator station to the north-east of Plymouth; transmission is for five and a half hours daily.

63. The Montserrat Mirror, a weekly English language newspaper, had a circulation of about 550 at the end of 1967.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of Montserrat at its 120th to 123rd and 126th meetings between 3 April and 1 July 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.120, 121, 122, 123 and 126).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.579.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 9 of this chapter.

CHAPTER XXX

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to refer the British Virgin Islands to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, as well as other resolutions of the General Assembly, particularly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, concerning twenty-four Territories, including the British Virgin Islands, by operative paragraph 7 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. In addition, the Special Committee had before it a cable dated 17 September 1969 from the British Virgin Islands Association of the Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/PET.1116).
6. At the 716th meeting, on 29 September, the Rapporteur of Sub-Committee III, in a statement to the Special Committee (A/AC.109/FV.716), introduced the report of that Sub-Committee concerning the Territory (see annex II to this chapter).
7. The Special Committee considered the report at its 716th and 717th meetings, on 29 September and 2 October. At the 717th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/AC.109/FV.717).
8. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted the report of Sub-Committee III and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, it being understood that the reservations expressed by certain members would be reflected in the record of the meeting. These conclusions and recommendations are set out in paragraph 10 below.

9. On 2 October, the text of the conclusions and recommendations was transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

10. The text of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 717th meeting, on 2 October, to which reference is made in paragraph 8 above, is reproduced below:

(1) The Special Committee recalls and reaffirms its conclusions and recommendations concerning the British Virgin Islands, in particular those adopted at its 564th and 565th meetings on 27 September and 6 October 1967, and approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-second session, as well as those approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session.

(2) The Special Committee reaffirms that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applies fully to the Territory.

(3) The Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to self-determination and independence, while emphasizing once again that the administering Power should enable the people to express their wishes concerning the future status of the Territory in full freedom and without any restrictions.

(4) The Special Committee notes with regret that no constitutional progress has taken place in the Territory since the item was last examined by the Special Committee in September and October 1967 and by the General Assembly.

(5) The Special Committee expresses its regret that the administering Power has failed further to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the Territory.

(6) The Special Committee invites the administering Power to encourage open, free and public discussion on the various alternatives open to the people of the Territory in their achievement of the objectives of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to ensure that the people of the Territory shall exercise their right of self-determination in full knowledge of these alternatives.

(7) The Special Committee takes note of the statement made in November 1968 by the Chief Minister of the Territory, according to which the Government of the British Virgin Islands is opposed to any idea of association with other Commonwealth Caribbean Territories.

(8) The Special Committee expresses its concern over the large flow of immigrants into the Territory and requests the administering Power to take effective measures in order to control such immigrations in accordance with the expressed wishes of the people of the Territory.

(9) The Special Committee reiterates its request to the administering Power that it take immediate measures to transfer all powers to the people of the Territory, without any conditions and reservations, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire, in order to enable them to enjoy complete freedom and independence.

(10) The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in particular its decision, contained in paragraph 6 of that resolution according to which "the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status". It therefore reiterates its belief that a United Nations presence during the procedures for the exercise of the right of self-determination will be essential for the purpose of ensuring that the people of the Territory exercise their right of self-determination in full freedom and without any restrictions, in full knowledge of the various alternatives open to them.

(11) The Special Committee urges once again the administering Power to enable the United Nations to send a visiting mission to the Territory and to extend to it full co-operation and assistance.

ANNEX I*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/I.532.

I. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the British Virgin Islands has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first and twenty-second sessions. 1/ The General Assembly's decisions concerning the Territory are contained in resolutions 2069 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968.
2. In April 1968, the Special Committee decided again to consider the British Virgin Islands as a separate item and to refer it to Sub-Committee III for consideration and report. Owing to certain circumstances and lack of time, the Sub-Committee decided to defer consideration of the Territory. 2/ On 31 October 1968, the Special Committee took note of that decision and transmitted to the General Assembly the working paper prepared by the Secretariat in order to facilitate the Fourth Committee's consideration of the Territory. It further decided, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might wish to give in that connexion, to give consideration to the Territory at its next session. 3/
3. By resolution 2430 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, which concerned twenty-four Territories, including the British Virgin Islands, the General Assembly approved the chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to these Territories; reaffirmed the inalienable right of the peoples of these Territories to self-determination and independence; called upon the administering Powers to implement without delay the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly; reiterated its declaration that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of colonial Territories and the establishment of military bases and installations in these Territories was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV); urged the administering Powers to allow United Nations visiting groups to visit the Territories and to extend to them full co-operation and assistance; decided that the United Nations should render all help to the peoples of these Territories in their efforts freely to decide their future status; and requested the Special Committee to continue to pay special attention to these Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 8 (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXV, paras. 308 to 312, 322 to 326 and 332, 333; ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469; ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1).

2/ A/7200 (Part I), annex IV, para. 8.

3/ A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXIX, para. 6.

II. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{4/}

General

4. The British Virgin Islands comprise about forty islands and islets, of which thirteen are inhabited. The total area of the Territory is approximately 59 square miles (153 square kilometres). The largest islands are Tortola (21 square miles or 54 square kilometres), Virgin Gorda (8.25 square miles or 21 square kilometres), Anegada (15 square miles or 39 square kilometres) and Jost Van Dyke (3.25 square miles or 8 square kilometres). Road Town, on the south-east part of Tortola, is the capital city (population approximately 2,000, compared with 891 at the 1960 census).

5. The last census of population was carried out in 1960 and the next will take place in 1970. The estimated population of the Territory at the end of 1966 was 8,814 (compared with 7,340 at the 1960 census), mainly of African descent; approximately 4 per cent were persons of European and United States origin. The 1960 census showed that about 84 per cent of the population lived in Tortola, 8 per cent in Virgin Gorda, about 4 per cent each in the islands of Anegada and Jost Van Dyke, and under 100 in the other islands.

Constitution and political developments

6. Under the new Constitution, which came into force on 18 April 1967, the basic government structure is as follows:

7. Administrator: The Administrator, appointed by the Crown, continues to exercise his powers in consultation with the Executive Council over which he presides. His special responsibilities include defence and internal security, external affairs, terms and conditions of service of public officers, the administration of the courts and finance.

8. Legislative Council. The Council consists of a Speaker, chosen from outside the Council; two ex officio members (the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary); one nominated member appointed by the Administrator after consultation with the Chief Minister; and seven elected members. The Speaker has a casting vote only. Apart from the Speaker, all members have an original vote; however, only the votes of elected members determine whether a motion of no confidence in the Government is carried or defeated.

9. Executive Council. The Council consists of three ministers, one of them is Chief Minister, and two ex officio members, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary. The Chief Minister is appointed by the Administrator; the

^{4/} The information contained in this section has been derived from published reports. Also used in the preparation of this section has been the information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter on 14 November 1968 for the years ending 31 December 1966 and 1967.

other two ministers are appointed by the Administrator on the advice of the Chief Minister.

10. Political parties. There are three political parties in the Territory: the United Party (UP), the Democratic Party (DP), and the Peoples Own Party (POP). The aims of the parties, with minor variations, are identical. The general welfare of the people is their main consideration, with promise of better jobs and higher wages, improvement of all the social services, agriculture, fisheries and water supplies, the provision of better roads, communications and transportation and improved supplies of electricity. Each party stresses the need for economic development and encouragement of foreign investment.

