

UC

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER

UN ARCHIVES

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| SERIES | <u>0443</u>       |
| BOX    | <u>0160</u>       |
| FILE   | <u>0005</u>       |
| ACC.   | <u>          </u> |



# UNITED NATIONS



S-0443-0160-0005

50 at 1:34 PM - 29/01/1951



Trusteeship - Non-Self Governing Territories - Visits - Greenland

FILE BEGINS

ENDS

DOSSIER COMMENCE LE *June 1950*

TERMINE LE *29 Jan 1951*

UN/C/38/REV.1  
22 July 1948

FILE TITLE:

TITRE DU DOSSIER

NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

VISITS

GREENLAND

FILE NUMBER

NO. DU DOSSIER

**135/4/02**

PART  
PARTIE

DATE REFERRED  
TRANSMIS

*23/10 M. Blücher  
re. Green*

MATERIAL PREVIOUSLY CONTAINED IN

**SG + TRI**

BRANCH REGISTRY FILES OF THIS NUMBER  
NOW INCORPORATED IN THIS FILE.

*1965*

OM  
D.

P.A.  
OR  
B.F.

DATE

INIT.

**135/4/02**

56



FILE No. SG 135/4/02 Greenland

PART        CLOSED 29 Jan 1951

SEE PART TR1 135/4/02



29 Jan/1951

Report by visiting officers to  
Greenland

This matter was discussed at  
the 105<sup>th</sup>, 106<sup>th</sup> & 107<sup>th</sup> meetings  
of the Publications Board.

See Publications Board Papers  
Nos 50/47 and 51/12/1

At the 107<sup>th</sup> meeting of the  
Board it was decided not  
to approve the printing of this  
report; a mimeographed or  
offset edition was suggested.

Dirk Haller

Secretary  
Publications Board.



PUBLICATIONS BOARD

Paper 51/12/1

26 January 1951

SUBJECT: Publication of a report on Greenland

At the 105th meeting of the Publications Board, there was considerable discussion on the question of publishing the report made by two members of the Secretariat on their visit to Greenland in 1950. (See Paper 50/47 and minutes of the 105th meeting of the Board, page 3, item 4). The Board then agreed that the matter should be deferred.

The question of publication of the report was further considered at the 106th meeting of the Board. It was decided that approval of the printing of the report would not be given at that time.

In view of the fact that representatives of the Department proposing the printed publication of the report were not present at this meeting and the item was not then formally on the agenda, it has been thought necessary to raise the matter again.

Following the holding of the 106th meeting, the Director of the Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories has made further representations to the Chairman of the Board in favour of the printing of the report. In support of the request, quotation is made from the statement by Mr. Lannung, the representative of Denmark, in the following terms:

"We consider this document to be of great value, and the Danish Government - and I want to emphasize this - fully agrees that it should be made public in a suitable manner". (See document A/C.4/L.127).

The Publications Board will no doubt wish to take note of the full text of Mr. Lannung's statement and copies have been sent to members of the Board for information.

The Board is now asked to decide

1. whether the report on the visit to Greenland should be published.
2. if publication is agreed to, in what form, printed or internally reproduced by mimeograph or offset, publication should be made.



DEC 15 1950

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

TRI 135/4/02

IN REPLY REFER TO

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**ACTION**  
TO *Mr. Cordier*  
☐ Action Completed  
☐ Action Deferred  
☐ Action Not Required  
INITIALS

TO: Mr. Andrew W. Cordier, Chairman  
Publications Board

FROM: Wilfrid Benson, Director *WB*  
Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

SUBJECT: Publication of a report on Greenland

*135/4/02* *FK*  
Date 12 December 1950

The question of the publication of a report on the mission undertaken by Dr. Hoo and myself to Greenland has for some time been before the Publications Board. I request that an early decision be taken, both in view of the time which has elapsed since the visit was paid, and the fact that the 1950 credits of my Department for printing purposes will elapse at the end of the year.

In the Fourth Committee, the Representative of Cuba submitted a draft resolution on Visits to Non-Self-Governing Territories, the last paragraph of which requested the Secretary-General "to prepare and publish a report on the visit to Greenland, based on the information supplied by the officials who visited that Territory".

