

ANTARCTIC TREATY

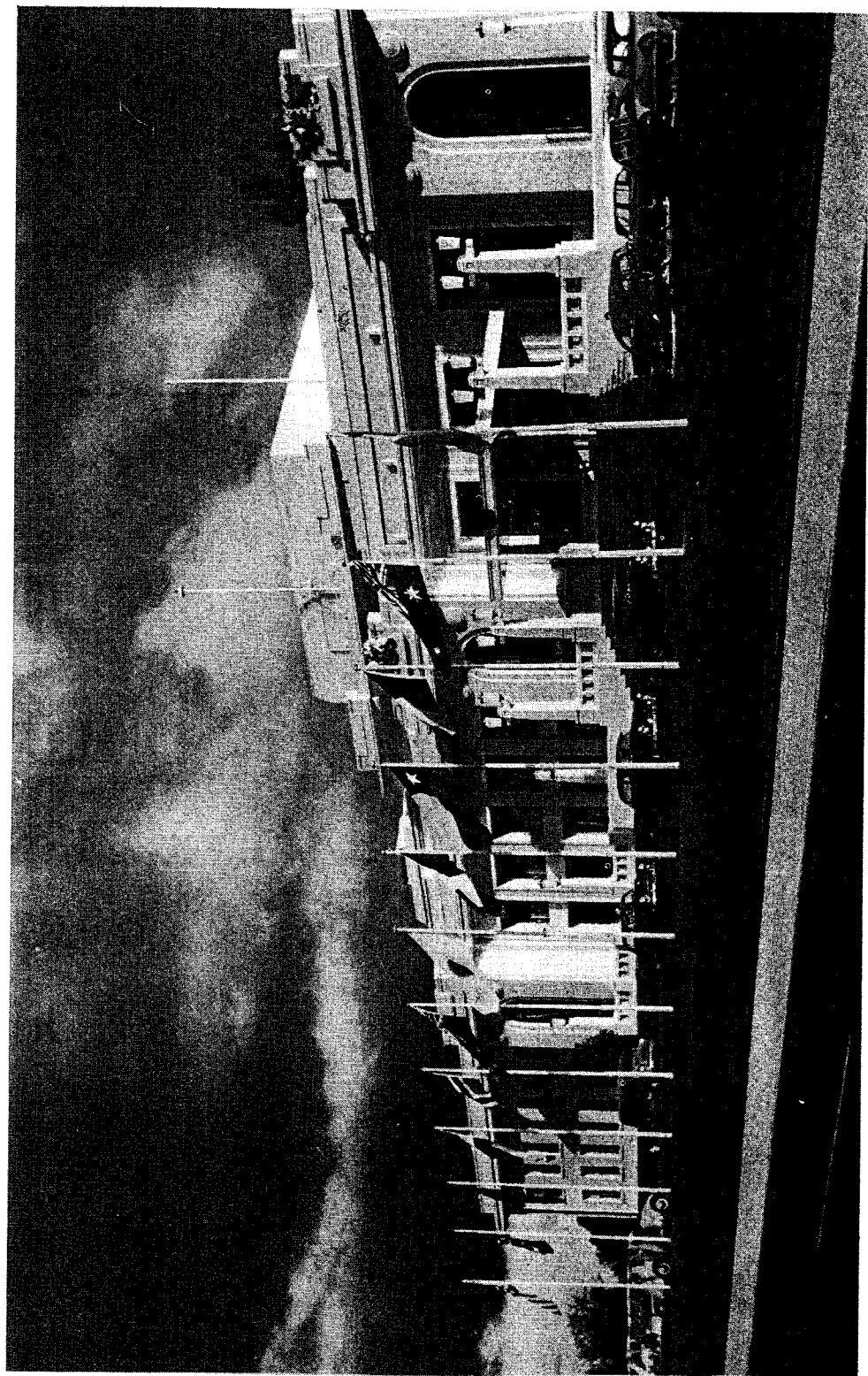
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REPORT  
OF  
FIRST CONSULTATIVE  
MEETING  
CANBERRA

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JULY 10-24, 1961





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### PRESS COMMUNIQUE

*The First Consultative Meeting of the signatory Governments to the Antarctic Treaty was held in Canberra from 10 to 24 July, 1961. The purpose of the Meeting was to formulate recommendations to Governments on measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty.*

*A total of sixty-five delegates, alternates and advisers represented the twelve signatory nations—Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.*

*The delegates met in the Chamber of the House of Representatives of the Australian Commonwealth Parliament, Canberra, under the Chairmanship of Senator the Honourable J. G. Gorton.*

*The Representatives emphasised the importance of the preservation of the Treaty area for peaceful purposes only and recalled that the signatories had agreed to a system of inspection by observers to this end as well as a ban on nuclear explosions.*

*Delegates reached unanimous agreement on sixteen recommendations to be presented to their individual Governments relating to co-operation in various aspects of scientific investigation, logistics, communications and the conservation of living resources in the Treaty area. These recommendations are set out in full in the final report adopted by the Meeting.*

*The Meeting unanimously agreed to recommend to their Governments the acceptance of an offer by Argentina to hold the next Consultative Meeting in Buenos Aires on a date to be agreed upon by Governments.*

*The proceedings have been conducted in the same spirit of international harmony which inspired the signing of the Treaty in Washington, U.S.A. on 1 December, 1959. In the opinion of all participants, the Consultative Meeting has provided a good foundation for further co-operation among the parties to the Treaty in carrying out scientific investigation in Antarctica and in the use of that area for peaceful purposes only, as provided for under the Treaty.*

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# REPORT OF THE FIRST ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

1. In accordance with the provisions of Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, representatives of the Contracting Parties (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, the French Republic, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America) met at Canberra on 10 July, 1961 for the purpose of discussing, and recommending to their Governments, measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty.

2. Senator the Honourable John Grey Gorton was appointed by the Australian Government to act as Temporary Chairman of the Meeting until the Meeting elected its Chairman.

3. The Meeting was formally opened by the Right Honourable Robert Gordon Menzies, C.H., Q.C., the Australian Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs.

4. The Meeting then adopted its Rules of Procedure, which are attached at Annex "A".

5. Senator Gorton was then elected Chairman of the Meeting and Mr. William George Alexander Landale of the Department of External Affairs was appointed Secretary.

6. Opening statements were delivered by, or on behalf of, the Leaders of all Delegations, and the Meeting then adopted the following Agenda:

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Adoption of Rules of Procedure.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Opening Statements.
5. Adoption of Agenda.
6. Exchange of information regarding plans for scientific programmes.
7. Exchange of scientific personnel.
8. Exchange and making available of scientific observations and results.
9. Relations with SCAR.
10. Relations with other international organisations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica.
11. Exchange of information concerning expeditions and stations under Article VII, paragraph 5.
12. Matters relating to logistic support.
13. Preservation and conservation of living resources.
14. Preservation of historic sites.
15. Reciprocal assistance among expeditions.
16. Arrangements for radio communications.

17. Co-operation in mail services.
18. The exchange of information and advice relating to the application of nuclear energy in the Treaty area.
19. Administrative arrangements.
20. Date and place of next Meeting.
21. **Other business.**
22. Adoption of the final report of the Meeting.

7. The Meeting considered all items on the Agenda in Plenary Session, appointing Working Groups to assist it in reaching conclusions in respect of Agenda Items 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21 and 22. These Working Groups in each case comprised representatives of all Delegations wishing to participate in them. No other Committees were established.

8. The session at which Agenda Items 1-4 inclusive were dealt with and the session at which Delegates delivered their concluding statements were held in public, but other sessions were held in private.

9. The Meeting agreed unanimously to the adoption of the following recommendations:

#### I-I

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should facilitate the continuation of the exchange of information regarding plans for scientific programmes as now carried on through the Special Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and through other member unions and committees of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and by such other means as may ensure the availability of this information.

#### I-II

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should promote the continuation of the exchange, on a basis of bilateral arrangements, of scientific personnel amongst their expeditions, and should make available such of their facilities as may be helpful to this purpose.

#### I-III

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should promote the exchange and making available of observations and results from Antarctica through the recognized international data gathering centres and by such other means as may be appropriate to ensure the exchange and free availability of this information.

#### I-IV

The Representatives agree, without prejudice to the rights of Governments to make such arrangements as they may deem necessary to further the objectives of scientific co-operation set forth in the Treaty:

- (1) that the free exchange of information and views among scientists participating in SCAR, and the recommendations concerning scientific programmes and co-operation formulated by this body constitute a most valuable contribution to international scientific co-operation in Antarctica;



- (2) that since these activities of SCAR constitute the kind of activity contemplated in Article III of the Treaty, SCAR should be encouraged to continue this advisory work which has so effectively facilitated international co-operation in scientific investigation.