11. The Chief Minister of the Territory is Mr. H. Lavity Stoutt, Leader of the UP. He was appointed following elections held on 14 April 1967, in which the UP won four seats, the DP two, and the POP one.

Other developments

12. The Legislative Council is reported to have expressed the view in April 1968 that there should be effective control against the large flow of immigrants from the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries, in view of the small area of the Territory and the fact that persons born in the Territory have no right of entry for purposes of residence and employment into any other part of the Commonwealth. The Council, the report continues, called for the appointment of a select committee under the chairmanship of the Attorney-General to recommend steps for the introduction of a concept of British Virgin Islands status. This status, the Council considered, should be recognized and adopted in the context of the qualifications for voting and for nominations for membership in the Legislative Council. The Council recommended that the Government should urgently introduce legislation requiring that all British subjects and Commonwealth citizens who were not British Virgin Islanders by birth or long residence or by marriage to British Virgin Islanders born in the Territory should be subject to the same licensing requirements applicable to aliens. It further recommended that provision be made for the Administrator-in-Council, instead of the Administrator, to lay down such licence requirements.

13. Delivering his Commonwealth Day address in Tortola on 24 May 1968, the Administrator is reported to have referred to the immigration control regulations now in force in the United Kingdom, and to have said: "Just as this policy is right for Britain and other Commonwealth countries, so surely it is right for the British Virgin Islands in order that we can admit strangers who wish to come and live here at a rate at which they can be properly assimilated into British Virgin Islands society."

14. In November 1968, the Chief Minister was asked during an interview "whether the British Virgin Islands would get together with other Commonwealth Caribbean Territories in some sort of union". According to reports, he replied "definitely not".

Economic conditions

15. Power supply. In 1966, the Government approved an electricity extension scheme to be carried out in phases over several years. Phase one of the scheme

was completed in 1967 by the installation of the new generating plant to serve the whole of the Road Town area. Before the end of 1967 a start was made in the implementation of phase two which entails the supply of electricity to the other inhabited parts of Tortola.

16. Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture and Livestock falls within the portfolio of the Minister of Natural Resources and Public Health. Departmental expenditure amounted to \$US61,089 in 1967, compared with \$US78,622 in 1966. Crops produced locally include sugar cane, limes, coconuts, bananas and food crops. In 1967 the Territory exported crops and livestock valued at \$US69,310 and fish valued at \$US22,122. In 1966, 63,450 pounds of fish and 1,950 pounds of lobster were exported to St. Thomas.

17. Industries. In 1967, a large stone-crushing business was opened and the construction of new printing and soft-drink bottling plants was begun. Rum is distilled for local consumption. The Territory is in urgent need of developing light industry; however, this is dependent on the provision of a sufficient amount of low-cost electric power.

Transport and communications

18. In 1967 negotiations were completed for the Royal Engineers to undertake the reconstruction of the Beef Island airfield. In March 1968 a contingent of more than 100 officers and men of the Royal Engineers arrived in the Territory and started the reconstruction. They were supported by a field workshop from the Royal Mechanical and Electrical Engineers and a small stores section from the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. The new runway will be 3,200 feet long and 90 feet wide, with 200-foot overruns at each end. Three hundred feet of the runway will be built over the sea at the extreme eastern end. After reconstruction, the airfield will be able to accommodate turbo-jets of the HS. 748 type.

19. Work was reported to have started in January 1968 on the construction of a new waterfront jetty in Road Town, a \$93,000 contract for which was awarded in December 1967 to the British Virgin Islands Construction Company. The company is a subsidiary of Robert Gray, Limited with headquarters in Bermuda. The new passenger wharf will be 75 feet wide and 130 feet long.

20. Direct Booker Line shipping service has been opened from Liverpool to Tortola. Sea communications between the British and United States Virgin Islands are maintained by regular daily services originating in Road Town. Regular air communications exist between Beef Island and Antigua and between Beef Island/Virgin Gorda and St. Thomas.

21. There are about forty miles of motor roads in the Territory. In 1967 a total of 795 vehicles were registered, compared with 627 in 1966.

22. Cable and Wireless Limited continued to operate the Territory's telephone and telegraph communications; a dial system came into use during 1967. Communication by radio telephone to the Out Islands was also installed in that year.

23. Tourism. In 1967, 17,751 tourists visited the Territory, as compared with 14,013 in 1966. The promotion of tourism was accepted by the Government as having high priority and a Director of Tourism and Investment was appointed in 1967 under United Kingdom technical assistance.

24. Trade. The bulk of the export trade is in livestock and to a lesser extent fish, fruit and vegetables. Principal imports include food-stuffs and consumer goods. Following is a summary of the imports, exports and re-exports of the Territory for the years 1966 and 1967:

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Total imports	\$US3,143,000	\$US3,890,025
Total exports	100,914	87,835
Total re-exports	56,975	12,072

The unfavourable balance in visible trade was partly offset by remittances from abroad, recurrent aid and by inflows on capital account.

Public finance

25. Total public revenue in 1967 amounted to \$US2,013,780, of which \$US824,217 were grants from the United Kingdom (including grants-in-aid). Corresponding figures for the previous year were \$US1,588,331 and \$US613,932. Expenditures during 1966 and 1967 were as follows:

	<u>1966</u> <u>(in United States dollars)</u>	<u>1967</u>
Recurrent expenditures	1,306,259	1,418,429
Capital expenditures	<u>389,130</u>	<u>657,130</u>
Total	1,695,389	2,075,559

Budget estimates for 1969 amount to \$US5,433,128, of which \$US2,526,128 are for recurrent and \$US2,907,000 for capital expenditures.

26. British grants-in-aid to the Territory amounted to \$US337,229 in 1966, \$US344,555 in 1967. Replying to a question in the House of Commons, the United Kingdom Minister of Overseas Development stated on 28 November 1968 that arrangements were being made for the Government of the British Virgin Islands to accelerate its development programme by bringing forward to the current fiscal year up to £50,000 of its 1969-1970 allocation of development funds. In addition, technical assistance was likely to amount to £10,000.

27. By decision of the Legislative Council taken on 28 December 1967, the United States dollar became officially legal tender in the Territory.

28. There are three banks in the Territory: the Virgin Islands National Bank; Barclays Bank D.C.O. and the Bank of Nova Scotia (established in 1967). In 1967, the Government decided to abandon operation of the Government Savings Bank.

29. The Government is reported to have appointed a committee in October 1967, known as the Fiscal Committee, under the chairmanship of the Finance Secretary and comprised of local residents, to review the fiscal structure now operative in the British Virgin Islands and to make recommendations. In August 1968, the Fiscal Committee submitted its report to the Administrator. Among other things, it recommended that income tax should start on incomes of not less than \$US7,000 at a flat rate of 15 per cent.

30. On 17 May 1963, according to a report, the Chief Minister's Office issued a policy statement regarding gambling and casinos, the purpose of which was to discourage further proposals for the introduction of legalized gambling in the British Virgin Islands by an official declaration of the anti-gambling policy of the present Government.

31. Economic Development Committee. It was decided to set up an Economic Development Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister to advise the Government on development projects. The work of this committee was to complement that of the Fiscal and Social Committee (see paragraphs 33 and 41 below).

