

Pacific Islands

The Pacific Islands or Micronesia, a "strategic trust territory" for which the Security Council is ultimately responsible, is composed of some 2,100 widely-scattered islands with a total population of about 85,000. A national legislature has been established and the first general election was held in January 1965. The Trusteeship Council commended this achievement and urged that the United States, as the administering authority, take further steps in educating the Micronesians in medical and administrative skills, as well as in promoting their participation at the executive level of administration.

The Council, while noting that a two-year economic development programme has been undertaken as a step towards a long-term programme and that external aid has been increased, expressed the hope that internal investment could also be augmented to make the most productive use of Micronesia's comparatively meagre economic resources. It recommended that the Micronesians should be provided with the opportunity to invest in the ownership of commercial operations such as fisheries.

International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established in 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations to replace the Permanent Court of International Justice, and its Statute is annexed to the United Nations Charter, of which it forms an integral part. The parties to the Statute include all members of the United Nations and three other entities: Liechtenstein, San Marino and Switzerland. The Court's President, Sir Percy Spender, marked the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations at the opening of the Court's oral hearings in 1965 by saying in part:

This Court, in which, as a whole, its Statute requires that "the representation of the main forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems of the world should be assured", is, again in the words of its Statute, "permanently in session" in order to play its part in furthering the purposes of the Organization, by performing its function of deciding objectively and "in accordance with international law" the disputes which are submitted to it, and by so doing, contributing to the maintenance of world peace.

The Court consists of 15 independent judges elected for nine-year terms by the General Assembly and the Security Council from a list of nominees submitted to the Secretary-General by "national groups" in the Permanent