## I-V

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should individually encourage the work of international organisations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica, including the specialised agencies of the United Nations, and should promote on a bilateral basis the establishment and development of co-operative working relations with these organisations.

In this connection, the Representatives take note of the letter to the Minister of State for External Affairs of Australia from the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation dated 28th June 1961, circulated at the Meeting. They welcome the offer made by the World Meteorological Organisation of co-operation in questions of meteorology and of the collection and relaying of meteorological data in the Antarctic, and recommend to their Governments that they should establish co-operation in these matters through their Representatives in that Organisation.

## I-VI

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that information furnished in accordance with Article VII paragraph 5 should be exchanged between Governments through diplomatic channels as early in each year as possible, and in any case before the end of November each year, and should include—

- (1) the names, types, numbers, descriptions and armaments of ships, aircraft and other vehicles, introduced, or to be introduced into Antarctica, and information on military equipment, if any, and its location in Antarctica;
- (2) dates of expeditions leaving for, and arriving in, Antarctica, duration of stay, itinerary to and from Antarctica and routes followed within Antarctica;
- (3) the names, location and date of opening of the Party's bases and subsidiary stations established or planned to be established in Antarctica, listed according to whether they are for summer and/or winter operations;
- (4) the names of the officers in charge of each of these bases, subsidiary stations, ships and aircraft; the number and occupations and specialisation of personnel (including any designated by other governments), who are or will be stationed at each of these bases and subsidiary stations and on board these ships and aircraft, including the number of personnel who are members of the military services together with the rank of any officers and the names and professional affiliation of personnel engaged in scientific activities;
- (5) the number and types of armaments possessed by personnel;

- (6) the programme of work, including scientific investigation, being done and planned at each of these bases and subsidiary stations and on board those ships and aircraft; and also the area or areas of operation to be covered by such programme;
- (7) principal scientific equipment;
- (8) transportation facilities and communication equipment for use within Antarctica;
- (9) facilities for rendering assistance;
- (10) notice of any expeditions to Antarctica not organised by the Party but organised, in, or proceeding from, the Party's territory.

#### I-VII

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should undertake to exchange information on logistic problems. This might include information on the design and construction of buildings and airstrips, the provision of power supplies, the performance of aircraft, ships, tractors and other vehicles, techniques of supply of coastal and inland stations, the transport and handling of cargo in Antarctic conditions, food and cold weather clothing. They further recommend that consideration should be given to the calling of a meeting or symposium of experts to consider the question of the exchange of information on experience gained in matters of the organisation of expeditions, logistic support and transport, and that proposals for the calling of such a meeting or symposium should be discussed at or before the next Treaty Consultative Meeting.

#### I-VIII

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that:

- (i) they recognize the urgent need for measures to conserve the living resources of the Treaty area and to protect them from uncontrolled destruction or interference by man;
- (ii) they encourage the interchange of information and international co-operation with a view to promoting scientific studies of Antarctic life as the essential basis for long-term conservation measures;
- (iii) they bring to the attention of all persons entering the area the need for the protection of living resources;
- (iv) they consult on the form in which it would be most suitable to establish in due course internationally agreed measures for the preservation and conservation of the living resources of the Antarctic, taking into account the discussion at and documents submitted to the First Consultative Meeting;
- (v) as an interim measure, and to the extent possible under national legislation and binding international conventions, they issue general rules of conduct on the lines of the attached statement extracted from the recommendations of SCAR as contained in the report of the Meeting held at Cambridge in August 1960;

- (vi) they exchange information on any major steps taken in accordance with this recommendation with respect to the next Antarctic season;
- (vii) this question be included in the Agenda of the next Consultative Meeting.

#### GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT FOR PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF LIVING RESOURCES IN ANTARCTICA.

1. Animals and plants indigenous to Antarctica shall not be unnecessarily disturbed and shall not be destroyed or injured. Exceptions shall be permitted on a strictly controlled scale which will not deplete the local stock and only for the following purposes:

- (a) collections and studies for scientific purposes;
- (b) food (e.g. meat, eggs) for men and dogs;
- (c) living specimens for zoological gardens;
- (d) taking a strictly limited number of specimens, especially natural casualties, for private purposes.

Exceptions (c) and (d) shall not apply for the time being to fur seals.

2. Alien forms of flora and fauna should not be deliberately introduced except when rigidly controlled having regard to their chances of survival, capacity of reproduction and utilization by man.

3. The following activities should be regulated with a view to preventing serious harm to wildlife:

- (a) allowing dogs to run free,
- (b) flying helicopters or other aircraft in a manner which would unnecessarily disturb bird and seal colonies, or landing near (e.g. within 200 yards) such colonies,
- (c) driving vehicles unnecessarily close to breeding colonies of birds and seals,
- (d) use of explosive or discharge of firearms close to breeding colonies of birds and seals,
- (e) disturbance of bird and seal colonies by persistent attention from people on foot,
- (f) the discharge of oil from ships in a manner harmful to animals and plants indigenous to Antarctica.

#### I-IX

With due regard to Article IV of the Treaty, the Representatives recommend that—

- (1) Governments interested in any tombs, buildings or objects of historic interest should consult together whenever appropriate on their restoration or preservation;
- (2) appropriate reports on the condition of such tombs, buildings or objects of historic interest as well as any restoration which might have been effected should be exchanged among Governments;
- (3) Governments adopt all adequate measures to protect such tombs, buildings or objects of historic interest, from damage and destruction.

#### I-X

The Representatives reaffirm the traditional Antarctic principle that expeditions render all assistance feasible in the event of an emergency request for help and recommend to their Governments that consideration

should be given to arranging consultations among them, and to the matter being discussed at the appropriate time at any meeting of experts qualified to discuss it.

#### I-XI

The Representatives recommend to their Governments:

- (1) that they convene as soon as practicable a meeting of specialists in Antarctic radio communications;
- (2) that this meeting of specialists should discuss the telecommunications facilities needed for scientific, technical and other purposes in the Treaty area, and their use;
- (3) that the meeting should take into consideration—
  - (a) the requirements of governments;
  - (b) the viewpoint of the United Nations Specialised Agencies and other International organisations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctic communications;
  - (c) the relevant recommendations of the communications working group of SCAR;
  - (d) the experience of the various Antarctic expeditions;
- (4) that the meeting should examine and make recommendations regarding such matters as—
  - (i) the routing required to meet demands of users most effectively;
  - (ii) the modes of transmission;
  - (iii) the power requirements for effective reception;
  - (iv) the rationalisation of schedules and the evaluation of priorities for traffic in normal and post blackout conditions;
  - (v) new developments in the field of communications relevant to Antarctic requirements;
  - (vi) emergency radio procedures;
  - (vii) such other matters of an engineering or traffic nature as may be appropriate;
- (5) that the Governments should consult regarding the date, place and definitive agenda of the meeting, and as to which specialised agencies and other international organisations referred to in paragraph 3 (b) should be informed of the meeting and be invited to send observers.

#### I-XII

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they should:—

1. promote co-operation among expeditions in the Treaty area in the collection and distribution of mail for expedition members;
2. advise each other of opportunities for forwarding mail to and from stations in the Treaty area;

3. consult together with a view to reaching agreement on further practical measures for improving postal communications in the Treaty area.

#### I-XIII

Taking into consideration the provisions established in Article V of the Antarctic Treaty, the Representatives recommend to their Governments that they exchange by all means deemed advisable information on the application of nuclear equipment and techniques in the Treaty area.

#### I-XIV

Pending any further recommendation which may be adopted at a future Meeting concerning the procedures to be followed in connection with the Consultative Meetings provided for in Article IX of the Treaty, the Representatives recommend to their Governments that as an interim measure:

- (1) the Government of the host country of the present Meeting shall send to each of the participating Governments a certified copy of the Final Report containing the authentic texts of all documents agreed and adopted by the Meeting. It shall also send to the other participating Governments any other documents relative to the Meeting and comply with any additional request, or answer any questions on the subject, and supply any information which the participating Governments may subsequently request regarding the First Consultative Meeting or recommendations of that Meeting;
- (2) the Government of the country where the next Meeting is to be held shall consult the other Governments entitled to participate in the Consultative Meetings in regard to the provisional agenda and the choice of the opening date of the Meeting;
- (3) the Governments shall consult through diplomatic channels as they deem necessary on matters of common interest relating to the Treaty area including matters which may be proposed for consideration at future Consultative Meetings;
- (4) notifications of approval by Governments of recommendations adopted at Consultative Meetings shall be communicated through diplomatic channels to all other such Governments entitled to participate in the Consultative Meetings;
- (5) the depositary Government designated in the Antarctic Treaty shall inform all signatory and acceding states when any recommendation has been approved in accordance with Article IX (4) of the Treaty by all the Contracting Parties whose representatives were entitled to participate in the Meeting held to consider that recommendation.