32. Foreign capital and investments. The Chief Minister stated in July 1968 that the Government was doing all it could to encourage new capital and investments from abroad.

33. Early in 1967, an agreement was concluded between the Government of the Territory and a private concern, the Development Corporation of Anegada, Limited, which granted the corporation the right to exercise an option within ten years to lease a large portion of Anegada Island. The corporation, should it exercise its option, would undertake to spend at least \$US1.5 million within five years and \$US3 million within ten years on construction and development, including an airport, a wharf, a road system and other public facilities.

34. An agreement was also signed with the Wickham's Cay Co., Ltd. providing for the reclamation and development for commercial and residential purposes of part of Road Harbour embracing the islet of Wickham's Cay. The company would receive approximately sixty acres of reclaimed land as a grant, in addition to 3.5 acres of choice land it had received at the Experimental Station; in return it would build a road along the waterfront.

35. As reflected in the local Press, misgivings had been expressed about the agreements as not giving the Territory its rightful due. Demonstrations and disorders were reported to have taken place in April 1968, after which the Government warned that development investors sought places where stability and tranquility prevailed, and called on those who had acted in a disorderly way to stop disturbing the peace so as not to scare away potential investors.

36. International technical assistance. The Territory obtained the services of a town and country planner under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1967. Other international assistance included visits to the Territory by

officers of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). In 1968, a programme of assistance valued at \$US15,000 was drawn up by UNICEF for the improvement of health services and environmental sanitation. (See also paragraph 44 below.)

Social conditions

Labour

37. The people of the Territory are largely self-employed as farmers, fishermen, seamen and businessmen. Growing numbers of young persons, however, are being attracted into wage-earning employment and especially into building construction and tourist enterprises.

38. As reported by the administering Power, for the first time in years island workers sought employment locally instead of finding their way to the United States of America; according to the report by the administering Power, there was full employment on Tortola and Virgin Gorda Islands.

39. According to reports, in November 1968 about seventy-three workmen on the Wickham's Cay Co. Ltd. project walked off the job in demand for higher wages and better working conditions. The demands were discussed at a conference between the strikers and the representatives of the construction company, Interbeton Limited. An agreement was worked out between the Labour Commissioner and the company was accepted by the workmen.

Social security and welfare

40. Following the introduction of the new Constitution for the Territory in April 1967, social security and welfare were transferred to the portfolio of the Chief Minister.

41. It was reported that a committee comprised of local residents was set up in May 1968 under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister to study existing social conditions and to recommend to the Government guiding principles for the establishment of a social development programme designed to match the Territory's economic growth.

42. No cost of living index for retail prices is maintained in the Territory.

Public health

43. The responsibility for the expenditure of public funds and for all other matters involving health and sanitation lies with the Medical and Health Department whose activities are under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Natural Resources and Public Health. The total expenditure on medical and health services in 1967 was \$US151,430, as against \$US137,135 in 1966.

44. The population of the Territory is served by seven health centres and Peebles Hospital in the capital. The hospital provides between thirty and forty

beds for medical, surgical and maternity cases. According to a UNICEF report, it has inadequate facilities and the maternity and paediatric wards are poorly equipped. It is staffed largely by assistant nurses who have had no organized training. The health centres are small and not equipped for preventive services. Only four are staffed by a resident district nurse. An ante-natal clinic is held once a week at Peebles Health Centre; there are no maternal and child welfare services as such in the other centres. 5/ No private medical services are available in the Territory.

45. The Government has planned a new health centre for Virgin Gorda Island and a campaign for mosquito eradication, but funds are not yet available. However, it was expected that a school medical and dental scheme, as well as a Territory-wide polio and small-pox vaccination campaign would be carried out in 1968.

46. The only piped water supply is in the capital; however, the water is untreated. The remainder of the population of Tortola and the other islands depends on open shallow wells and/or individual roof catchments and storage. There is no main sewage system in the islands. 6/

47. In April 1968, the Executive Director of UNICEF announced that he had recommended an allocation of \$US15,000 for the British Virgin Islands in connexion with health services for the period 1969-1970. The recommendation was approved by the Executive Board of UNICEF in June 1968. 7/ This allocation is being used to assist the Territory in the implementation of its six-year National Development Plan (1966-1970). Under this plan the Government intends to reorganize and improve the health services with emphasis on the development of maternal and child health services and environmental sanitation activities. UNICEF is providing supplies and equipment for health centres, maternity and paediatric wards, laboratory, environmental sanitation and training, DPT vaccine and two vehicles. WHO is also assisting by providing advice and guidance, and, subject to the availability of funds, fellowships to enable qualified staff to receive training abroad. The Government of Canada has offered to provide personnel, equipment and drugs. 8/

Educational conditions

48. Education is administered under the provisions of the Education Ordinance Laws. In 1967 the control of education was assigned to the portfolio of the Chief Minister.

49. In 1967, expenditure on education was \$US360,915, as against \$US314,907 in 1966.

50. Education is free and compulsory up to the age of fifteen years. The Government maintains two primary schools, one post-primary and one secondary

5/ E/ICEF/P/L.1056.

6/ E/ICEF/P/L.1056.

7/ E/4554 and E/ICEF/576.

8/ E/ICEF/P/L.1056.

school. Thirteen private primary and seven private post-primary schools receive grants from the Government; there are three unaided schools.

51. The construction of the Virgin Islands Comprehensive High School in Road Town was completed in September 1968. The new school will offer academic and technical courses as well as training in trades, business and handicrafts.

52. In 1966, a total of 2,546 pupils attended the Territory's schools, which had a teacher strength of ninety-six. In 1967 there were 2,434 pupils and 101 teachers. Of these, it is reported that five were university graduates, while the ratio of untrained to trained teachers was greater than two to one. During 1967, eleven student-teachers were enrolled at the Leeward Islands Teachers College in Antigua. The Government of the British Virgin Islands contributes to the maintenance costs of the college.

53. A commercial radio station (ZBVI), located at Baughers Bay, Tortola, remains in operation. It was inaugurated in May 1965 and has exclusive broadcasting rights granted by licence until 1970.

54. It was reported in January 1969 that the Government of the British Virgin Islands had granted a licence to Dukane West Indies Television Ltd. to install and operate a television broadcasting station with effect from 1 January 1969 and that the station would be located on the island of Tortola. The licence, which will remain valid until 31 December 1995, with option of renewal for a further twenty-five years, has been granted, according to reports, on condition that one channel be used as a commercial station and another be operated by Dukane on behalf of the British Virgin Islands Government for public, educational and cultural television.

55. The Island Sun, published weekly, maintained its circulation throughout the islands and is the only local newspaper.

ANNEX II*

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE III

Rapporteur: Mr. Farrokh PARSI (Iran)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee considered the Territory of the British Virgin Islands at its 120th to 123rd, 126th and 127th meetings between 3 April and 21 August 1969 (see A/AC.109/SC.4/SR.120, 123, 126 and 127).
2. The Sub-Committee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex I to this chapter).
3. In accordance with established procedure, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, participated in the work of the Sub-Committee at the invitation of the Chairman.
4. In its consideration of this item, the Sub-Committee took into account the statements made in the Special Committee during the general exchange of views on matters relating to small Territories (see A/AC.109/PV.667-670).

B. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

5. Having considered the situation in the Territory, and having heard statements by the representative of the United Kingdom as administering Power, the Sub-Committee adopted its conclusions and recommendations a/ on the Territory.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.596.

a/ The conclusions and recommendations submitted by Sub-Committee III for consideration by the Special Committee were adopted by the latter body without modification. They are reproduced in paragraph 10 of the present chapter.

CHAPTER XXXI

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) as a separate item and consider it at its plenary meetings.
2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 715th meeting, on 25 September.
3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, by paragraph 11 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to perform its task and to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration in all Territories which have not yet attained independence".
4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the latest developments concerning the Territory.
5. In addition, the Special Committee had before it the following written petitions:
 - (a) Letter dated 25 October 1968 from Mr. José Ramon Cornejo, President, Unión Vecinal de Fomento Edilicio Coronel Dorrego, Argentina (A/AC.109/PET.1050);
 - (b) Letter dated 20 November 1968 from Mr. Raúl G. Espinola (A/AC.109/PET.1051);
 - (c) Letter dated 27 February 1969 from Messrs. Juan José Tártara, General Secretary, and Angel Rubén Quinteros, Press Secretary, National Board, People's Party of Argentina (A/AC.109/PET.1052);
 - (d) Letter dated 15 April 1969 from eight members of the Centro Universitario Pro Integración Argentina (CUPIA) (A/AC.109/PET.1100);
 - (e) Letter dated 17 April 1969 from Mr. Hipólito Solari Yrigoyen (A/AC.109/PET.1101);

(f) Letter dated 2 May 1969 from Miss Silvia da Representação and Miss Maria Laura Ambrosio (A/AC.109/PET.1102);

(g) Letter dated 27 May 1969 from Messrs. Maclean and Stapledon S.A. (A/AC.109/PET.1108).

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

6. At its 715th meeting, on 25 September, on the proposal of the representative of Ethiopia, supported by the representatives of Madagascar, the Ivory Coast and the United Republic of Tanzania, and following a statement by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.715), the Special Committee decided to transmit to the General Assembly the working paper referred to in paragraph 4 above in order to facilitate consideration of the item by the Fourth Committee and, subject to any directives the General Assembly might give in that connexion, to give consideration to the item at its next session.

ANNEX*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.584 and Corr.1.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
AND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Territory of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) has been considered by the Special Committee since 1964 and by the General Assembly since 1965. The Special Committee's conclusions and recommendations and statements of consensus concerning the Territory are set out in its reports to the General Assembly at its nineteenth, twenty-first and twenty-second sessions. 1/ The General Assembly's decisions are contained in resolution 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, and in the statements of consensus approved on 20 December 1966 2/ and 19 December 1967. 3/

2. On 26 September 1968, the Permanent Representative of Argentina and the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland addressed letters to the Chairman of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/302 and 303) informing him that their Governments had continued negotiations in accordance with resolution 2065 (XX) and the consensuses approved on 20 December 1966 and 19 December 1967, for the purpose of reaching a solution to the problem of the dispute over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). They further stated that both Governments were proceeding with the talks with a view to reaching a peaceful settlement as soon as possible, as recommended by the United Nations, and hoped to report on the subject during the course of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.

3. On 31 October 1968, the Special Committee decided to transmit to the General Assembly the working paper prepared by the Secretariat in 1968 in order to facilitate the Fourth Committee's consideration of the item and, subject to any directives the General Assembly might wish to give in that connexion, to give consideration to the item at its next session. 4/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. (A/5800/Rev.1), chap. XXIII, para. 59; ibid., Twenty-first Session (A/6300/Rev.1), chap. XXII, para. 469 (d); ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (Part III) (A/6700/Rev.1), chap. XXIII, para. 1033 E.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 23 (A/6628), paras. 12-13.

3/ Ibid., Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/6716), item 23, p. 57.

4/ A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXX, para. 7.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{5/}

General

4. At 31 December 1968 the population of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), excluding the Dependencies, was 2,105. The population of the Dependencies fluctuates with the sealing and whaling seasons.

Political and constitutional developments

5. No change has been reported in the constitutional structure of the Government. The present Constitution of the Territory was introduced in 1949 and was amended in 1951, 1955 and 1964. It was set out in the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session. ^{6/} Briefly, there is a Governor, the Queen's representative, who is the head of the administration of the Territory, and is advised by the Executive Council in the exercise of his powers. He may act against this advice only in certain specific circumstances. The Executive Council is composed of two unofficial members appointed by the Governor, two elected members from the Legislative Council and two ex officio members. The Legislative Council, which is presided over by the Governor, is composed of eight members, four of whom are elected.

6. Statements by United Kingdom spokesmen on talks held between British and Argentine officials relating to the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) during 1968 were made in reply to questions in the United Kingdom Parliament in March and December 1968. These talks were regarded as confidential and details concerning them were thus reported only in general terms.

7. On 27 March 1968, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Michael Stewart, stated in the House of Commons that "our object in conducting these talks is to secure a lasting and satisfactory modus vivendi between these islands and Argentina because we believe this to be a necessary long-term aim of policy". He added that he regarded the dispute as "a problem between two nations who desire to be friendly but who take different views as to what their rights are". However, on the question of a possible transfer of sovereignty, Mr. Stewart said that "Her Majesty's Government would only agree to such a cession, first on the condition I have mentioned that it must be part of an agreement fully satisfactory in other respects, and secondly, only if it were clear to us, to the Government in the United Kingdom, that the islanders themselves regarded such an agreement as satisfactory to their interests".

^{5/} The information presented in this working paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General, by the United Kingdom under Article 73 e of the Charter, on 13 August 1968, for the year ending 31 December 1967.

^{6/} A/6700/Rev.1. paras. 607-612.

8. It should be noted that talks on the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) between the Argentine and United Kingdom Governments had taken place intermittently since Mr. Stewart visited Buenos Aires in January 1966. The statement and debates on the subject in the United Kingdom Parliament in March 1968 followed an appeal to British members of Parliament and the Times (London) from unofficial members of the Territory's Executive Council, Messrs. A.G. Barton, R.V. Goss, S. Miller and G.C. Bonner who considered that in the talks between British and Argentine officials due consultation had not taken place with the inhabitants of the islands.

9. Later in the year, the Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Lord Chalfont, visited the Territory from 23 to 28 November 1968. The purpose of his visit was to explain to the islanders the United Kingdom's policy in the talks with the Argentine Government. In a statement to the House of Lords on 3 December 1968, Lord Chalfont said that he had had a number of meetings with the Territory's Executive Council (which was enlarged for the duration of his visit to include the unofficial members of the Legislative Council), with whom he had discussed confidentially and in detail the position reached in the talks with Argentina and the position which the British Government hoped would soon be reached. He repeated both to the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils and to the people at large that it was not the policy of Her Majesty's Government to transfer sovereignty over these islands against the wishes of the islanders. In reiterating the British Foreign Secretary's former statement made in March that the talks with Argentina had as their object the securing of "a lasting and satisfactory modus vivendi between these islands and Argentina", Lord Chalfont added: "In particular we are concerned to restore and improve communications between the islands and the nearest mainland, since this would be of great benefit to the islanders."

10. In a similar statement made also on 3 December 1968 in the House of Commons, Mr. Frederick Mulley, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, after reiterating assurances that there would be no transfer of sovereignty against the islanders' wishes, went on to say that, while at present there was no question but that the islanders wished to stay British, "in a different set of circumstances in the future I would hope that whichever party was then in power would not be prepared to stand in their way if the islanders change their minds".