The Representative of Denmark objected to the draft resolution for reasons of principle, and in particular, on the grounds that any report should not be regarded as the concern of any committee or of the General Assembly, but should be considered as the responsibility of the Secretariat. In the course of his intervention, Mr. Lannung, however, made the following two statements on the question of publication:

"We consider this document to be of great value, and the Danish Government - and I want to emphasize this - fully agrees that it should be made public in a suitable manner."

"...we want to express our warmest thanks to the authors of the report and, as already said, we have willingly given our consent to its being published in a suitable manner".

Following Mr. Lannung's intervention, the Representative of Cuba withdrew his draft resolution, owing to the limited time available for discussion, but reserved his right to re-submit



- 2 -

a draft resolution on this subject at a later session of the General Assembly.

The Representative of Cuba and the Representative of Denmark thus agree that a report should be published, and the Secretariat has been informed by the Danish Delegation of a request to this effect made by the Greenland Department of the Danish Government.

*See note on main file  
29 Jan 1951  
D.H.*



OCT 23 1950

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. A. Cordier, Chairman, Publications Board  
 THROUGH Mr. Waller  
 FROM: C.H. Le Bosquet, Director, Documents Control Division.  
 SUBJECT: Report by visiting officers to Greenland /CHLeB

**ACTION**  
 TO *Mr. Blichenshoff*  
☒ - Action Completed  
☐ - Acknowledged  
☐ - No Action Required  
 For *C.H. Le Bosquet*  
*R. J. J.*

Date 18 October 1950

Ref. DC 333/4/50  
 SG 135/02 (I)

*135/4/02*  
*x Ref. 53/02*  
*Considered at*  
*10th meeting of*  
*Int. Bd.*  
*R.*

I have looked at this report by the visiting officers to Greenland. I cannot see in what form it can be published.

In the first place, whether or not it is actually signed, it is ostensibly a report by two individual Secretariat officers. Where, then, do we stand with regard to our policy of authorship attribution and anonymity of the Secretariat?

The ruling has been so far, that papers can be personally presented only if they are prepared by an outside expert appointed by some United Nations body personally for a given job - and the report is submitted to the appointing body. This is not the case here.

The other ruling is that articles in periodicals may be attributed, but these are writings for which the United Nations takes no responsibility. The position of United Nations officers as potential writers of such articles has never been clearly defined, but it is obvious at the very least that, if any of them should write such an article - without responsibility of United Nations - he would, for the nonce, be divesting himself of his status as a United Nations officer and writing as an outsider. (Whether that is really feasible is in any case doubtful).

Here, there can be no question of these two officers divesting themselves of their Secretariat status, for it was as Secretariat officers that they were invited by the Danish Government.

*For Publication*  
*Bad copy.*

*A.W.C.*

*See notation*  
*SB.*



Now if we look at their report we see the difficulty of producing a report which is purely factual without getting involved in taking up some position towards the facts recorded. Thus, here and there, the authors of this report have taken up a position of their own, by:

- (a) expressing agreement with the idea of extending workers compensation
- (b) discussing, and expressing opinions upon, the employment of Greenlanders in occupations hitherto filled by Danes
- (c) commending the midwife system as admirable
- (d) expressing views on the housing situation
- (e) expressing hopes about education
- (f) advancing in one instance a suggestion about taxation.

If all this is published, the question arises on whose behalf are these views expressed? and to whom?

Can such a visit at the request of a Government be other than at a purely Secretariat-to-Government Department level, designed to facilitate the work of the Secretariat and Government Departments in their mutual relations. The first hand view of the problems which the Secretariat officers gain from such a visit must of course help that collaboration forward, but it is not clear that the visiting officers have any sort of locus standi as authors of a published report.

The report in itself, save for one or two drafting defects which are probably oversights, is readable in style and interesting in matter. There is a certain amount of material of the type included in the "green" book". Whether this has already been published has not been checked as there is, of this, no more than is needed in any case to round off the report.

The interest it presents in contrast with the material in the green book lies, among other things, in the compendious form in which it presents especially a picture. (How far this is complete is quite impossible to assess, since the visitors did not cover the whole country;

If the expressions of opinion mentioned in (a) & (f) appear as such in the report, the latter is not entirely factual as it should be

See note & marked paragraph



and only those who are familiar with Greenland can say to what extent the circuit made gave a reasonably comprehensive view.)