#### I-XV

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that they accept the offer by the Delegation of Argentina of the city of Buenos Aires as the seat of the Second Consultative Meeting under Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, to be held on a date mutually decided upon the participating Governments.

## I-XVI

The Representatives recommend to their Governments that reports, studies and all other documentation, including any specific proposal or draft recommendation, which any participating Government may desire to place before the next Consultative Meeting, shall be forwarded through diplomatic channels so as to reach all Governments entitled to participate in that Consultative Meeting, at least one month prior to the Meeting, except in circumstances of urgency.

10. In respect of Recommendation I-IX, the French Delegation stated that the French Government would wish to give the word "object" a fairly broad significance.

11. In respect of Recommendation I-XII, the United Kingdom Delegation stated that it considered that Governments should, in consulting together with a view to reaching agreement on further practical measures for improving postal communications in the Treaty area, give consideration to the following measures:

- (a) accept for transmission to the Antarctic by all available means of transport correspondence or mails, other than philatelic mail, addressed to Antarctic stations occupied by other participating countries;
- (b) invite the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union to advise other postal administrations to send correspondence addressed to an Antarctic station to the postal administration of the country occupying the station for onward transmission;
- (c) recognize as duly prepaid correspondence originating in an Antarctic station occupied by another participating country and prepaid in postage stamps issued by that country;
- (d) accept such prepaid correspondence for transmission from the Antarctic by all available means of transport to the most convenient office of exchange in a participating country;
- (e) reforward the correspondence from the office of exchange to its destination in accordance with the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention, particularly those concerning transit payments;
- (f) put their mail services, subject to prepayment in the normal way, at the disposal of the personnel of any Antarctic station occupied by another participating country which is for any reason prevented from using the stamps of that country for the prepayment of its correspondence.

12. In respect of Recommendation I-XIII, the Chilean Delegation stated that it understood that the declaration in no way implied a change in Article V of the Antarctic Treaty, and the French Delegation stated that it considered that the information exchanged should also be brought to the notice of the International Atomic Energy Agency when Governments considered this was appropriate.

13. In respect of Recommendation I-XIV, the New Zealand Delegation expressed the hope that any consultation pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 would take place in a capital where New Zealand had diplomatic representation.

14. On 24 July, 1961, the Final Report of the Meeting was adopted unanimously and concluding statements were delivered by or on behalf of the Leaders of all Delegations. The Meeting was then closed.

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## RULES OF PROCEDURE

The following Rules of Procedure were adopted on 10 July 1961:

1. The meetings held pursuant to Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty shall be known as Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings.

### Representation

2. Each participating government shall be represented by a delegation composed of a Representative and such Alternative Representatives, Advisers and other persons as each state may deem necessary. Their names shall be communicated to the host government prior to the opening of the Meeting.

3. The order of precedence of the delegations shall be in accordance with the alphabet in the language of the host government.

### Officers

4. A representative of the host government shall be the Temporary Chairman of the Meeting and shall preside until the Meeting elects a Chairman.

5. At its inaugural session, a Chairman shall be elected. The other representatives shall serve as Vice-Chairman of the Meeting in order of precedence. The Chairman normally shall preside at all plenary sessions. If he is absent from any session or part thereof, the Vice-Chairmen, rotating on the basis of the order of precedence as established by Rule 3, shall preside during each such session.

### Secretariat

6. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Meeting on the proposal of the Chairman. The Secretary shall be responsible for providing secretarial services, and shall carry out such other tasks as the Meeting may require or direct.

### Sessions

7. The opening plenary session shall be held in public; other sessions shall be held in private, unless the Meeting shall determine otherwise.

### Committees and Working Groups

8. The Meeting, to facilitate its work, may establish such committees as it may deem necessary for the performance of its functions, defining their terms of reference.

9. The committees shall operate under the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting, except where they are inapplicable.

10. Working groups may be established by the Meeting or its committees.

### Conduct of Business

11. A quorum shall be constituted by two-thirds of the representatives participating in the Meeting.

12. The Chairman shall exercise the powers of his office in accordance with customary practice. He shall see to the observance of the rules of procedure and the maintenance of proper order. The Chairman, in the exercise of his functions, remains under the authority of the Meeting.

13. No representative may address the Meeting without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairman. The Chairman shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairman may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

14. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order and the point of order shall be decided immediately by the Chairman in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairman. The appeal shall be put to a vote immediately, and the Chairman's ruling shall stand unless over-ruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative rising to a point of order shall not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

15. The Meeting may limit the time to be allotted to each speaker, and the number of times he may speak on any subject. When debate is thus limited and a representative has spoken his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him to order without delay.



16. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.

17. A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. If the Meeting is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the closure of the debate. The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule. (This rule shall not apply to debate in committees.)

18. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension or the adjournment of the Meeting. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairman may limit the time to be allowed to the speaker moving the suspension or adjournment of the Meeting.

19. Subject to rule 14, the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the Meeting:—

- (a) to suspend the Meeting;
- (b) to adjourn the Meeting;
- (c) to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- (d) for the closure of the debate on the item under discussion.

20. Decisions of the Meeting on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the representatives participating in the Meeting, each of whom shall have one vote.

#### **Languages**

21. English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages of the Meeting.

22. Any representative may speak in a language other than the official languages. However, in such cases he shall provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.

#### **Recommendations and Final Report**

23. The recommendations formulated by the Meeting shall be approved by all of the representatives present and shall be set forth in the final report.

24. The final report shall also contain a brief account of the proceedings of the Meeting. It will be approved by a majority of the representatives present and shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Meeting to all governments entitled to participate in the Meeting, for their consideration.

#### **Amendments**

25. These Rules of Procedure may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the representatives participating at the Meeting. This rule shall not apply to Rule 23, amendment of which shall require the approval of all the representatives present at the Meeting.

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**REPORT OF THE FIRST ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE  
MEETING—ADDENDUM**

The Meeting unanimously adopted the following resolution:—

At the close of the First Antarctic Consultative Meeting, held in Canberra in accordance with Article IX of the Antarctic Treaty, the Representatives of the other participating Governments congratulate the Australian Government on the splendid organisation of the Meeting, and express their most sincere thanks for the generous hospitality accorded them.

The Representatives would like to extend congratulations and gratitude also to the Chairman of the Meeting, Senator the Honourable J. G. Gorton, for the skill and capability he displayed in the conduct of the discussions, thereby contributing greatly to the success of the Meeting, to the Secretary, Mr. W. G. A. Landale, and to all the Secretariat staff for their tireless and effective efforts.

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**ADDRESS OF WELCOME ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE FIRST ANTARCTIC CONSULTATIVE MEETING BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN AUSTRALIA, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE R. G. MENZIES, C.H., Q.C., M.P., 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies and Delegates—It is a very great pleasure for me to be able to welcome you here and to declare the Conference open. As a matter of fact, I thought this morning, as I peered through the fog, that we had gone to some trouble to give you a proper Antarctic welcome. The atmosphere seems precisely right for it this morning. But, as you know, we are delighted, and indeed honoured, that you should have come here for the first Conference under the Treaty.

I have one personal regret, and that is that my former colleague, now Lord Casey, who played a most active part in the negotiation of this Treaty, is not here—for the very simple reason that he has given up being in this Parliament or in my Government. However, I think I am right in saying, Sir, that he maintains his interest, because at about this very time he is due to be in the Soviet Union having a look at the Polar Institute at Leningrad.

We, of course, are a country very close to the Antarctic. We have, over a number of years, had great interests in it. We have had the pleasure of being associated with some very notable work of exploration in that part of the world, and I think that you would wish me to refer to the most pleasant fact that we have here to-day Lady Mawson, the widow of a man whose name is famous in all circles in which Antarctic research is regarded as of importance.

So, we have not only a sense of neighbourhood about the Antarctic; we also have, over many years, a deep and practical interest in it. To-day there are twelve nations represented here—four of them what we call “nuclear powers”. This, I think, is tremendously significant, because the Treaty itself—and the whole spirit in which it was conceived—have concentrated round three major principles which we would do well to bear in mind. The first of these is that this region is not to be regarded as a region in which preparations for war or conflict can be engaged in. It would not, perhaps, be grammatically accurate to say that it is demilitarized, because it has never been militarized; but it is to be non-militarized, and this is of tremendous importance because if, in this great area of the world, and with the modern development of weapons of destruction, you could have a conflict, or preparation for conflict, a new horror would be added to the world.

