

Group on logistic support - the New Zealand Government considered that at Canberra consideration might well be given to steps to bring about cooperation between this working group and the Treaty parties. The New Zealand representative, in fact, suggested that it might well be necessary to propose a separate item for the discussion of this question.

Item 9 - Exchange of information concerning expeditions and stations under Article VII, paragraph 5.

There was some support amongst members of the Group for a suggestion that it might well be useful to undertake a review of the papers which had been submitted by the various Governments in order to reach agreement on a standard format and content for these papers.

Item 10 - Preservation and conservation of living resources.

The United States representative stated that SCAR has distributed to its members a revised list of the recommendations which it made at Cambridge on the question of preservation and conservation of living resources. This revised list is contained in SCAR Circular No 51. He expressed the hope that representatives would ask Governments for any comment they would wish to make on these revised recommendations.

There was a brief discussion as to whether the Rules of Procedure for the Canberra Meeting should relate only to that meeting or whether they should be the rules of procedure also for all subsequent meetings of representatives. The general feeling seemed to be that the Rules of Procedure

should/.....

If it was decided that such exchanges should be conducted, consideration would also have to be given to the question of whether the exchanges should be tied in with those carried out by SCAR or whether they should be at the inter-Governmental level.

Item 5 - Exchange of scientific personnel.

It was suggested that consideration might be given to the possibility of spelling out the benefits which could be derived from the exchange of scientific personnel. This would emphasise the desirability of such exchanges taking place.

Item 6 - Exchange and making available of scientific observations and results.

The thought was expressed that consideration might be given to setting up a centre for the exchange and coordination of scientific information on Antarctica, along the lines of the Antarctic Analysis Centre which is situated in Canberra - this as you know, is a weather centre.

Item 7 - Relations with SCAR

As far as item 7 is concerned the United States representative expressed the view that the Canberra Meeting might well give consideration to adopting as its guide for relations with SCAR a paper along the lines of that which the Interim Group has already agreed upon. (My Minute 43/44 dated 19 July, 1960, refers).

The New Zealand representative also drew attention to the fact that during the course of its meeting last year in Cambridge, SCAR had appointed a Working

Group/.....

is therefore anxious to make use of his expert knowledge to get the Treaty ratified before his term of office as Senator expires on 21 May. This sounds encouraging but the British Embassy in Santiago has evidently stated that it would not be at all surprised if something upset the apple-cart and knowing the intricacies of Latin politics in particular insofar as the touchy issue of Antarctica is concerned, this would not be altogether surprising.

The provisional agenda for the Canberra Meeting was amended as follows:-

- (a) A new item "Adoption of Rules of Procedure" was inserted after the present item 2 "Election of officers".
- (b) A new item headed "Date and place of next meeting" was inserted after the present item 16 "Administrative arrangements". The various agenda items should, therefore, be renumbered (1 to 19).

The Group, during the course of the meeting touched on various items on the agenda and a number of suggestions were made in respect of some of these items as follows:-

Item 4 - Exchange of information regarding plans for scientific programs.

The question was raised whether it would be desirable to expand upon what SCAR is already doing in the way of exchanges. The suggestion was for instance made that it might be desirable to exchange information in much the same way as information has been exchanged in respect of expeditions and stations.

If/.....

EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,
3101 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D.C., U.S.A.

2nd March, 1961

CONFIDENTIAL

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(Copied to London and Canberra)



ANTARCTICA

The 28th Meeting of the Interim Group was held on the 28th February, 1961.

The summary record of the 27th Meeting was approved without amendments.

Neither the Chilean representative nor the representative of the Argentine was able to provide the Group with any new information in regard to ratification of the Treaty by their respective governments. The United Kingdom representative has, however, received a communication from the British Embassy in Chile, which confirms the information which I transmitted to you in my minute 43/44 of 31st January 1961, to the effect that the Chilean Government intends to put forward the Antarctic Treaty for ratification when the Congress reconvenes on 14 March. They intend to do this even though the boundary protocols have not been ratified and it is the intention that the Treaty will take precedence over the protocols.

One of the reasons why the Chilean Government has decided to press for ratification of the Antarctic Treaty apparently arises from the fact that Senator Marcial Mora, who led the Chilean Delegation to the Antarctic Conference does not think he will be re-elected to the Senate. The Government

is/.....



2nd March, 1961

CONFIDENTIAL

*With the
Compliments of the
Embassy
of the
Union of South Africa
Washington, D.C.*

LONDON

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powers to exchange such information and advice could be useful insofar as it would provide means of establishing what progress the Russians had made in this field.

Concerning paragraph 6 of your draft working paper about an approach to the I.A.E.A. and the role of that Agency, the officials brought into the discussion Item 8 of the Agenda: Relations with other International Organisations including U.N. specialised agencies having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica.

They suggested that collaboration with the I.A.E.A. could perhaps conveniently be discussed under this item. In the course of our talk the spokesman declared their general philosophy of the Antarctic Treaty, namely that it does not create a treaty organization as such with an executive or directorate at the top but that it embodies or represents the expression of a number of countries to observe the same set of principles in their Antarctic activities, each following its own programme. From their elaboration of this view it became evident that they might regard a formal agreement between the Treaty group and the Agency as a development which would transcend into the sphere of the supra-national.

The foregoing informal views are those of Australian officials at "working level" but they indicated that there was hardly any doubt that their views would, if necessary, be endorsed officially.

