

then examined in detail the principles expounded in Annex I to the document. At the outset Matsui (Japan) and I expressed the hope that it might be possible for the Board at this series of meetings at least to reach agreement in principle on the principles in Annex I, if not agreement on an actual text, but it was evident from the outset that the rest of our friends, including USA and UK, were prepared to proceed at a more leisurely pace. The procedure followed therefore was that as we discussed each principle the Chairman summed up the consensus of opinion to assist the Secretariat in preparing a redraft for submission to the Board at the September meetings. In this way we covered the substance of the first 15 paragraphs of Annex I.

3. When we came to paragraph 16 Foster (USA) read out a lengthy prepared statement relating to the concepts involved in paragraphs 16-20, involving proposals for an approach quite different from that followed by the Secretariat. He said that these would subsequently be submitted in writing and in view of their nature he recognized that their consideration by the Board would have to be deferred until the September meeting. The practical effect of the procedure followed by the USA delegate is that the adoption of a definitive set of principles by the Board will not repeat not feasible before the October sessions of the Board.

4. The debate was very revealing in that it made evident the differences of opinion among the delegations purporting to favour safeguards as to just what a safeguards system should provide for. It is clear, even at this stage, that the principles are going to be couched in such general terms that they will be capable of widely differing interpretations when the time comes to apply them to the specific regulations in Annex II. The USA delegate, as the leader of the pro-safeguards group, is going to have a very difficult time to persuade a substantial majority of the Board to accept safeguards standards at anything like the level USA considers acceptable.

5. Rajan (India) served very ably as the principal spokesman of the anti-safeguards group, and made the most of the differences between the Western delegates. Zamyatin (USSR) confined himself to a general statement that he thought it was premature to develop detailed safeguards at this time and did not repeat not participate in the discussion of the various principles.

6. At the conclusion of the debate I spoke again to stress the importance we attached to trying to come to a firm decision on general principles at the September meetings. I have also in private conversations urged the USA delegation to consult with Barton and UK at once on tactics with a view to setting up a meeting early in September of the countries who attended the second London meeting. Barton will report later on the results of this consultation.

[M.H.] WERSHOF

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PCO

*Note du directeur, Contributions et programmes internationaux,
ministère des Finances*

*Memorandum by Director, International Programmes
and Contributions, Department of Finance*

[Ottawa], August 28, 1959

Last June I attended a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency. On return I recorded certain impressions which may be relevant to the determination of future Canadian policy in this Agency. It is possible that my impressions, gained during a single week of meetings of the Board (after a long absence), were unduly influenced by the unfavourable contrast between the current achievements of the Agency and earlier