Consequently, all the nations concerned have agreed that this is not a place of war, but that this is a place of scientific research, of study, of enlarging the boundaries of knowledge, of friendly co-operation.

The second thing about it is the emphasis that it places upon co-operation. I can remember—you all can—not so long ago when we first heard about the International Geophysical Year, and many of us—non-scientific people like me—had only the vaguest idea of what that meant. It turned out to be a most remarkable demonstration of co-operation, with each country helping the other, with the pooling of the results, with the advantages that all felt could be secured from the activities of each. It was a notable example of international scientific co-operation. I need hardly say now that it seems a contradiction in terms that any scientific investigation should be regarded as purely national. In the whole nature of science it is an international matter. Knowledge must find its way round the world into scientific minds and non-scientific minds of all kinds, and, here in the Antarctic, we are going to have, more and more as a result of this association between us, co-operation in scientific research and the establishing of the result for the benefit of mankind all over the world.

The third thing is that under the Treaty we have agreed to set aside the argument about territorial claims. Nobody abandons his own. We have made territorial claims in the Antarctic—quite expansive ones. I dare say that there are nations represented here to-day who would not agree with some of our claims. There is all this possibility of arguments. There are some nations who do not think that anybody has a territorial claim at all and, by a singular stroke of wisdom I think, when this Treaty was being negotiated it was agreed not to abandon claims but to put on one side the argument

about them. I think that was very sensible. We said to each other, "Look, there are more important things than arguing about our rights. The most important thing is to get on with the work in co-operation with each other, and if, some day, somebody wants to argue about territorial rights, that will be time enough for it, but we will have established in the meantime that when twelve nations concentrate their best resources of intellectual power and of bold and exploratory spirit in an area like the Antarctic enormous things may result for the world as a whole."

Sir, having all those things in mind I repeat that I offer a very warm welcome to all the delegates. I declare the Conference open, and I am confident that the work you do will be brought to a complete success.

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**STATEMENT BY SENATOR THE HONOURABLE J. G. GORTON,  
LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION UPON HIS  
ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING**

I should like to express my gratitude to the proposer and the seconder of the motion that I be appointed Chairman and to all the other delegations here for the honour which they have done me. I realize that I have been appointed Chairman largely as leader of the Australian delegation and because you are meeting in this country. I now ask the Deputy Leader of the Australian delegation, Mr. Harry, to take the seat of the Representative of Australia.

Gentlemen, the Antarctic Treaty entered into force from 23rd June, and this Meeting has been convened by the Australian Government pursuant to the provisions contained in Article IX of the Treaty. I take this opportunity of recalling these provisions. They are—

“Representatives of the Contracting Parties named in the preamble to the present Treaty shall meet at the City of Canberra within two months after the date of entry into force of the Treaty, and thereafter at suitable intervals and places, for the purpose of exchanging information, consulting together on matters of common interest pertaining to Antarctica, and formulating and considering, and recommending to their Governments, measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty” . . .

It is in pursuing that resolution that this meeting is being held.

We have, in pursuance of that objective, extended invitations on 23rd June, for the Governments of Argentina, Belgium, Chile, the French Republic, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, to be represented at this the First Consultative Meeting in Canberra within the required period.

General agreement was reached that the Conference should be held between the dates of 10th and 24th July. We have made provision for plenary sessions to continue, if necessary, until the afternoon of 24th July. This seemed to be a reasonable requirement having regard to the number of items inscribed on the agenda. Nevertheless, we hope—and I as Chairman would hope—that possibly the business of the meeting might be concluded before that date.

I am now, Sir, entirely in the hands of this Meeting, but may I, as Chairman, suggest that the hours of plenary session be agreed upon by delegates. Our proposal is that Meetings be held from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., with fifteen minute recesses at 11.15 in the morning and 3.45 in the afternoon, and that these meetings be held from Monday to Friday, except as might otherwise be decided. With the approval of this meeting, I propose that this inaugural public session should extend to 1 p.m. to-day, following which we shall resume in private at 2.30 p.m. to consider the business of this Consultative Meeting.

I now call upon the Honourable Representative of Argentina.

(The Chairman subsequently nominated Mr. W. G. A. Landale as Secretary of the Meeting and this nomination was confirmed by the Meeting.)

**SPEECH BY DR. R. E. GUYER, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Delegates,

On behalf of the Argentine Delegation I should like, first and foremost, to express my appreciation of the generous hospitality which the Australian Government has extended to us on this occasion of the First Consultative Meeting on the Antarctic Treaty.

The Antarctic Treaty, incidentally, brings out clearly the fact that we are neighbours at the South Pole. There are many affinities between Argentina and Australia. Both countries are characterized by their agricultural and pastoral resources, by the evolution of their industrial development, by their population, their climate, and their geographical situation in the Southern Hemisphere.

For years men from all parts of the world have been travelling to that region of eternal ice, inspired by a variety of motives, but the hostile environment has always stood as an insurmountable obstacle in the way of utilization of those vast areas for the benefit of mankind. Only a few countries—and Argentina, which since 1904, at the cost of great sacrifice, has carried out there an uninterrupted and continuous scientific programme, is one of them—had given any inkling of the importance which the Antarctic would in time acquire in the march of human progress. With modern scientific and technical advances, however, intense activity is being carried out by the countries gathered here and this has made it more and more vitally necessary to reach an understanding permitting beneficial and widespread co-operation at the international level in an area that is ceasing to be shrouded in mystery, and in an age when man is overcoming one by one the physical obstacles which until recently have stood in the way of his conquest of the earth.

Much negotiation has gone into the formulation of this Treaty, but it has been rewarding. From our point of view four objectives: *inter alia*, have been attained to which we assign the greatest importance: the safeguarding of our rights, the prohibition of nuclear explosions, peaceful utilization and international scientific co-operation.

Because of its geological continuity, its geographical proximity, and the efforts exerted there over many years, the Argentine Antarctic is a part of our national territory. The specific clauses of the Treaty which safeguard our rights will enable us, in reaffirming them, to contribute in a positive manner to the common task we have all undertaken, namely, to carry out with maximum efficiency the activities connected with scientific research.

As one of the countries adjacent to Antarctica we attended the Washington Conference on Antarctica in 1959 with one overriding concern. The possibility of this territory being used as a testing ground for nuclear explosions implied a serious threat to the health of our people. The removal of this threat was imperative, and with the agreement on the prohibition of nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material the conclusion of the Treaty became feasible. The implementation of the relevant Article will give back to the inhabitants of the areas adjacent to Antarctica the peace of mind which would otherwise have been perpetually disturbed.

The peaceful use of Antarctica will enable it to be kept isolated from international tensions, present and future, should man be unable to find a suitable formula by which he can live in peace in a world created by Providence for living in peace and not at war.

One of the main aims of the Treaty and the basic aim of this First Consultative Meeting is, primarily, international scientific co-operation and its organization.

The world-wide interchange of scientific knowledge today is a necessity imposed by progress. Widespread acquaintance with the results of research will without doubt contribute to improving and speeding up the development of science. For the same reason the knowledge which this research brings to light should be interchanged in an informative, reliable and effective manner.

The provisions of the Treaty constitute a guarantee in this respect and indicate to us the paths we must follow. The proposed agenda for this First Consultative Meeting takes these aspects of international scientific co-operation into consideration, and the conclusions we reach in the course of our deliberations will be the structural base for the common task in which we are engaged.

At the same time, we shall have to consider certain subjects of vital importance which, although they do not refer to science as such, make scientific activity possible; for example, logistic support. In this field, too, close co-operation is indispensable, for any technical error could result in irreparable loss of human life.

Cordiality and harmony have been outstanding characteristics of scientific work in Antarctica. These same characteristics, despite differences in views, were again evident in the lengthy diplomatic negotiations which culminated in the Antarctic Treaty of 1959 and continued in evidence during the interim group meetings held subsequently in Washington.

If this spirit continues to pervade our discussions, we believe that in addition to the specific gains we obtain we shall set an example for other negotiations, other spheres and other aims, and demonstrate that understanding is possible in international problems, however difficult, so long as they are approached with a sincere will to serve the higher interests of mankind.

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**SPEECH BY MR. R. L. HARRY, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY 1961**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen: There has been a striking similarity in the eleven speeches we have heard this morning. This, I think, bodes well for the success of this, the first regular consultative meeting under the Antarctic Treaty. If the opening statement of the Australian delegation repeats some of the points already made, this will be still further evidence of the fundamental identity of view in this group of twelve Antarctic powers.

