

✓ Sitting No. 7/63

Cabinet Meeting held at the Amburge d'Argon, Valletta, on Monday, 21st January, 1963, at 6 p.m.

Present: The Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Planning & Finance
 The Hon. Minister of Industrial Development & Commerce.
 The Hon. Minister of Education.
 The Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Power & Communications
 The Hon. Minister of Justice.
 The Hon. Minister of Works & Housing.
 The Hon. Minister of Labour & Social Welfare.
 The Hon. Minister of Health

Recess. Bailey (Malta) Ltd. / British Government dispute.
 Prof. J. Azzopardo, Attorney General, was in attendance.

The Cabinet considered further the possible consequences on the Dockyard employment position of the current litigation between Bailey (Malta) Ltd. and the British Government. It was the objective of the Malta Government that during the dispute the work in the Dockyard would continue without interruption. With this end in view Hon. Ministers expressed their agreement to legislation being made by the Malta Government to appoint a Council of Administration to take over the management

of the Dockyard and its assets in Malta pending a settlement of the dispute. This agreement, however, was to be conditioned to certain definite guarantees by the British Government, among which the following were mentioned:

- a) The maintenance at the Dockyard of the present level of employment;
- b) A say by the Malta Government in any future compromise between Bailey and the British Government;
- c) The ultimate ownership of the land on which the Dockyard is built to revert to the Malta Government;
- d) Funds for conversion works at the Dockyard to remain available and no delay to occur in the execution of such works;
- e) The operation of the Dockyard to cease to be a Reserved Matter.

The Attorney General was asked to draft a telegram to the Secretary of State in this sense. In the meantime the Hon. Prime Minister was to elicit information from the United Kingdom Commissioner regarding the outcome of the meeting in London of Captain Christopher Bailey with Mr. Sandys, which was to take place on Tuesday, 22nd January, 1963.

Esmond Dwyer
Prime Minister.

19.2.63

James
Secretary to Cabinet.

19.2.63