

Meeting No. 2 of 1971.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Auberge d'Oragon, Valletta, on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1971, at 11 a.m.

Present: The Prime Minister and Minister of Commonwealth and Foreign Affairs  
 The Minister of Finance, Customs and Post.  
 The Minister of Public Building and Works.  
 The Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs  
 The Minister of Health  
 The Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism  
 The Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare

Absent: The Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture  
 (indisposed)

OPM. 555/70. Drydocks.

(In attendance: Dr. E. Mizzzi, Mr. J. Carabott,  
 Mr. P. Staines)

After having heard from Mr. Carabott the matters raised by Sir John Hunter during the meeting he had on the 6<sup>th</sup> January with the Board of the Malta Drydocks Corporation, the Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare proposed that action should be taken on the lines recommended by him to the Prime Minister in his letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> December, 1970, namely:

- (a) Reconstitution of the Board and appointment of a full-time Chairman;
- (b) The General Workers' Union to be formally

asked to appoint two members to sit on the Board.

He also said that he was in favour of taking the claim to arbitration without any pre-conditions. As it was pointed out that the Board seemed to be in favour of arbitration, it was generally felt that this should be the first step to be taken in the matter. The whole question required, however, further study.

The Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, Customs and Post, and the Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare, then withdrew to meet Sir John Hunter and Mr. Winders.

### Confirmation of Written Opinion

The files mentioned below were circulated to Ministers whose written opinion was as follows:

O.P.M. 453/50 (1). H.E. the Governor-General was advised to appoint the electoral Commissioners for Gozo for the year 1971, in terms of Regulation 3(3) of the Gozo Local Government (Elections) Regulations, 1961.

Land 24/53 II H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of five plots of land at Zebbug, Malta, required for the construction of the new

Zebbug - Siggiewi Road.  
(Memorandum No. 1685)

Land 1127/63 III. H. E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of three plots of land at Mosta required for the erection of a school. (Memorandum No. 1684)

OPM. 1252/63. Ministers agreed that notifiable cases should be considered as entitled to free treatment irrespective of whether financial investigation has been carried out or not, and that necessary action be taken for the consequential amendments of the National Assistance Act. (Memorandum No. 1274).

Prime Minister.

Secretary to Cabinet