The question arises: Are their somewhat discouraging reservations about Item 15 inspired mainly by objections of conscience or of convenience? One would expect that an uranium-producing country such as Australia, would be keen to support a move that may in a broad sense enhance the prospects of nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

While it is of course possible that the Australians are judging Agenda item 15 purely on its merits, or rather their interpretation of its merits, one gains the impression that they might have had a more positive view if the venue of the meeting were to have been Tokyo or Buenos Aires. They are anxious that the Canberra meeting should proceed smoothly and without deadlocks.

The Australians may, therefore, if an opportunity should arise at a Washington meeting, express their reservations about Item 15, especially if the working paper contains a reference to the disposal of radioactive waste material.

Copies to Washington, London and Vienna.

G. SNYMAN

High Commissioner

HOË KOMMISSARIS VIR DIE
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA
CANBERRA 30/18



HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
CANBERRA

By Airbag

3rd March, 1961

CONFIDENTIAL

The Secretary for External Affairs
PRETORIA.

Antarctica: Draft Working Paper on
Agenda Item 15: Canberra Meeting

Please refer to your minutes 102/2/7/3 of the 6th January and 13th February, 1961.

We have discussed Agenda Item 15 with the officials in the Australian Department of External Affairs and have to report as follows on their informal views:

They do not regard the inclusion of an item in the agenda for the Canberra meeting, about the application of nuclear energy in the treaty area or the disposal of radioactive waste as a pressing necessity. In fact our impression is that they will be happy if the item were to be dropped for the time being. They stress that this view is held only in respect of the first meeting of the parties to the treaty and feel it may perhaps be useful to discuss such an item at a second or third meeting depending on circumstances at the time. It was mentioned that the Australian representative at the Washington meeting felt that there was no harm in including this item on the agenda but he has been informed of his Department's lack of enthusiasm. An important motive behind this view is that the Australians would not like the Canberra meeting to last longer than two weeks and they feel that it will be risky to include an item that the Russians might seize upon to exploit for political purposes and thus cause a drawn-out wrangle. The Australian attitude is that the Canberra meeting should be held in a spirit of "brotherhood and friendship" with nothing controversial to disturb the peace. They reckon that the Russians are likely to regard the prohibition in section 1, of Article V as of paramount importance and that they are likely to resist a move that might in any way be interpreted as a violation of a provision of the treaty. They even feel that the Russians will be able to make out a good case for such an interpretation if reference is made to the disposal of radioactive waste. The officials mentioned that Australia was at one stage ~~was~~ to insert an item for the Canberra Agenda dealing with "inspection" clauses but has dropped the idea in order to avoid wrangling and controversy at the Canberra meeting. For the same reason they have abandoned the idea of proposing some items which might indirectly have a bearing on the jurisdiction issue.

Apart from the consideration to avoid controversy at the Canberra meeting, the officials indicated that they are inclined to favour the idea of bilateral exchange of information and advice relating to the application of nuclear energy in the treaty area. They also commented that only the Americans are at present in a position to give such information and that the United States might provide more information, especially of a classified nature, to their Western friends, than they might be prepared to do if such information had to be given to all the signatories. The Australians do however, agree that a later stage agreement by the treaty



With the compliments of the
High Commissioner for the
Union of South Africa

Canberra

H.E. the High Commissioner
for the Union of South Africa,
South Africa House,
LONDON.

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HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
CANBERRA

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of establishing that progress
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3rd March, 1961

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add that copies of the minute are also being endorsed for comment to London, Vienna and Canberra.

8. Meanwhile it might be helpful to sum up the contents of the foregoing paragraphs by identifying the amendments which we would propose to make in the working paper, subject to the comments which we may receive. At this stage, then, the proposed amendments are as follows:

- (i) To amend the title of the item and of the working paper to read as follows:

"The Exchange of Information Relating to the Safe and Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy in the Treaty Area". (Proposed by London).

- (ii) To amend paragraph 2 by omitting the second sentence and substituting,

"This agenda item, however, is concerned only with the second of these issues and with the peaceful uses of atomic energy in Antarctica in general."

- (iii) To introduce, as a new paragraph 3, some general remarks on the peaceful uses of atomic energy in Antarctica and the desirability of exchanging information between the contracting parties and with I.A.E.A. The second part of the present paragraph 4 might be adapted as a basis for this paragraph.

- (iv) To propose that the Conference might wish to consider the means by which this aim might best be achieved, e.g. by concluding a formal agreement between the Treaty group and the Agency, or by establishing with the Agency a working arrangement such as that which is proposed with B.C.O.R., or by some other appropriate means.

- (v) To postpone specific mention of the disposal of waste to this point in the paper, and to raise it as one of the questions on which an exchange of information might be useful, i.e. to introduce the existing paragraphs 3, 4 and 5, suitably amended and condensed, at this stage.

- (vi) To include in paragraph 5 a reference to the fact that the work of the Agency in the field of disposal of radioactive waste into the sea was also prompted in part by a formal request to this effect emanating from the United Nations at its Conference on the Law of the Sea in Geneva. (Proposed by Vienna).

- (vii) To amend paragraph 6 in accordance with amendment (iv) above, and to suggest that the Conference consider inviting the Agency to appoint a panel as envisaged by Mr. Sole (see above, paragraph 6 of this minute).

take place, it might be wiser firstly to expand the field of debate, and secondly to shift the emphasis from the disposal of waste to the exchange of information. This course, you will observe, will also be in harmony with the recommendations submitted in the abovementioned report from the Acting High Commissioner in London.