Our Governments have, after all, a common interest in Antarctic exploration and research. Our explorers have faced the some cold hazards and our scientists the same frigid obstacles.

We are now embarking on a new voyage of exploration, a venture into the uncharted territory of international co-operation. I am sure there will be the same camaraderie in this expedition as in the Antarctic itself. If crevasses of procedure or substance open up in our path, we shall be able to bridge and surmount them, or, if we do slither deeply in, to crawl out without structural damage.

The simple pursuit of co-operation may not always appear to have any intrinsic practical value, but neither could a monetary price be put on the attainment of the South Pole.

The Australian delegation thanks all those who have paid compliments to our capital city. We certainly hope that Canberra will prove a convenient base for this venture and that our long-standing interest in and experience in Antarctic affairs will contribute to a fruitful session. In the absence of precedents our current deliberations must necessarily be highly exploratory. Nevertheless, the Australian delegation is confident that, building on the good work of the interim consultative group in Washington, practical, if modest, measures of real value will emerge from the recommendations which this meeting will make to Governments.

I should like to take this opportunity of reiterating the determination of the Australian Government to give full force and effect to the provisions of the Treaty. When the Australian Parliament, which has kindly made available this meeting place, enacted legislation to enable effect to be given to the Treaty, support in both Houses was unanimous. It is one of the principal objects of the Treaty that Antarctica shall be reserved for peaceful purposes only. We, for our part, are ready to carry out such activities as may be required to ensure the fulfilment of this purpose, and to facilitate the exercise of rights of inspection under the Treaty. We have already made provision for the exchange of information about plans for scientific programmes, scientific observations and results, and the exchange of scientific personnel. We have already conducted an exchange of information relating to expeditions and stations in Antarctica. Australia will welcome further opportunities for collaborating with other nations in Antarctic investigation and research, and the aim of my delegation during the deliberations of this consultative meeting will be to obtain results of mutual benefit to all signatories of the Antarctic Treaty.

Australia, Mr. Chairman, is proud of its record of exploration and scientific activity in Antarctica. During the nineteenth century, Australian sealers and whalers were active in Antarctic waters. Australians were associated with the later expeditions of Scott and Shackleton, and with Sir Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic expeditions of 1911-14 and the British Australian-New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition of 1929-31. Mention has already been made of the presence of Lady Mawson in the audience today and it may be of interest to honorable representatives that on the recommendation of the Antarctic Names Committee of Australia it has been decided that a hitherto unnamed portion of the MacRobertson Land coast, from the eastern boundary of Kemp Land to Murray Monolith, 80 miles east of Mawson Station, should be named "Mawson Coast". Pioneers in Antarctic aviation included Australian Sir Hubert Wilkins and Mr. John Rynill, who was unfortunately not able to accept our invitation to come to Canberra for this meeting. Since 1947, Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions have maintained five mainland and island bases for research and exploration and two unmanned stations for the automatic transmission of meteorological data. Australian scientists have made a significant contribution, we feel, to the programmes of the International Geophysical Year and the subsequent period



of co-operation organised by the Special Committee on Antarctic Research. We are very conscious of the proximity of the Antarctic continent to the southern coasts of Australia, and of the importance of scientific research in Antarctica. We are particularly interested in facilitating the collection of meteorological data from Antarctica, and view with satisfaction the establishment in Melbourne of the International Antarctic Analysis Centre which is staffed by a team of international meteorologists. We are equally interested in, and will make proposals for, the co-ordination of communications so essential for meteorological and other research and practical work.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation believes that the Antarctic Treaty consultative meetings will assist us all by facilitating a full and free exchange of information, thus increasing our knowledge of the most remote and least explored of all the continents.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. WILLY STEVENS, LEADER  
OF THE BELGIAN DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION  
OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY 1961**

The Belgian Delegation is very happy to be taking part in this First Consultative Meeting on Antarctica, and we should like, before going any further, to express our gratitude to the Australian Government for its traditional hospitality. Australia is a country eminently suitable for international conferences. We still have pleasant memories of Broadbeach, the setting for the ECAFE Conference of March 1959. And now, for a change of site, we are assembled in Canberra where, even in winter, nature and climate combine for the comfort of the Delegations. We are also well aware of the warm-hearted friendliness and hospitality of the Australian people, and of the praiseworthy and successful efforts made by the Australian Government in regard to the physical organization of international meetings. Australia's interest in Antarctica and its geographical position in the Southern Hemisphere justify the choice of Canberra for this first Meeting.

Today is an important and historic date. To the extent that it fulfils its promises, the First Antarctic Conference will mark a stage in the history of international relations and perhaps in the history of mankind. This Canberra Meeting, the outcome of the successful conclusion of the Washington Treaty, is making an auspicious start. We are gathered here, not to settle political problems, nor to put an end to disputes, but to consult together, to unite for disinterested ends, and to seek a basis for all-round co-operation in regard to the only continent as yet practically unexplored. We are here in the interests of scientific advancement and the progress of mankind. The entry into force of the Washington Treaty, introducing entirely new principles in many spheres of activity, gives us cause for deep satisfaction, as does the present Meeting which constitutes the first landmark on the way towards the practical application of the Treaty. If we succeed in making goodwill prevail and in turning Antarctica into an instrument of peace and harmony, we shall have proved the possibility of reaching agreement and co-operation in other and more delicate situations also. The significance of this Canberra Meeting is, therefore, far-reaching. If we succeed in putting the principles embodied in the Washington Treaty into practice, we shall have made history.

Belgium is well aware that it has a part to play here. It has no territorial ambitions. The Belgians are an industrious people, and their prosperity is proof of their courage and energy. Belgium has at all times, and in various fields of activity, lent its assistance in formulating principles for international co-operation. We can hardly be suspected of ulterior motives in regard to Antarctica. Our activities in this region have been concerned only with scientific research. As you are perhaps aware, the first men to spend a winter within the Antarctic Circle were Belgians. The Baron de Gerlache Expedition of 1898 was the first to spend fifteen months on the Antarctic ice, and the scientific findings of this expedition, published at intervals over a number of years, constituted the first scientific contribution to Antarctic studies. The success of the various recent Belgian expeditions at Roi Baudouin Base is evidence of the value of Belgian collaboration in the scientific exploration of Antarctica. This collaboration may be counted upon to the limit of our resources; and if my country can make its voice heard at this present Meeting, it will be the voice of reason, of mutual understanding, of reassurance and of loyal and generous co-operation.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY SENOR MARCIAL MORA, LEADER  
OF THE CHILEAN DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION  
OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Heads of Delegations, Ladies and Gentlemen:

When the Washington conference ended in December 1959 with the signing of the Antarctic Treaty, it was my duty to present on behalf of the Government of my country a statement welcoming the unanimous agreement which had been reached, and stating that Chile in signing a Treaty of such importance was fully confident that all the obligations therein undertaken for collaboration, reciprocity, peace, mutual respect for each others' rights, general progress and welfare, would be met so that none of the noble aspirations, so diligently pursued, be frustrated.

Now that the twelve Antarctic nations after dispassionate study and thoughtful deliberation by their constitutional bodies, have ratified the Antarctic Treaty, we should acknowledge its entry into force by reaffirming the principles which inspired it and by creating at this Meeting the immutable precedent that nothing or no one may impair or distort it in the letter or the spirit. Chile comes to this meeting prompted by the same eagerness which led her in her search for a happier future for mankind, to participate in the drafting, signing and ratification of the Treaty.

The purpose of the Consultative Meetings referred to in Article IX is to formulate and recommend to the Governments of the Contracting Parties measures for the proper application of the Treaty, the realization of its objectives, and the furtherance of the benefits it offers. We have, therefore, a historic obligation to respond worthily to the responsibility placed upon us.

It is the opinion of the Chilean Government that in this First Consultative Meeting the best service we can render for the safeguarding of the Treaty, its prestige on the international scene and the hopes centred upon it, is to proceed cautiously in our eagerness to make it operative and fruitful, and to recommend only such measures as, after lengthy study of the various projects, convince us of their obvious usefulness and immediacy. If we are to avoid unproductive misunderstanding and harmful friction, we must proceed with caution in the practical application of the Treaty.

In order to adopt measures for the best and most profitable application of the Treaty, we shall have to rely on the experience which will accumulate gradually in the intervals between these Consultative Meetings. Let us not forget that the Treaty came into force a mere seventeen days ago. In Antarctica, it may be more advisable to wait for problems to arise and then seek the most reasonable means of solving them, than to hasten to propose theoretical solutions for presumptive events or situations.

