

Sitting No. 42/63.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Ambasciata d'Aragon, Valletta, on Tuesday, 27th August, 1963, at 10.30 am.

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

The Hon. Minister of Education.

The Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Power and 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 & Social Welfare
who were away from the Islands.

Minutes of Meetings Nos. 40 and 41/63 were read and confirmed.

Sec. E. 1515/61

Arbitration on Relativities (Memo. No. 165).
Mr. E. Anschemi, Administrative Secretary, was in attendance.

Reference was made

to the question of the salaries of non-industrial Government employees on which the Cabinet had already decided that for financial and economic reasons arbitration could not be allowed to proceed any further and that a special committee should be set up to examine anomalies that might exist in the salaries of non-industrials.

It was reported that the special committee had made a detailed study of the various claims and representations made by staff associations on retentivities and had made a number of recommendations for salary adjustments. Were those proposals to be implemented "in toto", the costs for the first year would be £10,000 rising gradually to £23,000 per annum.

The Cabinet agreed that the Staff Side of the Malta Government Joint Council should be invited to discuss with the Official Side the recommendations of the Special Committee. The Government would be prepared to consider suggestions made by the Staff Side provided the total cost of all the adjustments that might be proposed to be made to salaries did not exceed that of the recommendations of the Special Committee.

The above negotiations were to start on condition that the Staff Associations concerned were willing (i) to cancel immediately the "work to rule" instructions given by them to Government employees, and (ii) to waive their claim to arbitration under the 1959 Agreement.

OPM. 501/63.

Legislation for the exemption from Income Tax of persons taking up residence in Malta (Memo. No. 109A).

Mr. J. D'Amico Bonnici, Commissioner of Inland Revenue, Mr. A. Agius Ciantar, Assistant Commissioner of Inland Revenue, and Dr. V. Genco, Clerk General, were in attendance.

It was explained that the drafting of the legislation had presented certain difficulties, especially in view of the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (United Kingdom) Order, 1961, regarding United Kingdom residents. The arrangements made under that Order were terminating on the 31st December, 1964. Clarification was also sought with regard to the legal position of returned Maltese emigrants, United Kingdom residents, Commonwealth residents and aliens.

In view of the difficulties and complexities involved, it was agreed that a special class of "visitors" be created who would be

granted special personal deductions and special rates of tax with a view to making their chargeable income only nominal.

The Crown Counsel and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue were asked to prepare accordingly a draft amendments to the Income Tax Law for further consideration in Cabinet.

Confirmation of written opinion.

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

OPIN. 453/50. H.C. The Governor was advised to appoint for the year 1963 the same Election Commissioners as those for 1962 with the exception of Dr. J. Drestear (now acting Magistrate) who would be replaced by Dr. G. J. Bonello, LL.B., B.A.

OPIN. 920/50. It was agreed that a Bill entitled an Act further to amend the Civil Code, Cap. 23, be presented to the Legislative Assembly.

OPM. 368/63.

It was agreed that a Bill entitled an Act further to amend the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure, Cap. 15, be taken through its further stages in the Legislative Assembly.

OPM. 468/63.

H.E. the Governor was advised to remit licence fees in respect of an air pistol which the General General for France Ltd. applied to purchase and keep.

OPM. 149/52.

H.E. the Governor was advised to (a) advise that the public holiday to celebrate the Queen's Birthday during 1964 be observed on Saturday, 13th June, and (b) approve that, in future, the public holiday to celebrate the Queen's Birthday should be held on the same day as in London, unless it coincides with the celebration of some other feast.

OPM/PO/412/63.

H.E. the Governor was advised to approve that Mr. & Mrs. Edward Davies be removed to the United Kingdom, in terms of section 24 (2) of the Immigration (British Subjects) Ordinance 1948.

Charles
Secretary to Cabinet.
3. 9. 63

Edward Davies
Prime Minister.
3. 9. 63