11. On his return from the Territory, Lord Chalfont visited Buenos Aires and paid a courtesy visit to the Argentine Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nicanor Costa Menéndez.

12. A further statement reiterating the United Kingdom position on the subject was made by the United Kingdom Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Michael Stewart, in the House of Commons on 11 December 1968. Inter alia, the statement contained the following passage:

"In their talks with the Argentine Government, H.M. Government have been trying to reach an understanding with Argentina with the object of securing a satisfactory relationship between the islands and the nearest continental mainland. Since that time, the talks have continued and the two Governments have reached a measure of understanding although this is not yet complete. There is a basic divergence over H.M. Government's insistence that no transfer of sovereignty could be made against the wishes of the Falkland islanders."

13. On 12 December 1968, Mr. Costa Mendez, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, declared inter alia: "After more than two years of talks, both countries have reached some understanding on substantive issues. Argentine sovereignty over the Islands is an essential topic in the dispute. After refusing for a century even to discuss this matter, the United Kingdom has finally accepted to discuss it. This new willingness to hear our reasons is in itself sufficient reason for continuing the negotiations and for believing that they will lead to their logical conclusion: recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, which recognition, moreover, the United Kingdom has not categorically refused to proclaim." He further added: "Major differences still exist, of course. The United Kingdom insists on making recognition of Argentine sovereignty subject to the wishes of the inhabitants, a condition which the Republic cannot possibly accept."

14. Mr. Costa Mendez also mentioned in his statement that Argentina would take into account and protect the interests of the inhabitants of the islands by means of safeguards and guarantees to be agreed upon, and declared: "The Argentine Government, in keeping with the principles traditionally underlying its policy in this matter, will welcome these inhabitants with the utmost generosity. It is prepared to protect their interests satisfactorily and is confident that the ending of their present isolation will constitute a genuine advantage for them and their descendants."

Economic conditions

15. General. The economy of the Territory remains almost entirely based on the export of wool to the United Kingdom. Attempts have been made at sealing, and at the production of meat meal and tallow, as well as kelp meal from the vast seaweed beds surrounding the islands, but none of these have been successful.

16. It was reported in December 1968 that a Scottish company, Alginate Industries, had been investigating the possibilities of processing seaweed harvested from the waters surrounding the Territory. At a press conference held in London on 2 December 1968, the director of the company stated that he had already applied to the Governor of the Territory for a concession to exploit the seaweed. The alginate industry extracts chemicals from dried seaweed for use in dyes for textiles, additives in food and drink, motor tyres and in the pharmaceutical, paper and photographic industries. The company had surveyed the seaweed beds and estimated that it could harvest seaweed worth £12 million a year, which, after processing in Scotland, would be worth £100 million. More than 90 per cent would be exported. The company would build a fully automated drying and milling plant at Port Stanley and have a fleet of picking vessels. It was estimated that a pilot plant could be in operation in five years' time. It was pointed out that the huge beds of seaweed surrounding the islands were suitable for mechanical harvesting in contrast to the European supplies which were mostly gathered manually. The present world annual production of alginates was estimated at 15,000 tons worth about £10 million.

17. Sheep farming. As at the end of 1968 there were twenty-nine holdings, the size of which varied from 850 to 400,000 acres. The total area of wool production was 2,903,100 acres. The Falkland Islands Company, registered in the United Kingdom, owns six of the twenty-nine farms with a total acreage of 1.3 million acres, or 46 per cent of the total area under sheep. It controls regular shipping to the islands and runs the biggest general store in Port Stanley. The company has about 800 shareholders in the United Kingdom and seventy or eighty in the

Territory. Since 1964, wool prices have been falling and the company has been moving to other fields of investment. Another company, Lovegrove Waldron, owns a farm of 173,000 acres. This company also has extensive interests in Argentina, Brazil and Kenya.

18. International trade. The Territory's exports of wool during 1967 amounted to £783,000, as compared with £998,000 in 1966. Exports of hides and skins were valued at £17,784. Re-imports amounted to £22,233. The external trade figures over the past five years were as follows:

(thousand pounds)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total exports</u>	<u>Wool exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>
1964	1,187	1,151	545
1965	990	968	514
1966	1,038	998	697
1967	802	783	711
1968	842	811	599

The United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries absorb almost all of the Territory's exports and provide most of its imports (79.4 per cent in 1968).

19. Public finance and development. Public revenue is derived mainly from company taxes, income tax, customs duties, the sale of postage stamps, sale of electricity and investment income. The following table gives revenue and expenditure over the past five years for the Territory (excluding the Dependencies):

(thousand pounds)

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
1963/1964	287	350
1964/1965	413	387
1965/1966	426	383
1966/1967	415	511
1967/1968	524	530

Expenditure by the Territory from Colonial Development and Welfare funds amounted to £59,558 in 1967/1968, compared with £32,764 in 1966/1967.

20. According to an economic survey of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) carried out in 1967, the average income per head of the population in 1965 was estimated at £503.

21. It was stated by the Minister of Overseas Development in the United Kingdom House of Commons on 21 January 1969 that the current allocation for the Territory under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act was £40,000 for each of the financial years 1968/1969 and 1969/1970. This was being spent mainly on the

improvement of roads, government housing and the telephone service. It has been agreed to provide a team of five experts to undertake a study of the sheep and cattle industries and to assist with the completion of a new geological map of the islands.

22. On 2 December 1968 it was reported by the Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the United Kingdom House of Commons that under an agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Space Research Organisation which entered into force on 24 November 1967, the United Kingdom had undertaken to construct and operate on behalf of the organization a satellite telemetry station at Port Stanley. This station, which formed part of the scientific satellite telemetry and tracking network of the organization of which the United Kingdom was a member, was now in service.

Social conditions

23. Labour. Most labourers in the Territory come from the United Kingdom and Chile to work on the farms under contract. The trend for young islanders to emigrate to the United Kingdom and New Zealand has continued as in previous years.

24. Wage rates of shepherds and other farm workers in 1967 were £32.8s.0. a month plus a bonus of 12.5 per cent of the basic monthly wage for every penny by which the average wool price during 1966 exceeded 45d. per pound. There were also increments for long service and passage entitlements to the United Kingdom. In addition, shepherds and farm workers received free housing, meat, milk and fuel. According to the economic survey of the Territory made in 1967, the general trend of wages and conditions of employment was said not to have differed much from that in the United Kingdom.

25. Although it has no legal status, the Sheepowners' Association is recognized both by the Government and the employers as an authoritative body. The Falkland Islands General Employees' Union is registered under the Trade Unions and Disputes Ordinance.

26. Public health. The Government Medical Department employs one senior medical officer, three medical officers, two dental officers and eight nurses. There is a thirty-two-bed general hospital in Stanley. Total expenditure in 1967/1968 was £44,930, compared with £41,774 in 1966/1967. Ordinary medical expenditure in 1967/1968 represented 10.7 per cent of the total ordinary expenditure of the Territory, the same percentage as in 1966/1967.

Educational conditions

27. Education in the Territory is compulsory and free between the ages of five and fifteen. In December 1968 the number of children receiving education in the Territory was 381, compared with 342 in December 1967. In 1968, the number of schools was seven and the number of teachers (including itinerant teachers) was thirty-nine. There is no system of higher education and no advanced secondary education.