On the other hand, even in the face of the natural and laudable desire to prevent difficulties, in no case must we overstep the provisions of the Treaty.

Consequently, at this First Consultative Meeting, we should begin by avoiding all matters on which we are divided for it is essential to the objectives of the Treaty that close co-operation be established among us and that an atmosphere of the utmost harmony should prevail; in other words, we should renounce any attempt to achieve perfection if the measure proposed does not muster unanimous consent. It is better to be content with a modest achievement than to seek spectacular solutions which might later be rejected by our Governments.

The Antarctic Treaty is an event of too recent birth to be stamped with the hallmark of perfection from the outset. Its application may have far-reaching and beneficial repercussions so long as we proceed with prudence, in order to do it safely.

For example, we must avoid the formation of bodies which could create the impression that we are establishing a supra-national administration for Antarctica. This would not be in keeping either with the letter or with the spirit of the Treaty.

Chile, the country situated geographically closest to the Antarctica, joins in the common effort to make the White Continent a place of peace which may serve as an example to the rest of the world and as the laboratory in which scientists may work for the benefit of mankind and contribute to a happier and more prosperous future.

In following this line of conduct, my Government is inspired by sincere goodwill and faith in the future of the Antarctic Treaty and is convinced that its contribution to these efforts in no wise diminishes its legitimate and historic rights in respect of the Antarctic territory over which it exercises jurisdiction.

In Washington, our Delegation agreed with pleasure to the choice of this beautiful capital city of Canberra as the site for the present Meeting, and in doing so it publicly acknowledged Australia's labours in Antarctica and her spirit of international collaboration. On behalf of my Delegation I wish to express my appreciation of the kindness which has been shown to us since our arrival in Australia, and to voice my earnest hope that the present Meeting will be entirely successful.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY M. PHILIPPE MONOD, LEADER OF  
THE FRENCH DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF  
THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman,

In this troubled world of ours, public opinion is always alive to differences among nations, and it is often more given to fear than to rejoicing.

Perhaps it is not sufficiently realised that, if there is cause for alarm, there is also cause for hope. Is not the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty proof that, despite the vicissitudes of its evolution, and perhaps even because of them, the modern world is capable of finding the way towards a better understanding among nations and governments, as a result of the progress in scientific research now at the disposal of the international community?

This, at any rate, is the significance for the French Government of the Meeting which opens to-day, and this is also the wish it expresses for the outcome of the work of the Meeting. The achievement of the aims set forth in the preamble to the Treaty depends on the will of the Contracting Parties. In regard to certain items, rapid progress can be achieved here and now, and it is on these specific items that this First Meeting should concentrate. The future is bound to depend on the initial impetus given, and hence it is important that this impetus should be, in every respect, in keeping with the common ideal so clearly set forth in the Treaty. The French Delegation will do its utmost to ensure that this is so.

Let us hope that we shall at once succeed in establishing a basis for friendly and fruitful co-operation in the scientific and technological fields. If, as I firmly believe, we can achieve this, we shall have served the cause, not only of human progress, but also of better international relations.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I should like to congratulate you on your unanimous election and to say that nothing could be more fitting than the choice of Canberra for this first Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting. At the same time, may I, on behalf of the French Government and its Delegation, thank the Australian Government for its generous hospitality.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. SABURO OHTA, LEADER OF  
THE JAPANESE DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF  
THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen—

May I take this opportunity to extend, on behalf of the members of the Japanese Delegation and myself, congratulations to you, the Hon. J. G. Gorton, on your election as Chairman of this Meeting. I am sure that, with your wisdom and impartiality and wide experience, this meeting will be conducted in a harmonious and fruitful manner.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Government of Australia and all those concerned who have made all the arrangements in preparation for the First Consultative Meeting, and particularly for the hospitality extended to us. The high regard in which Australia's efforts in Antarctica and her contribution towards the successful conclusion of the Antarctic Treaty are held was shown by the unanimous choice of Canberra as the site for the first Meeting as marked in the text of the Treaty.

I cannot pass without mentioning the painstaking efforts of all the members of the Interim Meeting of Representatives of Antarctic Treaty Signatories in Washington, which did a great deal to establish the basis on which the present Meeting is to carry out its tasks.

Sir, I would like to speak a few words about the policies and fundamental thinking of my Government on the subject of this Meeting.

As many distinguished delegates here may well be aware, Japan's interest in the Antarctica area dates back to the turn of the century, when a Japanese expedition under Lt. Shirase explored the Ross Sea and areas adjacent to it as far South as 80 degrees of latitude. Since 1934, our fleets have been actively engaged in whaling operations there, except for the war years.

More recently, we have despatched scientific expeditions to Antarctica every year since 1956, when the scientific programme was instituted under the International Geophysical Year. We have already sent five wintering parties, the fifth one being now in Antarctica, to carry out scientific research programmes in co-operation with other nations.

Our past experiences in this field have convinced the people and the Government of Japan of the importance and benefit of co-operation among nations in the field of scientific research for peaceful purposes. We participated in the framing of the Treaty, having had the above conviction in mind. We were satisfied with the result that the principles of peaceful use of Antarctica and international co-operation on the basis of freedom of scientific investigation were firmly established and embodied in the provisions of the Treaty adopted in 1959.

Under the Treaty, all twelve nations agree that Antarctica shall be used only for peaceful purposes. To ensure this solemn undertaking, it is provided that the parties to the Treaty have the right to send observers anywhere in Antarctica at any time to see that this undertaking is not being violated. We venture to hope that it will provide a useful, valuable and practical experience in other fields of international affairs.

We have gathered here to discuss a number of questions related to practical co-operation in the Antarctic area in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty. The framework of practical measures to be formulated at this Meeting will determine the future of the Treaty.

I can assure you, Mr. Chairman and distinguished fellow delegates, that my delegation will participate in the discussion throughout this Meeting with a very flexible and open-minded attitude for the implementation and promotion of the purposes and principles of the Treaty and to make the Antarctic Treaty a milestone on the way to agreement on other international questions.

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. S. C. JOHNSTON, LEADER OF  
THE NEW ZEALAND DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING  
SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

May I congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to this important office. I think it most appropriate that you should have been elected firstly for your personal qualifications and also in view of the important part that your country has played in the field of Antarctic exploration, and indeed in the conclusion of the Antarctic Treaty under which we are meeting now. For these reasons I think it appropriate also that we should be meeting in Canberra for this First Consultative Meeting, and I should like to express to you, Sir, our sincere appreciation of your Government's generosity in acting as host to this meeting. I also congratulate you on the excellence of the arrangements that have been made.

Ten years ago it would have seemed optimistic to predict that the twelve nations with a record of Antarctic exploration and interest would have produced that historic document, the Antarctic Treaty, under the provisions of which we are meeting here to-day for the first time. The entry into force of the Treaty and this First Consultative Meeting represent the beginning of a realistic and practical attempt to ensure that an entire continent, the size of Europe and the United States combined, should, in the words of the preamble, be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord. It is the belief of the New Zealand Government that under the Treaty scientific activity will be carried out in the future, as it has been in the past, in peaceful conditions, in a spirit of co-operation, with scientific knowledge from Antarctica benefitting all mankind.

The Treaty has met most of the objectives of the New Zealand Government. It provides a framework for international co-operation in scientific activities, and affirms the principle of freedom of access to Antarctica for peaceful scientific purposes. It stipulates that Antarctica is to be used for peaceful purposes only. Its demilitarization provisions should effectively seal off the continent from the tensions of the outside world. All measures of a military nature are prohibited, all nuclear explosions are banned, and the disposal of radio-active waste in Antarctica is prohibited. These provisions are of considerable importance to New Zealand, for Antarctica is of course at our back door. The inspection provisions will subject all aspects of national bases to the appraisal of observers who may go anywhere in Antarctica at any time to establish what activities are being undertaken. New Zealand bases in Antarctica will of course be open for inspection at any time. The Treaty also provides the basis for avoiding rivalries and quarrels over territorial claims and conflicting national interests in Antarctica. Peaceful scientific co-operation can therefore continue unhampered by disputes. Any member of the United Nations can become a party to the Treaty and any other State may be invited to become a party to it by unanimous consent of the contracting parties. It has thus been effectively demonstrated that the Treaty is not an attempt by the twelve signatories to monopolize Antarctica and exclude the rest of the world.

New Zealand's interest in Antarctica is long-standing. For almost 150 years men have been irresistibly drawn to the windiest, coldest and most inaccessible of continents and New Zealand has been the staging point for a number of great expeditions of the past. In recent years our own expeditions have made a significant contribution to the cause of Antarctic exploration and the advancement of science. During and since the International Geophysical Year, man's knowledge of Antarctica has increased beyond all expectations. It was this scientific stimulus that pointed the way to the political negotiations leading to the conclusion of the Antarctic Treaty. We must now focus our attention once more on scientific co-operation. Let us once again demonstrate our belief in the spirit of co-operation in Antarctic affairs. The New Zealand delegation is confident that the deliberations of this meeting will be conducted in the constructive atmosphere that was a characteristic of the Washington conference, and that a firm basis will be provided for consolidating and extending the co-operation which has so happily, and so fruitfully grown up between the nations with a direct interest in the Antarctic Continent.

**SPEECH BY MR. O. NORDLAND, LEADER OF THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Norwegian Government I wish to thank the Australian Government for having convened and organized this meeting. We feel that it is very fitting that Canberra has been selected as the place for the first meeting, in view of Australia's great contributions to, and achievements in, Antarctica. Norway has always had a great interest in Antarctica. We have been pioneers in its exploration. We have been interested in whaling and Norway was, as a matter of fact, the first country to start pelagic whaling .

My Government looks with great satisfaction on the fact that, under the Antarctic Treaty, this vast continent has been put aside for peaceful purposes only. We feel that this might be a great stepping stone towards world peace, that examples from this Treaty might be embodied elsewhere, and that the spirit of this Treaty might prevail in other spheres. The Norwegian delegation has come to this meeting to discuss the matters on the agenda in the spirit of this Treaty—that there shall be co-operation among the nations, that we shall exchange the various scientific results, with the hope that the well-being of the world will thereby be achieved. I wish to thank you again for having convened this meeting and we look forward to the discussion being very fruitful. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. H. H. WOODWARD, LEADER  
OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING  
SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies and Delegates:

I should like, on behalf of my delegation, to express our appreciation of the fact that you, Mr. Chairman, are in the Chair at this Meeting. I am quite sure that, with your qualifications, you will give us the best possible guidance during our deliberations in the course of this Conference. I gather, Sir, that you have a further qualification which a great many of us do not have. You have actually visited Antarctica.

I should like to join with other delegations in expressing our appreciation of the fact that this meeting is being held in Canberra. The Australian record of exploration and scientific research is one of which every country should be proud, and it is only fitting that this First Meeting should be held in this city. My delegation also joins with other delegations in thanking the Australian Government for organizing this Meeting and for arranging the hospitality and all the facilities that go with it.

I should like to pay one further tribute, and that is to the Representatives who attended the Meetings of the Interim Group in Washington over the past eighteen months. To their efforts this Meeting I am sure, owes a great deal, for they in fact prepared the groundwork.

South Africa is associated with Antarctica in a geographical as well as a scientific sense. Capetown is the last port of call, or has been the last port of call, for the expeditions of many lands in their voyages southwards ever since Captain Robert Falcon Scott embarked on his gallant but ill-fated journey to the South Pole. Since that time other Antarctic expeditions have called at Capetown and, during the International Geophysical Year, such visits were a frequent occurrence. At the present time we are happy to record that the South African National Antarctic Expedition is, in fact, on the Antarctic Continent, and we are fortunate indeed in being able to operate from a base established by Norway, whose notable contribution to Antarctic research began with the spectacular journey of Amundsen.

I do not propose to say much about the Treaty itself. As we all know, it is based on the principles of peace and co-operation. Science has a very good record of co-operation in the international field. During the last century the record of international co-operation in science, particularly in the earth sciences, is worthy of note. The International Geodetic Association in 1861, the International Meteorological Organization in 1878, the International Seismological Association in 1903, the two International Polar Years, 1882-1883 and 1932-1933, and, more recently, the International Geographical Year organized under the auspices of the International Council of Scientific Unions all bear witness to the recognition by scientists of the will to work together.

Bearing this in mind, we must recognize that co-operation is also a responsibility. We have the responsibility of going forward with this work which has been done in the past. We must endeavour to make a real contribution to this Meeting in carrying out the principles which it lays down.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation is confident that the free exchange of views around this table will prove of the greatest benefit not only to those represented here to-day, but to the world of science, as a whole. Thank you very much.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. IVAN F. KURDIUKOV,  
LEADER OF THE U.S.S.R. DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING  
SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Delegates,

The Delegation of the Soviet Union endorses the reference made by other delegations to you personally, Mr. Chairman, and expresses the hope that in our work mutual co-operation and good will may prevail.

I would like to take this opportunity to greet the delegates of the countries participating in this Meeting and to express the hope that constant co-operation in the fulfilment of the tasks before us will be maintained among all delegations.

We are gathered here in order to discuss questions pertaining to the Sixth Continent on the basis and in the spirit of the Antarctic Treaty signed at Washington in December 1959.

In accordance with the Treaty, Antarctica must be used exclusively for peaceful aims, any undertakings of a military nature including the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military manœuvres as well as testing of any kind of weapons, being prohibited.

It is very important to point out that the carrying out of any nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material in the Antarctic are forbidden. Thus Antarctic becomes a demilitarised and neutral region and also an atom-free zone.

This Treaty, establishing the legal status of Antarctica constitutes a sound basis for co-operation among the countries participating in the exploration and assimilation of this continent in the interests, and for the well-being, of all peoples.

At the same time the Antarctic Treaty constitutes a good example of the way in which, with good will and an understanding of each other's interests the Governments concerned may, finally, arrive at a common viewpoint in keeping with the interests not only of the participating countries, but of all mankind.

One of the most important provisions of the Washington Treaty is the one incorporated in the Preamble and Article I, stating that—"it is in the interests of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord".

This provision of the Treaty fully meets the fundamental problem facing mankind to-day—the problem of preserving and consolidating peace between all states, of developing and strengthening friendship among the nations of the whole world.

Another important point of the Washington Treaty is the provision in Article II referring to freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica and the co-operation of scientists towards that end. As you know, the Treaty provides for the exchange of data and the results of scientific observations in Antarctica and free access to them, as well as the exchange of scientific personnel between expeditions and stations of different countries engaged in scientific research there.

The above provisions, already applied in practice, will further contribute to the rapid and effective scientific investigation of the Sixth Continent in the interests of all mankind.

You are no doubt aware, Gentlemen, that Russian scientists have taken an active part in the discovery and exploration of the Sixth Continent.

As far back as the beginning of last century the expeditions carried out by the Russian navigators Lazarev and Bellingshausen explored a considerable part of the Antarctic coastline and by doing so, in actual fact paved the way for the discovery and exploration of Antarctica. This work is being successful continued by Soviet scientists. During the period which has elapsed since the signing of the Treaty in Washington, Soviet scientists have carried out a whole series of important scientific investigations in Antarctica, thereby adding a substantial contribution to the world's store of knowledge of the Sixth Continent.

By 1961 Soviet expeditions spent five winters on the Antarctic continent and had carried out six naval expeditions in Antarctic waters. The total number of personnel taking part in these expeditions exceeded 2,000, of whom 709 wintered over.

Although in virtue of its International Geophysical Year commitments, the Soviet Union was called upon to organize four scientific stations in the Antarctic, it in fact became necessary to set up from time to time and at various periods a total of twelve scientific stations in order to penetrate into the continent and to cope more fully with its scientific problems.

Substantial contributions to the study of Antarctica have been made by Soviet polar explorers in the course of their advance into the continent on weasels and their scientific aerial surveys. Soviet weasels have covered more than 10,500 miles of the surface of the Antarctic.

Soviet scientists have discovered and mapped more than 300 new geographical features in the Antarctic, among them great mountain ranges, plateaux, valleys, bays and islands.

Between 1959 and 1961 Soviet scientists published eighteen volumes of scientific material from the expeditions and issued more than 500 separate works and more than fifty new maps.

The explorations carried out in Antarctica by Soviet scientists have proved their importance in throwing light on many natural phenomena occurring on the earth which call for scientific study. The work of Soviet polar explorers has proceeded in close collaboration at the scientific level with scientists from other countries in a spirit of friendship and mutual assistance.

However, the Sixth Continent has not yet revealed to mankind all its secrets, and scientists of different countries still face a great, difficult, but honourable task in the exploration of Antarctica.

The Soviet Government, Gentlemen, considers that the fundamental pledge of success in the investigation and assimilation of Antarctica is to be found in the strict implementation by all countries of the provisions of the Washington Treaty. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned it has at all times carried out scrupulously and consistently the international obligations undertaken by it. This also applies fully to our obligations under the Antarctic Treaty.

