

✓ Letter No. 14/62.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Amburge
d'Aragon, Valletta, on Tuesday the 13th
November, 1962, at 10 am.

Present: The Hon. Prime Minister and
Minister of Economic Planning
& Finance.

The Hon. Minister of Education.

The Hon. Minister of Agriculture,
Power & Communications

The Hon. Minister of Justice

The Hon. Minister of Works and
Housing

The Hon. Minister of Health.

Absent: The Hon. Minister of Industrial
Development & Tourism

The Hon. Minister of Labour and
Social Welfare.

who were on duty abroad.

The minutes of Meeting
No. 13/62 were read and confirmed.

OPM. 588/62. Arising out of the minutes,
the Hon. Prime Minister explained that Ministers
having the general authority of the Cabinet
under Section 31 of the Malta Constitution were
invariably to pass their advice to H.C. the
Governor through him.

Sec. 528/59. Sozo Civic Council Duties and Powers. (Memo. No. 30)
Dr. A. Zahra, President of the Sozo Civic Council, was in attendance.

In view of section 26 of the Sozo Local Government Ordinance, 1961, which provides for a definition by Order made by the Governor of the extent of the powers to be exercised by the Sozo Civic Council in relation to those services for the upkeep and maintenance of which the Council are by law responsible, the Cabinet agreed to the arrangements reflected in the tentative Order at Ref. 141a in file.

Sec. 481/60. Shops Hours in Sozo. (Memo. No. 31)
Dr. A. Zahra, President of the Sozo Civic Council, was in attendance.

It was explained to the Cabinet that contrary to what is provided in subsection (1) of section 4 of the Shops and Hawkers (Business Hours) Act, 1954, all shops in Victoria, Sozo, were allowed to remain open up to 10 am on Sundays.

The Cabinet agreed to the recommendation that the concession granted to the shops in Victoria be extended to the shops in all the villages in Sozo and that the appropriate amendment to the Shops and Hawkers (Business Hours) Act, 1954, be prepared and introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

with a view to enactment.

OPM. 1361/55.

Fitting of taximeters to taxis in Gozo. (Para. 2a)
D. A. Zahra, President of the Gozo Civic Council,
was in attendance.

The Cabinet considered the arguments put forward by the Gozo Civic Council in support of the contention of the Gozo taxi-drivers that they should be exempted from fitting meters to their vehicles.

It was decided that taxi-drivers should be given a period up to 31st December, 1964, during which they were to fit the required meters to their vehicles, in compliance with the law. Licenses held in the meantime be issued to the taxi-drivers concerned. Meanwhile, whenever a taxi equipped with a taximeter was present it should have precedence in taking fare-paying passengers over taxis not so equipped even if the latter (non-meter) had been waiting longer at the stand.

Sec/E/515/61.

Salaries of non-industrial staff (Para. 2a)
The Hon. Mr. E. Cuschieri, Administrative Secretary,
was in attendance.

The Cabinet considered the general question of non-industrial salaries.

It was explained that the "Elwood" pay revision implemented in December, 1959, with effect from 1st April, 1959, had been the subject to subsequent discussion and negotiation in the Malta Government-Joint Council. However, by a prior agreement formally signed on the 10th August, 1959, the Government had bound itself with the Staff Side to go to arbitration on any points of difference which could not be settled by negotiation. Subsequently, the industrials were heard at an arbitration held in Malta. There was therefore the basic difference that whilst industrials had had their arbitration, the non-industrials had not, so far. This was in essence the basic grievance of the non-industrial employees. It was known that there were unresolved points of difference all along the line with associations representing Government non-industrial staff. Before the present Administration took over the arrangements for arbitration were being proceeded with in agreement with the staff associations concerned. The claims put up by the staff unions included four years retrospective and totalled about £1 m. per annum.

This matter was fully discussed and considered from all aspects. It was decided that for financial and economic reasons the Government could not allow arbitration arrangements to

proceed any further. The Government, however, intended to set up a special committee to examine anomalies that might exist in the salaries of non-industrials.

