

New Guinea

The Trusteeship Council reviewed the development of New Guinea and its more than 1,500,000 inhabitants and noted with approval that Australia had, among other things, established in 1964 a House of Assembly for New Guinea and Papua, successfully organized elections for it on the basis of universal suffrage and a common roll and, in reconstructing the Administrator's Council, had included in it five indigenous elected members from the Assembly. With regard to the territory's economy, the Council, while appreciative of the increase in Australia's grants to Papua and New Guinea and its efforts to expand and diversify the cash economy, stressed the importance of still more funds and urged that the pace of economic and social development should be greatly speeded up. On the question of the voluntary attainment of self-government, the Council urged Australia to continue "to implement realistic plans and progress reflecting a proper sense of urgency for the rapid and planned advance of the territory in all aspects of its political life".

Nauru

Nauru is a small island of just over 5,000 acres in the central Pacific, over half of which is classified as phosphate-bearing. Since the phosphate deposits are expected to be exhausted within 40 years the resettlement of its 5,000 inhabitants is a pressing problem and therefore, as in the past, most of the discussions about Nauru in the Trusteeship Council in 1964 were taken up with this question. The most likely site of a new home for the Nauruans is Curtis Island, but the Council noted that the Nauru local government council had indicated that the Australian Government's proposals for the transfer of the population were in some respects unacceptable. It urged both sides to work toward a harmonious solution.

Pacific Islands

The Pacific Islands, or Micronesia, is a "strategic trust territory" for which the Security Council is ultimately responsible. It is composed of some 2,100 islands of varying sizes stretching more than 2,700 miles from west to east and 1,300 miles from north to south, with a total population of about 85,000. In February 1964, the Council sent a visiting mission to the Territory and, on the basis of its report and information furnished by the United States as the Administering Authority, noted that two sessions of the Council of Micronesia had been held during the previous year and welcomed the