The Soviet Delegation hopes that the First Consultative Meeting of Governments — parties to the Antarctic Treaty will work out recommendations for the effective realization of the provisions of the Treaty and that the Meeting will proceed in a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding and arrive at a successful solution of the tasks before it.

The Soviet Delegation, for its part, will exert every effort to contribute to the success of this Meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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**SPEECH BY MR. R. H. G. EDMONDS, ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen—

The leader of the United Kingdom Delegation, Sir William Oliver, has asked me to say how very sorry he is not to be able to attend the opening meeting of this Conference. He is detained by other business about which you will all know. In his place, may I add my delegation's congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to preside over and guide our meetings, and also our thanks to the Australian Government both for their hospitality and for all the excellent preparations which they have made to ensure the Conference's success. It seems to us a good augury that the Antarctic should open a new phase in its history in a new and rapidly expanding capital which is such an impressive example of modern planning. Perhaps I may also add a personal note: I am especially glad to be speaking here on behalf of my country, today, which is just a hundred and ten years since my great-grandfather arrived in Sydney.

Reading the opening speeches made by delegates at the Antarctic Conference in Washington nearly two years ago one is struck by the common thread running through all of them—the past. At that time most delegations were thinking mainly in terms of the great achievements of the past, in exploration and scientific endeavour to which my country made a prominent contribution. It was not easy to think of the future until agreement had been reached on all the main issues. The provisions of the Treaty have now exercised the several political problems which for so long bedevilled the Antarctic. Today, in the opinion of the United Kingdom Delegation, it is our task, while not forgetting the past, to concentrate our attention on the future. We should like to suggest that with the main lines of agreement drawn for us in the Treaty our task should be both agreeable and constructive.

The Treaty of which our Governments are signatories has in effect provided a future framework for the Antarctic for rather more than a generation. The aim of this Conference, as we see it, is to recommend to our governments what measures we consider necessary to fill in this framework, and at the same time to exchange ideas on the basis of our experience since we met in Washington in 1959. To help us we have the benefit of the valuable work accomplished by the Interim Consultative Group in Washington. The Group has drawn up what looks like a formidable agenda for us, but we have every hope that, given the good will and spirit of friendly co-operation which prevailed at Washington two years ago, we shall be able to complete our work in time.

Gentlemen, the Treaty enables the world to use the Antarctic peacefully, jointly and for one common aim—scientific research. By common consent, the Antarctic has been demilitarised and is wide open to inspection at any time. Here for once the scientist is given the chance to plan his work over a long period without looking over his shoulder at generals or statesmen. It is the view of my delegation that the chief object of this conference is to do all that we can to enable scientists of all nations to carry out this task, while leaving it to them to work out most of the details of their co-operation, so far as possible, themselves. We have little doubt that when we come to consider our agenda we shall find it advisable to recommend to our governments that they establish some form of permanent administrative machinery, however modest in scope, to facilitate inter-governmental co-operation and to ensure the free flow of scientific exchanges in the intervals between the Meetings of this group. However, we are also anxious not to disturb the existing arrangements for co-operation where these are already working well. I refer particularly to the Special Committee for Antarctic Research, which I think we are all agreed has been doing really admirable work. My delegation is particularly pleased that the Committee's Secretariat is for the time being in the United Kingdom at the Scott Polar Research Institute. In passing, may I say how happy we are that we shall see here as a member of the French Delegation the distinguished President of the Special Committee for Antarctic Research, Monsieur Laclavère.

To achieve the full range of its possibilities scientific research in the Antarctic must be untrammelled. We must make sure that in Antarctic matters there is real freedom of research and, above all, freedom to publish and discuss scientific results, to the ultimate benefit of man. We have in the Antarctic Treaty an instrument which, if it is rightly handled, could not only achieve this object but also point the way to effective international co-operation in other fields outside the Antarctic. The recommendations which this Conference submits to governments will be the first and, we believe, a very important test of how we intend to use this instrument. It is in this spirit that my delegation approaches the Conference.

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**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE MR. WILLIAM J. SEBALD, LEADER OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION, AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING, 10 JULY, 1961**

I would like to express first our thanks and appreciation to the Prime Minister for his kind words of welcome. I should also like to offer my congratulations to you, Senator Gorton, upon your unanimous election as Chairman of this Meeting.

It is a source of considerable gratification to my Government that this Meeting is taking place under the Antarctic Treaty which was signed at Washington on December 1, 1959, and entered into force on June 23 of this year.

As you all know, the Treaty was the result of many months of preliminary negotiations prior to the convening of the Conference on Antarctica on October, 15, 1959. During these negotiations, as well as during the Conference itself, it was necessary to take into account and to reconcile differing viewpoints of the countries concerned, which represented all of the six continents of the globe. The conclusion of the Treaty is a most heartening example of the fact that in spite of the many difficult problems, both large and small, confronting the nations of the world in these times, it is still possible with patience and good will for nations to agree on matters of benefit to all mankind.

The United States has had a deep and abiding interest in the vast forbidding reaches of Antarctica since the last decades of the eighteenth century when the early navigators braved the South Seas in quest of new herds of seals and whales. Later on, Lieutenant Charles Wilkes of the United States Navy, who sailed from Sydney in 1839, led an expedition along the coasts lying south of the Indian Ocean and Australia, establishing that the area was indeed a continent and collecting important scientific data. In the present century, the flights of Lincoln Ellsworth and the four expeditions led by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd foreshadowed and inspired the large-scale United States Antarctic research program which was initiated with the International Geophysical Year.

During the International Geophysical Year the United States, in co-operation with the nations represented here, established a program of intense scientific exploration and studies on that continent which occupies such a large portion of the earth's surface and about which we really know so little.

The major efforts under the International Geophysical Year involved studies in meteorology, ionospheric physics, aurora, geomagnetism, cosmic rays, seismology, glaciology and geodesy. Since then the United States program has been expanded to include also studies in biology, the medical sciences, oceanography, geology and cartography. This broader program reflects the fact that this continent lies in a geographical location which makes it the only possible laboratory where many of these studies can be undertaken. The United States is fitting out a unique research vessel which will be ready within the next six months to carry on programs in oceanography as well as in the other sciences in the sea areas around Antarctica.

Data obtained at any Antarctic station gain immensely in scientific value when studied in conjunction with similar data obtained from all the other stations on that continent. For this reason we have made all data from our Antarctic stations freely available and are happy that this shall be continued under the terms of this unique Treaty. We also hope that the program for the exchange of scientists under the Treaty may be expanded and that arrangements can be made for scientists from the countries represented here to join us at our stations and on our ships.

One of the principal aspects of basic scientific research is that one can never predict the ultimate value of information obtained. A vigorous scientific program must therefore be subject to continuing evaluation and change. For this reason we are prepared at all times to revise and modify our program of research to include new ideas that appear most useful and interesting.

The Antarctic program of the International Geophysical Year rested on co-operation among the participating countries. The Antarctic Treaty ensures the continuation of this co-operation by fostering scientific investigation throughout Antarctica, and by promoting international co-operation for this purpose among our countries. This

scientific work is being carried out in the difficult natural circumstances of Antarctica, thanks to the patience and devotion of the members of the several expeditions there, and the spirit of co-operation that springs from a common purpose among scientists of our several countries.

Not only, however, does this Treaty provide for the continuation of co-operation in science; it realizes another great objective, that of preventing the use of a region as extensive as Antarctica for military purposes and ensuring that this continent will continue to remain an area where only peaceful activities are pursued.

The provisions of the Treaty are complemented by a system of inspection designed to promote the Treaty's objectives and ensure the observance of its provisions. We expect that the exercise of the rights of inspection established by the Treaty will be a normal activity under the Treaty. We (too) would not regard the exercise of these rights as necessarily indicating that there is suspicion of activities contrary to the Treaty. Indeed, the practice of inspection is the best way of assuring the absence of suspicion. The inspection system is a useful and practical feature which will contribute to the effectiveness of the Treaty and the realization of its basic objectives, which are peace and co-operation.

Another significant provision is the system of continuing consultation among the Governments of countries actively engaged in Antarctica by such Meetings as the one for which we are gathered here.

As the First Consultative Meeting to be held under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, this Meeting in a real sense represents the entry into operation of the Treaty, as well as the beginning of a new era in the history of Antarctica, which the United States is confident will be marked by peaceful and co-operative relationships in that vast continent.

Mr. Chairman, the United States Delegation is indeed happy to be able to participate in this historic event. We are looking forward to a constructive and successful Meeting.

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## FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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