115. 85/62 Reassessment of rents of shops in St. John's Square, Valletta. (Memo. No. 29)

It was explained that when the area opposite St. John's Co-Cathedral was reconstructed in 1957, it was decided in Cabinet that the shops were to be put up for tender and preference was to be given to tenants of shops and other business premises formerly existing on the site. That policy which was followed ensured that to Government the open market rent for the reconstructed business premises and at the same time gave preferential treatment to former tenants.

As soon as the period of the initial lease (5 years) expired, the tenants, through the General Retailers Union, asked for a reassessment of the rents of the shops. They stated that the original decision of the Cabinet, viz. to put up the shops to tender, had been unfair. They now asked for a reassessment of the rents that meant a fresh valuation made in the light of present circumstances

independently of the tenders submitted in 1951.

In view of the recent upward trend in the rents of shops in St. John's Square, Valletta, and this notwithstanding the payments by way of goodwill of sums ranging from £ 700 to £ 2,800, the Cabinet could not agree to a reduction in the original rent of the shops in question. It was also felt that the tender system had been the fairest under the circumstances obtaining in 1951 and that once it had been adopted a serious precedent would be created if it were to be either ignored or departed from.

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OPM. 795/59. Building development at Junction Road, Sapi (Memo To 45).

The Cabinet was informed that the remains of a Roman Wall along Junction Road, Sapi, which the Antiquities Committee wished to preserve, had been holding up the building development amounting to about £ 14,000, by the access of the cars along the road.

Before considering whether the wall should be removed or by-passed, Hon. Ministers wished to see the wall, and fixed Thursday, 15th November, 1962, at 11 a.m., for a visit to Sapi.

OPM. 2250/58

New Policy regarding agricultural holdings (Memo. No. 38).

The Cabinet agreed that the new policy as set out on page 2 of Red 149 in file, which aimed at preserving the entity of the various agricultural holdings and encouraging farmers to maintain a reasonable standard of cultivation, subject to measures to allow only a minimum level of fragmentation of lands, should be implemented.

Confirmation of written opinion.

The files mentioned hereunder were circulated to Hon. Ministers whose written decisions were as follows:-

- OPM. 3623/41 - Mr. de Giovanni was advised to appoint Dr. John Lousa as member of the Press Board.
- OPM. 734/49 - Mr. de Giovanni was advised to approve that Dr. A. Savona's restrictions hence be renewed for a further period of one year from the 31st March, 1949.
- Mr. Prime Minister was given the formal authority of the Cabinet to submit similar decisions

to H.C. the Governor for approval without the necessity of consulting the whole Cabinet.

A.F. 669/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised to make the Adaptation of Trade (No. 1) Order, 1962.

Sec. 435/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised to sign writs directing the Election Commissioners to hold general elections to fill the seats vacated by Dr. P. Holland, Dr. S. Dintoff, Dr. A. Hoggan, Dr. J. Pellegrini, Dr. A. Cechin Zammit, Dr. W. Ganado and Dr. J.H. Camilleri.

B.F. 694/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised to approve that Dr. J. Duggi, Director of Industrial Development, be appointed Chairman of the Aids to Industries Board.

OPT. 961/59 - H.C. the Governor was advised to sign an Order authorizing exemption from the payment of customs duty on the importation of a marble statue of the late Sir Ugo Diefand.

✓ A.F. 714/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised to make the Adaptation of Trade (No. 2) Order, 1962.

OPM. 1283/55

- H.G. the Governor was advised to make the Temporary Weapons Range (North and South Coasts Channels, Dellekha and St. Paul's Bay) Regulations, 1952.

OPM. 405/52

- H.G. the Governor was advised that Mr. J. Pisani, a cripple, be allowed to pay a reduced annual licence of £16 in respect of his specially adapted car.

Sec. 2284/61

- H.G. the Governor was advised that Dr. J. Pullicino be appointed an additional member of the Board for the Hospital for Mental Diseases for a period of six months.