4. There remains the question of how best to underline the desirability of close liaison with the International Atomic Energy Agency, which as you will recall was a primary aim in proposing the inclusion of this item on the Agenda.

5. The British have suggested (see abovementioned report from London) that

"a formal agreement between the Agency and the Treaty group would add some apparent substance to the activities of both. More particularly, perhaps, the United Kingdom see advantage in an Agreement to share with the Agency, and especially between Treaty members, any experience gained in the operation of nuclear reactors in Antarctic conditions."

6. A proposal in this regard has also been received from the Union's Minister in Vienna.

".....it would be feasible to arrange for the I.A.E.A. to appoint a panel which might make an ad hoc evaluation of the safety factors relating to radioactive waste disposal in respect of each reactor that any of the contracting parties may plan to set up in the Antarctic. It is therefore suggested that with respect to the reactor to be set up in McMurdo Sound, the contracting parties might agree to invite the I.A.E.A. to establish the regulations which should be applicable to the disposal of any radioactive waste from the reactor in the Antarctic. If this proposal were to be adopted, the precedent would be established whereby the I.A.E.A. would be consulted on any matter relating to the disposal of radioactive waste in the Antarctic. Furthermore, since the I.A.E.A. would be almost bound to include a Soviet scientist on the panel which would be requested to undertake the health and safety evaluation and the preparation of the relevant regulations, this might effectively dispose of Soviet objections to what might be regarded as a technical violation of the Treaty, if the reactor is operated and low-level waste disposed of in Antarctica without the agreement of all the contracting parties."

7. We observe that you have not yet consulted the American authorities in regard to the draft working paper. Our Missions in London and Vienna both strongly advise that advance consultation with the United States is essential before the working paper is tabled. While we agree with this view, however, you should refrain from such an approach until the draft has been amended, which we propose to do when we have received your comments on this minute. I may

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13 FEB 1961

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Union of South Africa,
WASHINGTON.

Antarctica : Draft Working Paper on Agenda
Item 15 : Canberra Meeting.

In your minute 43/44 of the 17th January, 1961, you point out correctly that the draft working paper on Agenda Item 15, which deals only with the question of waste disposal, is more restrictive than was originally envisaged. In confining the scope of the working paper to waste disposal, we were mindful of the consideration mentioned in the final paragraph of our minute of the 6th January (reference 102/2/7/3) to the effect that,

"the Soviet Union may endeavour to steer the debate into a discussion on disarmament and the 'evils' of nuclear weapons testing, nuclear armaments and so forth."

We felt, that, if the terms of reference of this item were to be broadened by the inclusion of such ill-defined phrases as "and other nuclear energy problems arising there", it would be that much easier for the Soviet delegation to interpret the scope of discussion to suit any propaganda aims that it might wish to pursue.

2. This fear would seem to be shared by the British, as you will have noted in the report (P.S. 16/2) which was addressed by the Acting High Commissioner in London to the Department on the 25th January, and endorsed to you for information. We would refer you in particular to the second paragraph of that report, and also to the first recommendation contained in the final paragraph, i.e.

".....every care should therefore be taken to define the scope of the agenda item as precisely as possible."

3. Nevertheless, your minute under reply, and especially the penultimate paragraph thereof, persuades us that, provided the title and working paper of this item define clearly the limits within which discussion may properly

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7.5.16/2

9. Copies of this minute have been sent to London, Canberra and Vienna and Missions are requested to endorse copies of their replies similarly.



This with Mr. Harley (F.O.) on leave, I discussed with Mr. Melner (F.O.) who said a letter on the whole subject of item 15 would be coming to us shortly. In view of this and since Harlow's brief was still far off, he suggested postponing decisions.

P. H. Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD.

Copy for your information and comment. Your minute 11/2/2 of 12th January, 1961, refers.

P. H. Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa,
LONDON.

Copy for your information and comment. Your minute P.S. 16/2 of the 25th January, 1961, refers.

Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa,
CANBERRA.

Copy for your information and comment. Our minute 102/2/7/3 of the 6th January, 1961, refers.

P. H. Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the Union of South Africa,
VIENNA.

Copy for your information and comment. Your minutes 30/17 of the 14th January, 1961, and 26th November, 1960, refer.

P. H. Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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AIRMAIL

15th March, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Antarctica: Draft Working Paper on
Agenda Item 15 : Canberra Meeting

Please refer to the minute no. 102/2/7/3 of the 13th February which you addressed to the Union's Ambassador in Washington and a copy of which you sent to me for comment.

I have not yet been able to discuss with the Foreign Office here the amendments you there outline.

The Foreign Office has been, however, busy examining the original draft working paper in regard to this item and has promised us its views shortly.

I get the impression, however, that we are likely to get those views only towards the end of this month.

Copies to Washington, Vienna and Canberra.

A. J. OXLEY

Minister.

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P. H. Philip
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

The Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the Union of South Africa,
VIENNA.

Copy for your information and comment. Your minutes 30/17 of the 14th January, 1961, and 26th November, 1960, refer.

