

MEMORANDUM BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF  
AGRICULTURE, POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Acquisition of Luqa Reservoir from the Admiralty

One of the matters arising out of the transfer of the Commercial Dockyard to Messrs. Bailey Malta Limited was that concerning the responsibility for the future supply of fresh water to this part of the Dockyard, regarding which discussions were held some time in 1959 between the Fleet Civil Engineer, the Superintending Civil Engineer, the Senior Surveyor of Land and the Manager and other representatives of the Water and Electricity Department.

2. All technical problems connected with the water supply were satisfactorily solved and the Water Department is now providing an independent supply to Bailey's portion of the Dockyard, now taken over by Malta Dry Docks. This part of the Dockyard is supplied from an Admiralty reservoir at Luqa and through a 9" pipeline from that reservoir to the Dockyard entrance gate at Ghajn Dwieli, but the water supply to the Luqa Reservoir is provided from Government sources.

3. In the discussions which followed, it was agreed as correct and reasonable that ownership of this reservoir and the 9" pipeline to Ghajn Dwieli Gate should be in Government hands, and Admiralty approval was given to the transfer of these assets to the Government free of charge provided the Government would meet all legal expenses involved in the deed of transfer. The reservoir and the pipeline are estimated at about £70,000 and the legal expenses and stamp duties would amount to about £750. These assets are in a fairly good state but Government will, of course, have to maintain them in future as the owner.

4. This transfer would involve the taking over of some surrounding land. The cost to acquire a part of this property is estimated at £119. 11s. 8d and the ground rent on another part of this land is £18. 5s. 0d per annum. There is also another annual burden of 1s. 7d on an additional plot.

5. Finally, I would like to add that the foregoing administration had accepted to take over and of course maintain the reservoir and the pipeline.

6. Honourable Ministers may wish to agree.

16th January, 1964.

cws/apg

L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta