

(a) Local

- (1) There are ten districts, each with a local chief who has his own group of advisers, No. 2, No. 3 men, etc.
- (2) The primary chiefs are elected by popular vote and approved by USNMGU. None of them received pay for their governing duties since at the present time these duties do not interfere with their normal livelihood.
- (3) There is very little interference on the part of USNMGU in local affairs. Chiefs feel free, however, to call "at the office" anytime for advice and the local inhabitants know that they may report any malfeasance of office on the part of the chiefs.
- (4) None

(b) Regional

- (1) A council of the ten district chiefs meets semi-monthly at Yaptown.
- (2) Same as a-2 above.
- (3) The semi-monthly council meetings are attended by Military Government officers. Procedure for the meetings is becoming fairly uniform -- first the MG officers and the Acting Deputy Chief Military Government officer present proposed plans and ideas for consideration. Then the Council of Chiefs retires for private discussion. When they return they may have made a definite decision or they may have decided to hold the matter over for two weeks so that they may discuss it with their people. Also at this time they present their problems and questions to Military Government. One of the most frequent questions now is, "when is a ship going to bring some trade goods?"

Slowly they are learning that not only may they speak up at the meeting but that they are expected to express their opinions. However it is still only 2 or 3 of the more advanced chiefs who will take part in a discussion.

(4) None

- (c) Development and expansion program: More and more responsibility for self government is being urged upon the chiefs but it is a slow process. The self government committee, composed of three native chiefs and three Naval Officers continues to work toward a program whereby the peoples of Yap will govern themselves, subject only to general policies laid down by Military Government. ~~in a~~ ~~As a~~ ~~step~~ toward indoctrination into democratic court methods all of the chiefs were invited to hear a case before a Military Commission involving murder. After hearing the prosecution and defense and after the court had announced its decision they were questioned as to their understanding of the procedure. By means of an interpreter it was explained to them why there should be someone to prosecute, someone to defend and several persons to determine guilt and sentence. They agreed that the whole process was quite fair and that the sentence arrived at was just (although they felt it a little lenient). The self government committee now takes part in hearings on such cases as assault and have a slight tendency to "throw the book" at any miscreant.