P. H. Philip

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

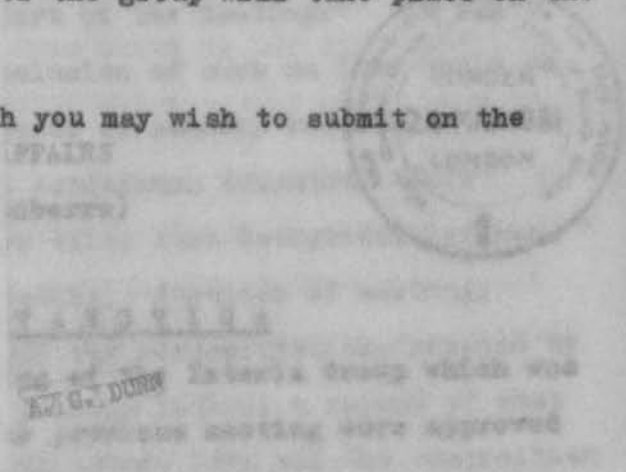
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added, however, that the conference could, of course, establish any other committees which it might deem desirable.

The next meeting of the group will take place on the 28th March.

Any comments which you may wish to submit on the above will be appreciated.



✓ AMBASSADOR.

The Argentine representative had no objection to the group being set up. The Argentine representative suggested that the group should be set up as a committee of experts on the subject of the Antarctic. The Argentine representative also suggested that the group should be set up as a committee of experts on the subject of the Antarctic. The Argentine representative also suggested that the group should be set up as a committee of experts on the subject of the Antarctic.

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Circular No. 51, for if it was left to each nation to draw up regulations on the basis of this paper, the regulations as drafted by various nations might very well conflict.

Furthermore, if regulations were drawn up the difficult question of enforcing them would arise - this might lead to problems of jurisdiction.

It was in the circumstances agreed that all members of the group would ask their governments whether they would regard the measures suggested in SCAR Circular 51 as suitable to form the basis for a code of conduct.

The only other matter I would mention in relation to the agenda was a suggestion by the Chilean representative that consideration might be given at Canberra to the possibility of drawing up an Antarctic Vocabulary of terms and which would apply to Antarctica. This suggestion was not discussed and it will no doubt be touched upon in future meetings. In the meantime the idea is brought to your attention.

Having disposed of the agenda the group next touched briefly on the Rules of Procedure. The Australian representative indicated that some words had in error been omitted from Rule 14 of the draft Rules - the second last sentence of the Rule should be reworded as follows:-

"If the meeting is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the closure of the debate. The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under the rule."

He also stated that the last sentence of the draft Rule 14 relating to Committees, should be deleted. He advised the group that they at present envisage that only one committee will be established and that will be a drafting committee. He

added/.....

The group next passed to a consideration of the Agenda for the Canberra Meeting and decided to add a new Item 20 "Adoption of the Report of the Meeting." It was generally agreed that the inclusion of such an item would be desirable because in the absence of summary records it would be necessary to draw up some conference document. This document could contain, inter alia, such background information as date and place of meeting, duration of meeting, the agenda for the meeting and any recommendations adopted by the meeting. It could also perhaps include a resumé of what transpired in relation to each agenda item and the composition of delegations to the meeting.

The group also today briefly dealt with the question of communiquees during the course of the conference. It was suggested by the representative of the Argentine that perhaps this matter might be included as a separate agenda item, but the majority of the members felt that this was a question which could be disposed of at the Canberra meeting without placing a formal item on the agenda.

The United States representative circulated to the group a copy of SCAR Circular No. 51 which deals with the Conservation and Preservation of Living Resources in Antarctica. You will no doubt already have received a copy of this circular which has been distributed to all governments. It was suggested that the measures proposed to promote conservation in Antarctica might well form the basis of a recommendation which could be adopted by the Canberra meeting. Such a recommendation might be drafted in the form of a code of conduct which all Antarctic Treaty signatories should endeavour to observe. A code of conduct would be preferred to the drafting of regulations referred to on page 3 of SCAR's

South African Embassy
3101 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington 8, D.C.

14th March, 1961.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(Copied to London and Canberra)



ANTARCTICA

At the 29th Meeting of the Interim Group which was held today the records of the previous meeting were approved without amendment.

The Argentine and Chilean representatives had no new information to submit to the group in regard to the question of ratification. The United Kingdom representative has, however, advised the South African representative on the group confidentially, that he has received a communication from the British Embassy in the Argentine to the effect that President Frondizi has embarked upon a visit to the Argentine territory in Antarctica including a visit to those areas which are in dispute with Chile. In addition the Argentine President apparently has made a strong statement reaffirming the Argentine claims in Antarctica. This visit and statement have lead to an immediate reaction from the Chilean authorities who have repeated their claims to what they regard as Chilean Antarctic Territory. The visit of President Frondizi just at this time when the Argentine and Chilean congresses are supposed to be moving towards a consideration of the ratification of the Treaty, would appear to be most ill-timed and ill-advised. It is not impossible that it could have an adverse effect upon the ratification processes in both these countries - whether it does or not remains to be seen.

The/.....
Circular/.....



14th March, 1961

With the
Compliments of the
Embassy
of the
Union of South Africa
Washington, D.C.

LONDON

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South African Embassy
3101 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington 8, D.C.
14th March, 1961.



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that occasion, the Government of Chile emphatically re-affirms its national sovereignty over the Antarctic sector situated between the meridians of Longitude 53 degrees and 90 degrees west of Greenwich.

It recalls at the same time that Chile has been exercising her sovereignty in an uninterrupted form in these regions since the year 1902.

The Government of Chile thus places on record its reaffirmation of the inalienable rights of the nation over territories which form part of its patrimony by virtue of unequivocal historical, geographical and juridical foundations and which were defined in the decree of November 6, 1940 of President Aguirre Cerda."