OPM. 795/52.

- H.G. the Governor was advised to sign Order exempting Mr. E. Spilini, a paraplegic, from paying import duty on a specially converted car.

OPM. 815/56

- H.G. the Governor was advised to approve the extension of the closing time of the

Juffin Restaurant, Rabat,
to 3 am on Saturdays and
Sundays and to 2 am on
other nights.

OPM. 723/62

At the request was advised
to approve that Thursday, 26th
April, 1962, the day of the
opening of Parliament, be
declared a public holiday.

OPM. 2517/58

At the request was advised
to approve the transfer of the
Maltta Government Savings Bank
at Bungey from No. 5 Queen
Street, to No. 137, Cornmarket Street.

Sec. 210/62

At the request was advised to
grant permission to Messrs. Shell
Co. (Maltta) Ltd. to operate a
founded store at their food
Harbour Installation.

Sec. (P.O.) 102/62.

At the request was advised to
grant a license to
Mr. Antonio Albano to work
in Malta.

The Prime Minister was given the
general authority of the Cabinet
to submit similar applications
to His Excellency without
the necessity of consulting the
Cabinet as a whole.

- Sec. 2445/61 - H.C. the Governor was advised to approve revised strike rates at Kirkcups.
- Sec. 2204/61 - H.C. the Governor was advised to approve the appointments of the Explosives Committee.
- Hon. Prime Minister was given the general authority of the Cabinet to submit recommendations involving the appointments of Boards + Committees to His Excellency directly without the necessity of consulting the Cabinet as a whole.
- Sec. 211/62. - H.C. the Governor was advised to sign the Certificate of Naturalization of Mr. David Patrick Aemona.
- Sec. 240/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised to approve that the annual licence fee payable by Mr. Anthony Jima, a cripple - in respect of his specially adapted car be reduced to 2/6. ~~per annum~~
- OPT. 536/58/101 - H.C. the Governor was advised to make the Aids to Industries (Mada Malta Ltd) (Relief from

Income Tax) Order 1962 and
the Order to Industries (Korda
Malta Limited) (Relief from
Customs Duty) Order 1962.

OPPI. 913/62 - The Hon. H. J. B.F. was given the
authority to sign deeds relating
to grants and loans to
Industries, provided prior
authority of the Hon. M.E.P.F. was
obtained as to the terms
of the grants and loans in
each case.

OPPI. 1487/48 - Hon. Ministers agreed to the
introduction in the Legislative
Assembly of a Bill to amend
the Arms Ordinance (Cap. 106).

OPPI. 867/62 - H.C. the Governor was advised
to make an Order exempting
from Customs Duty all materials
and articles required by
the Foreign Ministry of Justice
for carrying out the contract
awarded to him by the
Government of Malta for the
construction, etc. of the
Comino Drainage Works.

OPPI. 151/57 - H.C. the Governor was advised to
approve that a quantity of
cigarettes given free to
patients at the R.N. Hospital,

Bigli, be allowed entry
free of duty.

OPH. 459/62 - H.E. the Governor was advised
to approve the issue to
Messrs. S. Guillemin of a
special licence to keep and
use five stills for the
production of distilled
water.

Sec. 2588/61 - Hon. Ministers agreed to
the introduction in the
Legislative Assembly of a
Bill further to amend
the Medical & Kindred
Professions Ordinance (Cap. 51).

Sec. 2065/60. - H.E. the Governor was advised
to approve that in terms
of sections 43 and 44 of
Ordinance xi of 1961, Messrs.
Francis Spiteri, Joseph Pong,
Anthony Agopanti, Anthony
Lunguini be detailed with
the ago Civil Council for
"half-time" duty and Miss
Teodora Agopanti and
Miss Modeste Fene be
detailed with the Council
for "full time" duty for a
period of six months.

Assewplines

Prime Minister.
20.11.62

Secretary to Cabinet
20.11.62

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