

✓ - Sitting L. 45/67

Cabinet meeting held at the Auberge d'Argon Dalletta, on Tuesday, 8th August, 1967, at 11 am.

Present: The Hon. Prime Minister

The Hon. Minister of Public Buildings
& Works.

The Hon. Minister of Finance, Customs
& Ports.

The Hon. Minister of Justice and
Parliamentary Affairs.

The Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry
& Agriculture.

The Hon. Minister of Health.

The Hon. Minister of Education, Culture
& Recreation.

The Hon. Minister of Labour, Employment
& Welfare.

The minutes of meetings
L. 43 and 44/67 were read and confirmed.

OPM. 259/66. King George V Hospital (Memo. L. 40)

The Cabinet was informed that formal notice had been given to terminate the agreement dated 24th November, 1949, between H.M.'s Principal Secretary of State for the War Department and the Trustees of King George V Invalent Seamen's Memorial Hospital, Gibraltar. Such termination was to take effect as from August 16, 1967.

OPHY. 1536/66.

Malta Memorial District Housing Association
(Memo. No. 704)

L-ARKIVJI NAZZJONALI TA' MALTA

The Hon. Minister of Health informed the Cabinet that the officials representing the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance Ltd. submitted their recommendations on the possibility of the income of the Association being raised without involving payment by the Government of a higher subsidy than the approved. £6,000 per annum. The reports would be submitted for consideration in Cabinet at an early date. Meanwhile the Association was being paid part of the subsidy in respect of the financial year 1964-68 to enable it to meet some of its financial obligations.

OPHY. 1538/65

Aircraft carrying arms to Nigeria.

The Cabinet was informed that on Monday, 7th August Hercules aircraft owned by Pacific Western Airlines, leased to Trans Mediterranean Airways of Beirut, Lebanon, had landed at Luga carrying arms and ammunition consigned to the Nigerian Army at Kano, Nigeria. The Shippers were Air Shipping Agencies Ltd., London Airport, Middlesex.

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~~the~~
~~fact~~ The Captain of the aircraft stated that clearance from Malta had been obtained. This statement, however, was not confirmed at the Ministry of Commerce & Foreign Affairs.

The Aden Advocate Journal, the Secretary, Ministry of Commonwealth & Foreign Affairs and the Director of Civil Aviation were called in. After hearing their views the Cabinet agreed that the aircraft could be allowed to proceed. The Director of Civil Aviation was, however, asked to explain to the Captain of the aircraft that a recurrence of the incident would create difficulties and that in similar circumstances the necessary clearance would not be easy to give in future.

OPM. 546/68

Message from the Commonwealth Secretary.

The Hon. Prime Minister informed the Cabinet that he had just received a personal message from the Commonwealth Secretary on the subject of the recommendation that Lord Robens should be Chairman of the Joint Steering Committee. The Commonwealth Secretary suggested that the matter be held over until October when the Reports of the Aberfan Enquiry would have been debated in Parliament and the personal position of Lord Robens would have been cleared. It was hoped that as a result of the financial talks that were being held in the meantime the Malta Government would see that early action was taken on the Reports of the Joint Mission, and in particular that it would be possible

for an immediate start to be made on the Industrial Estate which Lord Robens had suggested as a project in which urgent progress would be specifically helpful.

After careful consideration of the matter the Cabinet was inclined to the view that the nomination of the Joint Steering Committee should be proceeded with, with Mr. A. Birch as Deputy Chairman, and that the Committee should meet informally until Lord Robens could be secured for the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee.

Edward Heath
Prime Minister
10. 8. 67

Adge Buxton
Secretary to Cabinet
10. 8. 67