According to the United Kingdom Ambassador in Santiago the visit gave rise to strong criticism in the Chilean Press, and all papers rushed to defend Chile's claim to the disputed territory. Both President Frondizi's speech and the Chilean reply were apparently prominently featured and public irritation was reported to have found expression in minor disorders, booing, and the throwing of petards when the new Argentine Ambassador presented his credentials on March 16. The Ambassador said that he had seen no suggestion that Chile should not ratify the Antarctic Treaty, and on March 19 "El Mercurio" used the incident to urge that both the Argentina and Chile should ratify, in order to prevent further trouble of this kind. There was, however, considerable criticism of the Arbitration Protocols.

Copy to Washington.

Minister.

BK/MJE

File BK 29/3/61

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AIRMAIL.

29th March, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

THE ARGENTINIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ANTARCTICA.

On the basis of information obtained from Foreign Office sources, we have been able to piece together the following picture of the Argentinian President's recent visit to Antarctica.

The Buenos Aires press announced on the 7th March that the President was on his way by Naval transport to visit his country's Naval base on Deception Island. The press reports added that he was due to visit a similar base in the Melchior Archipelago and "other places", returning to Ushuaia at the week-end. The United Kingdom Ambassador in Buenos Aires reported that the visits had come as a complete surprise and that when the President left Buenos Aires it was stated that he was going to visit Naval bases in the south of Argentina, but there was no hint that he would venture into any disputed territories outside the Antarctic zone.

Upon his arrival at Deception Island President Frondizi delivered a speech, the key passage of which was rendered as follows by the United Kingdom Ambassador in Buenos Aires:

"The people and Government of the Argentine are proud of the intrepid endeavour made by the armed forces, scientists and technicians to affirm national sovereignty in the Argentine Antarctic. This affirmation of sovereignty is basically the reason for my presence in this region, which the determined action of the Navy has made a part of the spiritual and material patrimony of the Argentines. Since 1904 and without interruption the national flag has flown in a sector of the Antarctic continent which is as large as the whole of South America".

Towards the end of his speech, the President is reported to have said "we are witnesses of your sacrifices which affirm our sovereignty in the Argentine Antarctic.

The Chilean Government is reported to have reacted swiftly to President Frondizi's visit to Antarctica and to his speech at Deception Island, by releasing the following statement:

"With regard to the visit which His Excellency Senor Arturo Frondizi, President of the Argentine nation has just made to Deception Island and to the speech delivered on

2/.....

ANTARCTIC TREATY

FIRST CONSULTATIVE MEETING

Proposed additional agenda item: Matters Relating to Logistic Support

The intent of this proposal is to provide an opportunity at the Canberra meeting for discussion of matters pertaining to logistic support, in particular the desirability of initiating at an inter-governmental level, an exchange of information on the pertinent logistic facilities of permanent and semi-permanent installations in Antarctica, including the design and construction of buildings and airstrips and the performance of aircraft, ships, tractors and other land vehicles.

New Zealand Embassy,
Washington, D.C.
12 April 1961

... that it will be...
... if the...
... a meeting in Canberra during July becomes a distinct possibility.
... working groups is concerned.

The/.....

be discussed with the Americans. I shall also be glad of your guidance in respect of the other agenda items which the Group will be discussing.

Finally I would draw your attention to the fact that the Argentine representative has informed the Group that a new Argentine station has been established in Antarctica. The station is called Teniente Matienzo and is located at Nunatae Larsen at $64^{\circ} 58' 14''$ South and $60^{\circ} 02' 36''$ West - this information of course supplements the information already provided by the Argentine in respect of expeditions and stations in terms of Article VII 5 of the Antarctic Treaty.

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday, 26th April, 1961.

A. G. DUBIN

✓
AMBASSADOR.

New Zealand Embassy
Washington, D.C.
12 April 1961

The/ambassador

exchange information obtained from their own experience in Antarctica in the field of logistic support. By this means countries could benefit from each others experience in Antarctica.

In reply to a query as to whether the New Zealand item did not conflict to a degree with the item on reciprocal assistance, the New Zealand representative stated that the item related to matters which covered a far wider field than merely providing assistance. The New Zealand item is also broader than what is envisaged by Article VII (5) of the Treaty and so could well be a separate item.

The United States has made the point in relation to this proposal that SCAR at its Meeting in Cambridge last year set up a working group on logistics and that there has been some correspondence between Admiral Tyree who is Chairman of this group and the Secretary of SCAR on the desirability of holding a symposium on logistics in the near future. He suggested that it might be useful to ascertain what is being contemplated by this symposium and to bear this in mind in relation to whatever discussion there is in Canberra on logistic support.

There was very little discussion of the New Zealand proposal, but it does seem to cover a field which is not as yet embraced by any of the other agenda items.

Your comments will be appreciated as soon as possible.

Now that the Argentine and Chilean ratification appears to be in the offing, members of the Group are pushing for an early discussion of matters of substance and the initiators of various agenda items are being asked for further information on their particular items. In the circumstances I shall be very glad if you will forward to me as soon as you can the background paper which you are preparing on the South African item so that it can

be/.....

exchange information obtained from their own experience in Chilean suggestion as far as can be recalled, conforms with the correct procedure in matters of this sort and it is not likely that it will cause any strenuous objection.

The Soviet representative raised the question of public and private sessions of the Canberra Meeting (Rule 7). He felt that all sessions should be open and not only the opening plenary session. This suggestion was not discussed. There were very sound reasons as you know for holding the working sessions of the Antarctic Treaty Conference where political issues were to the fore, in private - on the other hand the Canberra Meeting is hopefully not going to be a political gathering and therefore there may be less reason for holding the working sessions in private. I shall be glad of your comments on this point and on any other points above dealing with the draft Rules of Procedure.

