

5. JAPANESE AFFAIRS GENERALLY

(a) International Military Tribunal for the Far East

The International Military Tribunal for the Far East, set up in accordance with an order issued in January, 1946, by General MacArthur in pursuance of authority vested in him as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, delivered its judgment from 4-12 November, 1948. Of the twenty-eight Japanese leaders indicted, three died and one went insane during the proceedings. The twenty-four others were found guilty on various counts, and of these, seven, including Tojo Hideki, were sentenced to death. The primary significance of the trial, which was conducted in a scrupulous manner, is that it brought within the reach of law Japanese offenders who, as organizers or accomplices, were deemed to have participated in the formation and execution of a common plan and a conspiracy to secure domination of Asia and the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and were found guilty of waging a war of aggression in violation of international law, treaties, and agreements.

The records of the Tribunal have been received by the Department and valuable reports have been submitted to the Minister of External Affairs by Mr Justice (now Sir Erima) Northcroft, who represented New Zealand on the Bench of eleven Judges, and by Mr R. H. Quilliam, Associate Prosecutor for New Zealand.

(b) New Zealand Government Trade Representative in Japan

In addition to extensive duties in trade matters, particularly those connected with the conclusion of the Sterling Area Trade Agreement with Japan on 9 November, 1948, and the subsequent working group arrangements, the New Zealand Government Trade Representative has continued to represent New Zealand on the Reparations Technical Advisory Committee established by SCAP General Headquarters. Although the major share of the work on trade, reparation, and property rights has fallen within the province of other Departments, there has also been a steady flow of general information from Japan, and the Department has endeavoured to make some contribution to the "democratization" programme by responding with informational material, films, and records for use by SCAP and Japanese libraries. The United Kingdom and Australian Missions in Japan have furnished further political and economic intelligence on the internal situation.

6. KOREA

In Korea the year has brought change, but no progress towards unification of the country. In February, 1948, the United Nations Temporary Commission for Korea, established by the General