28. The Territory awards scholarships annually to boarding schools in the United Kingdom and Montevideo, Uruguay. In 1967/1968 ten scholarship students from the Territory attended schools overseas: five in the United Kingdom and five in

Montevideo; thirteen other children were receiving education overseas, aided by grants from the Falkland Islands Government.

29. Ordinary expenditure on education in 1967/1968 was £58,353, representing 13.9 per cent of the total ordinary expenditure, compared with £52,447 or 13.4 per cent of the total ordinary expenditure in 1966/1967.

CHAPTER XXXII

BRITISH HONDURAS

A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 659th meeting on 14 March 1969, the Special Committee, by approving the fortieth report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.537), decided, inter alia, to take up the question of British Honduras as a separate item and consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 715th meeting, on 25 September.

3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, by paragraph 11 of which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to continue to perform its task and to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration in all Territories which have not yet attained independence".

4. During its consideration of this item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see annex to this chapter) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as on the latest developments concerning the Territory.

5. In addition, the Special Committee had before it the following written petitions:

(a) Letter dated 6 January 1969 from Mr. Compton Fairweather, Chairman, British Honduras Freedom Committee of New York (A/AC.109/PET.1048);

(b) Undated letter from Mr. R.C.M. Arthurs, Acting Chairman, British Honduras Emergency Committee, London (A/AC.109/PET.1049).

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

6. At its 715th meeting, on 25 September, on the proposal of the representative of Ethiopia, supported by the representatives of Madagascar, the Ivory Coast and the United Republic of Tanzania, and following a statement by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.715), the Special Committee decided to transmit to the General Assembly the working paper referred to in paragraph 4 above in order to facilitate consideration of the item by the Fourth Committee and, subject to any directives the General Assembly might give in that connexion, to give consideration to the item at its next session.

ANNEX*

WORKING PAPER PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT

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* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/L.594.

A. ACTION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. At its 594th meeting, on 1 April 1968, the Special Committee decided to take up British Honduras as a separate item and consider it at its plenary meetings.
2. At its 646th meeting, on 31 October 1968, following a statement by its Chairman, the Special Committee decided to transmit to the General Assembly the working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/7200/Add.10, chap. XXIII, annex I) in order to facilitate the Fourth Committee's consideration of the item and, subject to any directives the General Assembly might wish to give in that connexion, to give consideration to the Territory at its next session.

B. INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY^{1/}

3. Basic information on the Territory is contained in the report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly at its twenty-second and twenty-third sessions. ^{2/}

General

4. The estimated population is 122,000.

Political and constitutional developments

5. The present Constitution, which came into force on 6 January 1964, remained in effect during the period under review. A summary of that Constitution was set out in the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session (A/6700/Add.14 (part I), chap. XXIII, paras. 623-636). Briefly, the Governor is appointed by the Queen and acts in accordance with the advice of ministers. Special responsibilities are reserved to him under the Constitution, namely, defence, external affairs, internal security and the public service. The Cabinet consists of a Premier and other ministers who are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Premier. The Constitution also provides for a Security Council and a Consultative Committee on External Affairs. The Legislature, called the National Assembly, is bicameral and consists of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

6. There are two political parties in the Territory: the People's United Party (PUP) and the National Independence Party (NIP). The PUP, with Mr. George Price,

^{1/} The information presented in this section has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter, on 31 October 1968 for the year ending 31 December 1967, and on 17 July 1969 for the year ending 31 December 1968.

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (part III)(A/6700/Fev.1), chapter XXIII, paras. 622 to 651; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXXI, annex I.

the Premier, as its leader, has been active in the Territory since shortly after the Second World War. The NIP, led by Mr. Philip Goldson, came into being in 1958 as the result of a merger between the Honduran Independence Party and the National Party.

7. In June 1965, the United Kingdom, in agreement with British Honduras and Guatemala, agreed to submit the dispute concerning the Territory to mediation. This led to the appointment in November 1965 by the President of the United States of America of Mr. Bethuel Matthew Webster, a United States lawyer, as mediator. The mediator's report was made public on 29 April 1968. The report was rejected by the Government of British Honduras and by both political parties in the Territory. 3/

8. On 20 May 1968, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Michael Stewart, stated in the House of Commons that "... since the draft treaty is not acceptable to British Honduras, it is not acceptable to the British Government either". 4/

9. On 30 April 1968, a press statement was issued in Mexico City by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, concerning the question of mediation, which stated: "As the President declared in his report to Congress on 1 September 1966, Mexico has not and has never had any territorial ambitions in respect of Belize. We hope that this complex and long-standing problem will be solved in accordance with law and justice and with strict regard to the wishes of the people of Belize."

10. On 12 June 1968, the United Kingdom Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs, Lord Shepherd, stated in the House of Lords that "there has been no question of delay in the granting of independence to British Honduras"; he added that "it is as and when the Government of British Honduras approaches Her Majesty's Government that a date will be decided". 5/

11. On 15 October 1968, the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. William Whitlock, declared in the House of Commons that "independence is recognized as the natural and legitimate aspiration for the people of British Honduras". On 18 November, he stated in the House that no date had yet been fixed for a constitutional conference on British Honduras. 6/

12. On 3 October 1968, at the 1680th plenary meeting of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, the representative of Guatemala declared: "... the Guatemalan delegation wishes to state that... the controversy over the territory of Belize was, by mutual agreement with the United Kingdom, submitted to peaceful means of settlement as defined by the Charter of the United Nations. The negotiations which are still taking place are designed to find a just solution to the problem acceptable to both parties and bearing in mind the welfare of the

3/ For details, see Official Records of the General Assembly. Twenty-third Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/6300/Rev.1), chapter XXII, paras. 308-309; A/7200/Add.10, chapter XXXI, annex I, paras. 9-17.

4/ Parliamentary Debates, Official Report, 20 May 1968, col. 18.

5/ Ibid., House of Lords, 12 June 1969, col. 139.

6/ Ibid., House of Commons, 15 October 1968, col. 74; 18 November 1968, col. 191.

population of Belize. Until such a solution is arrived at, Guatemala maintains its right of sovereignty over this integral part of Guatemalan territory" (A/FV.1680, pp. 58-60).

13. Replying to the statement by the representative of Guatemala, the representative of the United Kingdom stated at the same meeting that "Guatemala and the United Kingdom are still engaged in trying to reach an amicable and peaceful solution to their differences with regard to British Honduras which will take into full account the interests of the people of the Territory". He further declared: "As regards present sovereignty over the Territory, however, I must reaffirm that Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom has no doubt whatsoever in regard to its sovereignty over British Honduras" (A/FV.1680, p. 66).

14. On 25 November 1968, at the 1795th meeting of the Fourth Committee of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that the United Kingdom Government, which recognized the legitimate aspiration to independence of the people of the Territory, had always stood ready to consider any proposals for achieving independence; he confirmed that Guatemala and the United Kingdom were still investigating means of reaching an amicable and peaceful solution with respect to the Territory which would take into full account the interests of its people (A/C.4/SR.1794, p. 8).

15. In reply to that statement, the representative of Guatemala declared on 26 November 1968, at the 1796th meeting of the Fourth Committee, that since Belize (British Honduras) was not a Trust Territory under the terms of the Charter, the Fourth Committee was not competent to discuss it (A/C.4/SR.1796, p. 19).