Apart from the discussion of the draft Rules of Procedure the Group also touched briefly on the agenda. You will recall that at a previous meeting (my minute 43/44 of 2 March, 1961) the New Zealand representative indicated that his government might wish to propose a separate item on logistics. --- This has now been done and I enclose copies of a New Zealand draft setting out the intent of their proposal.

In submitting the new item the New Zealand representative stated that the New Zealand scientists have felt that SCAR consists of a group of scientists who do not wish to have their professional meetings cluttered up with non-professional problems. Therefore it is the wish of New Zealand scientists that SCAR should confine itself more to scientific matters and not concern itself so much with subjects such as logistics. The New Zealand proposal therefore, as you will note, envisages an inter-governmental exchange by means of which governments would

exchange/.....

This proposal was strongly opposed by the Australian representative and to a lesser degree by the representative of New Zealand - they argued that it was unnecessary to include these rules as it goes without saying that the Meeting can set up any committees or working groups it may deem desirable. In actual fact the reason why the Australians really oppose the United Kingdom suggestion is probably due to the fact that they fear that actual reference to Committees may encourage the Meeting to set up such Committees - this they would hope to avoid because it could create secretarial difficulties for them. The Australian representative has repeatedly stressed that the only committee which it would be necessary to establish would be a drafting committee.

The majority of the group, however, appear to favour the United Kingdom proposal and although no decision has as yet been reached it is probable that Rules 11, 14 and 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Antarctic Conference will be incorporated at a suitable place in the draft Rules of Procedure for the Canberra Meeting. (The word "Committee" will, of course, replace the word "Conference").

The representative of Chile expressed some dissatisfaction with the present wording of draft Rule 6 which provides that the host government will appoint the Secretary for the Meeting. He drew attention to the fact that the Rules of Procedure of the Antarctic Conference had provided that the Conference would appoint the Secretary General and he considered that the Canberra draft Rules should similarly make provision for the appointment of the Secretary of the Meeting by the Meeting. You will recall that there was considerable discussion on this point prior to the Antarctic Conference and that all eventually agreed that while the Secretary General would, in fact, of course be the nominee of the host government, it would be desirable to maintain the form that he would be appointed by the Conference. The

Chilean/.....

The Group devoted some time to a discussion of the draft Rules of Procedure for the Canberra Meeting of which you of course have a copy.

There was some discussion of a proposal to delete rules 8 to 16 of the Rules of Procedure, but from the trend of the discussion it would seem that these Rules will be retained.

The United Kingdom representative suggested that the draft Rules should contain a section on committees and working groups and he proposed specifically that Rules 11, 14 and 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Antarctic Conference of 1959, might be included in the draft Rules at a suitable place. The Rules of Procedure of the Antarctic Conference as adopted on 16 October, 1959, are contained in Document 2 of the Antarctic Conference Papers which are in your possession, but for ease of reference Rules 11, 14 and 15 are quoted below:-

Rule 11 - The Conference, to facilitate its work, may establish such committees as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions, defining their terms of reference.

Rule 14 - The Committees shall operate under the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, except where they are inapplicable.

Rule 15 - Working Groups may be established by the Conference or its Committees.

The United Kingdom representative argued that the Group should endeavour to facilitate the work of the Canberra Meeting as far as possible in order to forestall any wrangling at the Conference and that it was therefore advisable to insert in the draft Rules the above three Antarctic Conference Rules so that it would be clear exactly what the powers of the Conference were as far as the establishment of committees and working groups is concerned.

This/.....

South African Embassy
3101 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington 8, D.C.

12th April, 1961

CONFIDENTIAL

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(Copied to London and Canberra)



A N T A R C T I C A

The Thirty first Meeting of the Interim Group was held on Tuesday 11th April, 1961.

As its first item of business the Group approved the summary record of the Thirtieth Meeting.

The Group heard further encouraging news regarding the ratification of the Treaty by the Argentine and Chile. The Argentine representative stated that it was possible that the Argentine House of Representatives would begin consideration of the Treaty on the 13th April, although of course he could not guarantee this. The Chilean representative informed the Group that the Chilean Senate had unanimously approved the Treaty on 5 April, and that the Chilean Foreign Office had commented that the unanimity in the Senate suggested that action in the House would be swift. As you know from my minute 43/44 of 30th March, 1961, the House will have to act before the expiry of the present legislative period which ends on about 20 May. The Chilean representative has in fact expressed the personal view that approval by the House could reasonably be expected before the end of April.

If the Argentine and Chile ratify in the near future a meeting in Canberra during July becomes a distinct possibility.

The/.....



South African Embassy
3101 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington 8, D.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

12th April, 1961

12th April 1961

*With the
Compliments of the
Embassy
of the
Union of South Africa
Washington, D. C.*

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LONDON

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AFFAIRS

(Canberra)

T A R C T I C A

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The/.....



CONFIDENTIAL

(A. 15214/10)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

March 21, 1961.

Dear Mr. Drake,

Mr. de Villiers called on Mr. Hankey on January 26 to discuss your Government's proposal that an item on "the exchange of information and advice relating to the application of nuclear energy in the (Antarctic) Treaty Area" should be placed on the agenda for the Conference of the twelve Treaty Powers which is to take place in Canberra two months after the Treaty has been ratified by all concerned and has come into force.

