

# Lack Of Sovereignty 'Disappoints' Nauruans

NEW YORK, Tuesday (A.A.P.-Reuter). — The Head Chief of Nauru told the United Nations Trusteeship Council yesterday that the Pacific island's leaders were generally "very disappointed" that Australia would not grant them full independence if they resettled on an island off the Queensland coast.

Chief Hammer de Roburt was commenting on latest developments in the islanders' search for a new home.

They have to quit Nauru when its phosphate riches are worked out in about 30 years' time.

Australia, which administers the trust territory on behalf also of Britain and New Zealand, its partners in the British Phosphate Commission, has told the council that the island's Re-settlement Council considers Curtis Island, or nearby Fraser Island, off the coast of Queensland, "acceptable" re-settlement sites.

Australia, could not, however, transfer sovereignty of either of its islands to the Nauruans if they decided to settle there.

### 'On Own Feet'

The Nauru Local Government Council has proposed the creation of a sovereign Nauruan nation.

The Head Chief said yesterday his people felt their best future lay with the Australians.

They wanted to stand on their own feet to the maximum degree possible, however, although they understood that "no country, including Australia, is willing to give its territories away these days."

He had been told Nauru's Local Government Council was "very disappointed" at this aspect of re-settlement.

Nauru's Administrator, Mr. R. S. Leydin, answering questions as Australian special representative, said he thought it likely that the Nauruans would select Cur-

tis Island as a new home.

Its form of government would then have to be settled in negotiations between Nauruan representatives and Australia.

Australia was not prepared to relinquish sovereignty over such an island, but was prepared to make arrangements to give the islanders, to the greatest extent practicable, authority to conduct their own community affairs and make its laws, he said.

### Soviet View

The Soviet delegate, Mr. V. A. A. Brykin, said there was no reason for refusing the Nauruans' "perfectly legitimate request" for sovereignty and self-government.

It was quite clear that the Nauruan people did not want to give up their legitimate rights and wanted to govern themselves as they saw fit, Mr. Brykin said.

Australia's delegate to the council, Mr. Dudley McCarthy, asked how the islanders could possibly enjoy the advantages of a metropolitan country at the same time as having "the unlimited sovereignty which the Soviet delegation has said they must".

"The Australian Minister for Territories," he said, "in offering a large degree of internal self-government and citizenship, is offering, to my way of thinking, far more than is given to indigenous Australians"

The Nauruans, in all wisdom, had asked to be given an island adjacent to the Australian coast, where their

small community might, at discretion, enjoy all the advantages which the neighbouring mainland had to offer.

Mr. McCarthy asked delegates how many of their countries would be willing to create another sovereign state within their own sovereign borders, and to throw open all advantages of their own sovereignty in these circumstances.

The council adjourned until today.

### INSTRUMENT OF MANY SOUNDS

MOSCOW, Tuesday (A.A.P.-Reuter). — A Soviet astronomer has designed an electronic musical instrument which can reproduce the sounds of the violin, the French horn, the hautboy and the flute and can even imitate the human voice, the Soviet newsagency Tass reported.

Academician Nikolai Barabashov, the designer, was a violinist in his youth.

### ISRAEL REPORT OF ATTACK

IBERIAS (Israel), Tuesday (A.A.P.). — Israeli military officials at Tiberias say Syrian positions opened fire on Israeli farmers and fishermen, British United Press reported.

There were no Israeli casualties in any of the incidents.

The Israeli authorities have protested to the Armistice Commission.

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