16. Mr. George Price, the Premier of British Honduras, was reported to have stated in an interview (The Times (London), 20 April 1969) that "the Territory may seek talks with Britain on an independence constitution later this year". Mr. Price indicated at the same time that he was not convinced that the time was yet ripe for such talks. He emphasized the necessity for some guarantee of the country's security after independence. Mr. Price mentioned also that he might consider a multilateral pact, possibly with the United States and Canada, if Britain could not see her way to giving unilateral guarantee. He stated: "What we want above all is an unequivocal assurance from the United Kingdom that they will guarantee the consequences of the United Nations Charter in respect of a people's right to determine their independence."

17. On 23 June 1969, the United Kingdom Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Maurice Foley, said in the House of Commons, in reply to a question, that "the defence of British Honduras after independence is one of the many problems which will have to be discussed with the British Hondurans and is a matter which will no doubt be raised at any conference about independence." 7/

Economic conditions

18. The economy of the Territory remains almost entirely based on agriculture. Sugar and citrus are the two most important export crops.

7/ Ibid., 23 June 1969, cbl. 976-977.

19. Sugar production was 63,588 tons in 1968, compared with 58,300 tons in 1967 and 43,453 tons in 1966. Belize Sugar Industries, Ltd., a subsidiary of Tate and Lyle, Ltd., now operates the old sugar factory at Libertad as well as a new factory at Bound to Shine in the Tower Hill area which was officially opened in 1966. Sugar exports account for 67 per cent of agricultural exports and 53 per cent of total exports.

20. The citrus industry has recovered from the effects of hurricane "Hattie" which devastated the Territory in 1961. Citrus exports account for about 25 per cent of total exports.

21. In 1968, a total of 4,130 acres were planted under rice, compared with 4,805 acres in 1967. Total acreage in bananas at the end of 1968 was 2,180 acres, compared with 2,250 acres in 1967. The production of lobsters increased from 316,970 pounds in 1967 to 390,868 pounds. The production of shrimps decreased from 228,024 pounds to 140,657 pounds during the same period. The tourist industry is relatively very small; visitors in 1968 totalled 28,298.

22. In 1966, preliminary constructional work started on the new capital city at Roaring Creek, about fifty miles inland from Belize City. The total project is designed to be built in five stages. The first stage, which should be completed in 1969, is expected to accommodate a population of 5,000; the last stage provides for a population of 25,000 to 30,000.

23. The total revenue for 1968 was \$BH24.42 million, ^{8/} compared with \$BH16.92 million in 1967. The main items of revenue were import duties and taxation. Total expenditure in 1968 was \$BH25.15 million compared with \$BH15.48 million in 1967. Capital expenditure is financed almost entirely by Colonial Development and Welfare funds and other United Kingdom grants and loans, in some cases by locally raised loans and by capital revenue.

24. The value of imports in 1967 amounted to \$BH36,951,914; import figures for 1968 are not yet available. The value of domestic exports in 1968 totalled \$BH20,011,480; re-exports amounted to \$BH5,181,875, making a total of \$BH25,193,355. In 1967, domestic exports totalled \$BH16,351,439, and re-exports totalled \$BH4,118,441, making a total of \$BH20,469,880.

Social conditions

25. Labour. Approximately 40 per cent of the working population is engaged in agriculture. The estimated numbers engaged in the principal wage-earning occupations at the end of 1967 were as follows: agriculture, forestry and fishing, 4,225; manufacturing, 2,743; construction, 1,316; and trade and commerce, 1,502.

26. Unemployment is reported to be a serious problem in Belize City, where about one third of the population is concentrated. Wages are low; minimum wages for unskilled workers may average 10s a day, while secretaries can earn £6 or more a week. Notwithstanding, a high literacy rate, there is a severe shortage of skilled labour due to a lack of technical education.

^{8/} One British Honduran dollar is equivalent to 5 shillings sterling or \$US.70.

27. During 1967, eight collective agreements were signed bringing to seventeen the number of existing collective agreements between employers and unions. The Government recognizes the Public Officers' Union, the General Workers' Development Union and Christian Workers' Union. Three work stoppages occurred during 1967 with a total loss of 266 man-days.

28. Public health. The Territory is reported to be relatively free from epidemic diseases. There are two general hospitals with a total capacity of 192 beds and one private hospital with thirty beds. There is also an infirmary, a mental hospital and a small temporary tuberculosis sanatorium in the Territory. Medical services in rural areas are provided by local health centres.

29. In 1968, there were thirty-five registered physicians (twenty-one Government-employed), two nurses of senior training (one Government) and seventy certified nurses (sixty-three Government).

30. Recurrent expenditure for public health in 1967 was \$BH136,353 (the sum of \$BH32,911 submitted for 1966 did not include the salaries of public health officers), or 1.15 per cent of total recurrent expenditure.

Educational conditions

31. Education is compulsory between the ages of six and fourteen years. In 1968, there were 28,257 pupils enrolled in two Government and 158 Government-aided primary schools, compared with 26,897 enrolled in 1967. The number of students enrolled in secondary schools totalled 277 in 1968, compared with 273 in 1967. The Belize Technical College, a Government institution, provides free secondary technical education. There is no university in the country and students desirous of taking post-secondary and university education must go abroad.

32. Recurrent expenditure on education in 1968 amounted to \$BH1,964,900, compared with \$BH1,943,398 in 1967.

CHAPTER XXXIII

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND
RELATED QUESTIONS

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A. CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

1. The Special Committee considered the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions at its 714th to 716th meetings, between 22 and 29 September 1969.

2. In its consideration of this item, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2465 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as the relevant provisions of other General Assembly resolutions concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter and related questions, in particular, operative paragraph 5 of resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, operative paragraph 4 of resolution 2109 (XX) of 21 December 1965, operative paragraph 4 of resolution 2233 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, operative paragraph 5 of resolution 2351 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, and operative paragraph 7 of resolution 2422 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968 which, *inter alia*, requested the Special Committee to study, in accordance with the procedures established by it in 1964, 1/ the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter.

3. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (see annex below) containing information on action previously taken by the Special Committee as well as by the General Assembly, and on the dates on which information from the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned, called for under Article 73 e of the Charter, was transmitted for the years 1967 and 1968.

4. At the 714th meeting, on 22 September, statements on the item were made by the representatives of India, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.714).

5. At the 715th meeting, on 25 September, the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania introduced a draft resolution on behalf of the following members: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Iraq, Mali, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia (A/AC.109/L.602).

6. The Special Committee considered a draft resolution at its 715th and 716th meetings, on 25 and 29 September, respectively. Statements on the draft resolution were made at the 716th meeting by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (A/AC.109/PV.716).

7. The draft resolution (A/AC.109/L.602) was voted on by the Special Committee at its 716th meeting, on 29 September, as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 3 was adopted by a vote of 13 to 4;

1/ Official records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, annex No. 8 (part 1) (A/5800/Rev.1), chapter II.

- (b) The draft resolution (A/AC.109/L.602) as a whole, was adopted by a vote of 13 to 1, with 3 abstentions.

The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/344) is reproduced in paragraph 10 below.

8. At the same meeting, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Ecuador and Madagascar (A/AC.109/PV.716). The representative of India made a statement in exercise of the right of reply (A/AC.109/PV.716).