2. I understand that your Government is mainly concerned to ensure the co-operation between the Treaty Powers and the International Atomic Energy Authority in Vienna, and that a declaration of an intention to co-operate with the Agency should be made at Canberra.

3. We have now obtained the views of the Atomic Energy Authority and the Office of the Minister for Science. They have pointed out one or two difficulties which any debate resulting from your proposal might entail. As you may know the whole question of nuclear explosions and the disposal of radio active waste stirred up great emotions at the 1959 Washington Conference to negotiate the Treaty. In particular there was the danger that the Russians might be able to make propaganda out of this issue. They are trying to create public misapprehension about the disposal of such waste into the sea. They may even wish to attack the Americans about waste from their reactor at McMurdo Sound.

4. The Note which your delegate at the Interim Consultative Group in Washington added to the proposed item might perhaps have been confined solely to the exchange of information and advice relating to the application of nuclear energy in the Treaty area and to any radio-active waste resulting therefrom that might require to be disposed of locally. If it were amended in this way, we would see no objection to it. It is only if the resolution led to a long debate in which the Americans (especially) were embarrassed that we would find it awkward.

5. Otherwise we think that the idea behind your proposal is admirable and we fully appreciate the value of co-operation between the Treaty Powers and the International Atomic Energy Authority.)

Yours sincerely

R. H. G. Edmonds

(R.H.G. Edmonds) MBE,

Ch. h. F.

Mr. Charles St. S.W.1

A.F. Drake, Esq.,
South Africa House.

CONFIDENTIAL

South Africa

Mr. Drake
2/3

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5. Otherwise we think that the idea behind your proposal is admirable and we fully appreciate the value of co-operation between the Treaty Powers and the International Atomic Energy Authority."

Copies of this minute are being sent to Washington, Vienna and Canberra.

A. J. OXLEY

Minister.

AJO/AG

Said - Africa South

AIRMAIL

CONFIDENTIAL

19th April, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Antarctica: Agenda Item 15 -
Canberra Meeting

I refer to my minute of the 15th March in reply to the minute no. 102/2/7/3 which you addressed to the Union's Ambassador in Washington on the 13th February in regard to the draft working paper on agenda item no. 15 for the proposed Canberra meeting.

The matter had been earlier discussed with the British and the Foreign Office has now replied to this office as follows:

"Mr. de Villiers called on Mr. Hankey on January 26 to discuss your Government's proposal that an item on 'the exchange of information and advice relating to the application of nuclear energy in the (Antarctic) Treaty Area' should be placed on the agenda for the Conference of the twelve Treaty Powers which is to take place in Canberra two months after the Treaty has been ratified by all concerned and has come into force.

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/4. The ...

Said - Africa,
South

Comments by Australian Representative on Matters
Relating to Logistic Support

We see advantages in the Treaty assuming responsibility in this field since, in most countries, governments rather than scientific academies control logistic support of expeditions.

We would therefore support the New Zealand proposal to inscribe this item on the agenda. We would hope, however, that having regard to the amount of work envisaged for the Canberra meeting, the discussion would be confined to broad principles. The Canberra meeting might decide that it would be useful to have a meeting of experts on this subject at a future date.

We do not suggest that SCAR should divest itself of responsibility until some new arrangement under the Treaty is in operation. We understand that a symposium on logistics, sponsored by SCAR, will be held in the United States in August. This meeting would provide an opportunity to consider the results of the Canberra meeting and for the symposium to formulate a recommendation to the SCAR meeting in October. SCAR might, for instance, then make a formal decision to withdraw from this field of activity.

26 April 1961

The Australian representative has now proposed that the Canberra Meeting should be held between 10 and 24 July. He has stressed that this is merely a tentative suggestion, and that representatives at the Meeting should also allow a few days after the end of the Meeting for what he called a post Meeting tour, presumably as the guests of the Australian Government.

Most/.....

Comments by Australian Representative on
Procedures for the Canberra meeting

We envisage the following procedures for the conduct of
business at the Canberra meeting:-

- (1) All items to be discussed in plenary session,
- (2) A drafting committee comprising all parties be set
up to prepare a report on the basis of the discussions
in the plenary,
- (3) The drafting committee might have before it a
preliminary paper prepared by the Secretariat which
would help focus discussion,
- (4) The draft prepared by the drafting committee for
approval by the plenary should represent a consensus
of views and in these circumstances a majority and
minority report would not be necessary.

The report as we see it will comprise all the recommendations
of the meeting. It will be approved in accordance with paragraph 20
of the draft rules of procedure and then be forwarded to governments
for consideration under Article IX (4) of the Treaty, viz., "The
measures ... shall become effective when approved by all the
contracting parties whose representatives were entitled to participate
in the meeting held to consider those measures."

We also suggest that, for reference purposes, a separate
record of proceedings should be prepared which would summarize the
main discussions.

26 April 1961.

This also allow a few days after the end of the Meeting for what
he called a post Meeting tour, presumably as the guests of
the Australian Government.

Most/.....

Group wanted he would not insist on the maintenance of separate records. I have an idea, however, that this matter is not yet disposed of and I would be grateful for any comments you may have in particular in view of your minute 102/2/7/3 of 28 November, 1960.

I might add here that I have an idea that although the Australians suggested that separate records be kept they in actual fact would be quite happy to see these dispensed with because of the extra strain the maintenance of such records would place on their secretarial services. Although they made the suggestion for the maintenance of such records they did not press it and were quite happy to follow the lead of other members of the Group who spoke against it.