Apart from this the main interest lies, of course, in the comments, i.e. in the very things it would seem so difficult for the Secretariat to publish.



135/4/02

File No. **SG** ~~135/4~~  
 Name Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Executive Order of the Secretary-General  
 10 OCT 1950  
 BRANCH REGISTRY

PUBLICATIONS BOARD

Paper No. 50/47

SUBJECT: Printing of Report on visit to Greenland

A report on the visit to Greenland of Dr. Victor Hoo, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and Mr. Benson, Director of the Division of Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories of that Department, has been presented to the Secretary-General.

A request has been received from Dr. Hoo for the publication of this report in printed form.

The report (55 pages of manuscript) would cost \$900.00 for 3,000 copies, English only and this amount is available in the Department's contractual printing account the present state of which is as follows:

|               |                                   |           |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>As of</u>  | { Allotment - 97% of total budget | 23,770.00 |
| <u>31</u>     | { Expenditures and obligations    | 13,945.32 |
| <u>August</u> | { Unencumbered balance            | 9,824.68  |

In support of its request the Department states that frequent reference was made to this report in the recent meeting of the Special Committee on Information under Article 73e of the Charter and a number of delegations to the General Assembly have expressed their desire to see the report.



UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

REFERRAL SHEET

SUBJECT:

Report on visit to  
Greenland

FILE REF.

SS135/02<sup>4/02</sup>(1)

DATE

6 October 1950

Mr. Malania

Mr Benson has submitted  
a request for the printing of this report.  
I am expecting that he will submit  
another copy for the printers and so  
I am returning the file to you.

Many thanks.

W. J. Haller

Miss Kallin  
Registry





REFERRAL SHEET

SUBJECT: *Report on Visit to  
Greenland*

FILE REF. *SG 135/02 (1)*  
DATE *7 August*

*Mr Malania*

*This was presumably sent to me because  
we receive all reports of U.N. Delegations  
to conferences.*

*However I have checked with  
Mr Benson that this was intended  
for the Secretary-General himself.*

*Ch. G.*

*Report on  
visit to  
Greenland*



Paper 50/47

Mr. Waller

SEP 19 1950

IN REPLY REFER TO

TRI 57/2/01

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Andrew Cordier, Chairman of the Publications Board

FROM: Dr. Victor Hoo, Assistant Secretary-General  
Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

SUBJECT: Publication of Greenland Report

**ACTION**

TO: *Mr. Cordier*

☒ - Action Taken

☐ - Acknowledged

☐ - No Action Required

INITIALS: *Jhw*

*V. Hoo* 133/4/02 MB  
Date 18 September 1950 *qs*

You will recall that Mr. Benson and I visited Greenland in June and July at the invitation of the Danish Government, and that a report on our visit was submitted to the Secretary-General on 1 August 1950. Reference to this visit has been made on several occasions in the course of the recent session of the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter. A number of delegations have indicated the desire to see a report on this visit to Greenland. I am therefore proposing to have the report to the Secretary-General, which runs to approximately 55 pages, printed in English at the earliest opportunity. I should like the approval of the Publications Board for this publication.

According to information from the Publications Division, the printing of this report in English in approximately 3,000 copies will run to \$800.00. This expenditure is covered, I understand, by the present allotment for contractual printing for this Department.

I would appreciate your early action in this matter as I am anxious to have this report printed for distribution to the delegates to the Fourth Committee.

*See  
9  
re Special  
Committee*



AUG 7 1950

*Mr. Malanin*

**ACTION**

TO *Miss Jeffery*

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | - Action Completed   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | - Acknowledged       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | - No Action Required |

INITIALS

*135/526 MB*  
*402*  
*V. H. P.*

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**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Secretary-General

FROM: Victor Hoo, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

SUBJECT: Report on Visit to Greenland

Date 4 August 1950

I am submitting to you herewith a report prepared by myself and Mr. Benson on the visit which we paid to Greenland at the invitation of the Greenland Department of the Danish Government.

Since a visit such as this also provides an opportunity of giving publicity to the work of the United Nations, I am also enclosing the text of a broadcast which I delivered at the Godthaab radio station. Its translation into Danish and Greenlandic was also broadcast from that station.