9. On 2 October, the text of the resolution was transmitted to the Permanent Representatives of the administering Powers for the attention of their Governments.

B. DECISION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

10. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/344) adopted by the Special Committee at its 716th meeting on 29 September, to which reference is made in paragraph 7 above, is reproduced below:

"The Special Committee,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which the General Assembly requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and to take it fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration,

"Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 2109 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2233 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2351 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2422 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, approved the procedures adopted by the Special Committee for the discharge of the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII) and requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge those functions in accordance with the said procedures,

"Recalling further the provisions of paragraph 5 of resolution 2422 (XXIII) in which the General Assembly once again urged the administering Powers concerned to transmit, or to continue to transmit, to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned,

"Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the item, 2/

"1. Regrets that, despite the repeated recommendations of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, some Member States having responsibilities for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories still have not seen fit to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter, have transmitted insufficient information or have transmitted information too late;

2/ A/AC.109/343 and Add.1 and 2.

"2. Deeply deplores the fact that, despite the numerous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly concerning the colonial Territories under Portuguese domination, the Government of Portugal has maintained its refusal to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with regard to those Territories;

"3. Regrets the persistent refusal of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to transmit such information on Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St. Lucia;

"4. Once again urges the administering Powers concerned to transmit, or to continue to transmit, to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned;

"5. Reiterates its previous requests that the administering Powers concerned transmit such information as early as possible and, at the latest, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned;

"6. Decides, subject to any decision which the General Assembly might wish to take in that connexion, to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with the procedures referred to above."

ANNEX*

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter

1. The Secretary-General's previous report on this subject (A/7200/Add.11 and Corr.1, chap. XXXII, annex) listed the dates on which information was transmitted to the Secretary-General under Article 73 e of the Charter up to 23 August 1968. The table at the end of the present report shows the dates on which such information was transmitted in respect of the years 1967 and 1968 up to 22 September 1969.
2. The information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter follows in general the standard form approved by the General Assembly and includes information on geography, history, population, economic, social and educational conditions. In the case of Territories under the administration of Australia, France, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, the annual reports on the Territories also included information on constitutional matters. Additional information on political and constitutional developments in Territories under their administration was also given by the representatives of Australia, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America during meetings of the Special Committee.
3. No information has been transmitted to the Secretary-General concerning the Territories under Portuguese administration, which the General Assembly, by its resolution 1542 (XV) of 15 December 1960, considered to be Non-Self-Governing Territories within the meaning of Chapter XI of the Charter. Nor has the Secretary-General received any information on Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla and St. Lucia. With respect to these Territories, the representative of the United Kingdom stated at the 1752nd meeting of the Fourth Committee on 15 December 1967, that, having achieved the status of Associated States, they had achieved "a full measure of self-government" and that information on them would not be transmitted in future.

Study of information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter

4. In compliance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, paragraph 4 of resolution 2109 (XX) of 21 December 1965, paragraph 4 of resolution 2233 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, paragraph 5 of resolution 2351 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and paragraph 7 of resolution 2422 (XXIII) of 18 December 1968 which requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e, and in accordance with the procedure approved by the Special Committee in 1964, the Secretariat has continued to use the information transmitted in the preparation of working papers on each Territory for the Special Committee.

* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.109/343 and Add.1 and 2.

TABLE

Dates of transmission of information under Article 73 e of the Charter
for 1967 and 1968

This table includes all Territories listed in annex II of the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session, a/ with the exception of Aden, Barbados, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, British Guiana, Cook Islands, Equatorial Guinea, Fernando Póo and Rio Muni, Gambia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malta, Mauritius, North Borneo, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Sarawak, Singapore, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Zanzibar.

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
AUSTRALIA (1 July-30 June) <u>b/</u>		
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	3 September 1968	3 July 1969
Papua	10 September 1968	9 July 1969
FRANCE (calendar year)		
Comoro Archipelago <u>c/</u>	-	-
French Somaliland <u>c/ d/</u>	-	-
New Hebrides (condominium with the United Kingdom)	3 February 1969	-
NEW ZEALAND (1 April-31 March) <u>e/</u>		
Niue Island	10 September 1968	18 August 1969
Tokelau Islands	10 September 1968	18 August 1969

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 14 (A/5514), part one, annex II.

b/ Period extends from 1 July of previous year to 30 June of year listed.

c/ On 27 March 1959, the Government of France notified the Secretary-General that this Territory had attained internal autonomy and, consequently, the transmission of information thereon had ceased as from 1957.

d/ The new designation of the Territory is French Territory of the Afars and the Issas (see Terminology Bulletin No. 240 (ST/CS/SER.F/240) of 15 April 1968).

e/ Period extends from 1 April of the year listed to 31 March of the following year.

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
PORTUGAL		
Angola	-	-
Cape Verde Archipelago	-	-
Guinea (called Portuguese Guinea.)	-	-
Macau and dependencies	-	-
Mozambique	-	-
São Tomé and Príncipe and dependencies	-	-
Timor (Portuguese) and dependencies	-	-
SPAIN (calendar year)		
Ifni <u>f/</u>	25 June 1968	-
Spanish Sahara	25 June 1968	22 September 1969
UNITED KINGDOM (calendar year)		
Antigua	-	-
Bahamas	21 October 1968	20 June 1969
Bermuda	18 November 1968	14 July 1969
British Honduras	31 October 1968	17 July 1969
British Virgin Islands	14 November 1968	10 June 1969
Brunei	8 July 1968	4 September 1969
Cayman Islands	5 July 1968	17 July 1969

f/ By letters of 23 May 1969 and 9 July 1969, the Permanent Representative of Spain informed the Secretary-General that following negotiations with the Government of Morocco, a treaty had been concluded with that Government on 4 January 1969 by which the Territory of Ifni had been retroceded by Spain to Morocco in full sovereignty. That treaty had been ratified by the Spanish Cortes on 22 April 1969 and the instruments of ratification of the Treaty had been exchanged at Rabat on 13 May 1969; the transfer of powers over the Territory of Ifni took place on 30 June 1969 and, with effect from that date, Ifni had become subject to the sovereignty and authority of the Moroccan Government (A/AC.109/328 and Add.1).

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
United Kingdom (calendar year) (continued)		
Dominica	-	-
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	13 August 1968	19 September 1969
Fiji	23 July 1968	19 September 1969
Gibraltar	3 September 1968	15 September 1969
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	15 July 1968	30 June 1969
Grenada	-	-
Hong Kong	15 August 1968	10 June 1969
Montserrat	17 September 1968	22 September 1969
New Hebrides (condominium with France)	3 July 1968	12 September 1969
Pitcairn Island	12 July 1968	4 June 1969
St. Helena	3 July 1968	23 June 1969
St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	-	-
St Lucia	-	-
St. Vincent	26 September 1968	-
Seychelles	26 September 1968	16 July 1969
Solomon Islands	5 July 1968	23 June 1969
Southern Rhodesia	-	12 August 1969
Turks and Caicos Islands	4 November 1968	4 November 1968 <u>g/</u>
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (1 July-30 June) <u>b/</u>		
American Samoa	14 March 1968	6 June 1969
Huam	14 March 1968	17 February 1969
United States Virgin Islands	20 March 1968	12 February 1969

g/ Additional information for 1968 was transmitted on 4 September 1969.