There was no opportunity at today's meeting to get down to a discussion of matters of substance, but it has been suggested that at the next meeting of the Group an effort should be made to take up a discussion of the item dealing with relations with SCAR and also the other three items which are concerned with scientific matters. If you have any ideas that you would wish to be put forward in relation to these questions, I shall be glad to receive them.

In view of the apparent proximity of the Canberra Meeting it is also desirable that the background paper on the item which has been proposed by us should be discussed with the Americans as soon as possible.

I am enclosing three copies of a paper circulated at the Meeting by the Australian representative relating to the New Zealand item concerning Logistic Support. This item was not discussed at today's Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 4th May, 1961.

He visited a joint meeting held, presumably at the guests of the Australian Government, D. S. Franklin

✓ AMBASSADOR

Not all representatives were enamoured of this idea. It was pointed out that to approve records at the end of a conference was a somewhat unusual procedure. The representatives of the Soviet Union and the Argentine also expressed the view that maintaining records would merely complicate and formalise the proceedings of the Meeting which it had been hoped would be kept as simple and informal as possible. The Belgian and South African representatives on the other hand spoke in favour of maintaining some sort of record of the conference proceedings. It was pointed out for example, that not only would such records be useful for reference purposes, but that they would provide an opportunity for differences of opinion to be on record which might not appear in the final report.

The Argentine representative wondered whether the difficulty of having the views of various representatives on record might not be overcome by the representative of each country making a final statement at the conclusion of the Conference which would be on record and in which any particular views or differences he might wish to stress would be brought out. It was quite rightly pointed out, however, that such a procedure would not be desirable because it might result in other representatives feeling they had to reply to such statements and the Meeting might find itself in no time getting bogged down into a discussion of matters which were already supposed to have been disposed of.

After some discussion it was suggested that instead of maintaining records the final report of the Conference might contain references to differing views expressed by representatives in relation to various items on the agenda. This is the procedure which seems to commend itself to most members of the Group and the South African representative stated that if this was what the

Group/.....

D. S. Franklin

AMBASSADOR

Most representatives did not voice any specific objections to a date in July, although July is evidently going to present some difficulty to the Norwegians as the Norwegian Antarctic scientists are carrying out research on Spitzbergen during the course of that month. The United States representative suggested that the month of August might be more suitable, but this is difficult for the Australians because Parliament House where the Meeting is to be held will not then be available.

In the circumstances it seems likely (depending, of course on the Chilean ratification) that the Meeting will be held in July. I assume that July will not present any particular difficulty as far as the Union is concerned?

--- I am enclosing a paper circulated at the Meeting today by the Australian representative, which deals with certain of the "Procedures for the Canberra Meeting" as envisaged by the Australians.

The discussion of this paper was in the main focussed on the last paragraph which deals with the keeping of a separate record of the proceedings at the Canberra Meeting. You will note that the Australian paper suggests that such a record should be kept. You will recall that some time ago the Group decided that it would not be necessary to keep summary records and it is apparent that the Australians do not have summary records in mind in the sense that such a record would summarise everything that had been said. The Australian representative stated that they did not envisage a day to day summary record, but rather a record which would be prepared during the course of the Meeting and approved towards the end of the Meeting. This record which would summarise the main points of view expressed would be separate from the report of the Meeting.

Not/.....

26th April, 1961

CONFIDENTIALTHE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(Copied to London and Canberra)

ANTARCTICA

The Thirty-second Meeting of the Interim Group was held today.

The summary record of the Thirty-first Meeting was approved unanimously.

The representative of the Argentine announced that the Argentine House of Representatives approved the Antarctic Treaty yesterday i.e. on 25 April. All constitutional requirements for ratification have now been met by the Argentine and it is now merely a question of depositing the instrument of ratification.

The Chilean representative had no further news about ratification but it seems that there is reason for optimism that the Treaty will not run into difficulties in the Chilean House of Representatives in particular now that the Argentine has ratified.

The Australian representative has now proposed that the Canberra Meeting should be held between 10 and 24 July. He has stressed that this is merely a tentative suggestion, and that representatives at the Meeting should also allow a few days after the end of the Meeting for what he called a post Meeting tour, presumably as the guests of the Australian Government.

Most/.....



26th April, 1961

With the
Compliments of the
Embassy
of the
Union of South Africa
Washington, D. C.

LONDON

Handwritten signatures and dates:
1/5/61

26th April, 1961



L AFFAIRS

and Canberra)

ANTARCTICA

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ANTARCTIC TREATY

AGENDA FOR CANBERRA MEETING

As a contribution to discussion the following paragraphs are suggested as possible draft recommendations from representatives at the Canberra meeting to their Governments.

Item: Exchange of Information regarding Plans for Scientific Programmes.

" It is recommended that Governments should facilitate the continuation of the exchange of information regarding plans for scientific programmes as now carried on through SCAR and by such other means as may ensure the availability of this information."

(The Canberra Meeting would also presumably wish to explore the other ways by which this exchange could be facilitated.)

Item: Exchange of Scientific Personnel.

" It is recommended that Governments should promote the continued exchange of scientific personnel amongst their expeditions and should make available to their scientific organizations such of their facilities as may be helpful to this purpose."

New Zealand Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

3 May 1961.

observers should be dealt with. Most representatives I think are ready to concede that SCAR and WMO will be welcome to send observers. Problems however, may arise if requests are received from private organisations or certain governments which have

not/....