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*Note du chef du Comité du Cabinet sur les eaux territoriales
pour le Cabinet*

*Memorandum from Chairman, Cabinet Committee on Territorial Waters,
to Cabinet*

CABINET DOCUMENT NO. 10-58

[Ottawa], January 9, 1958

SECRET. CANADIAN EYES ONLY.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

I. COMPOSITION OF CANADIAN DELEGATION

The Geneva Conference is to open on February 24 and is expected to last for nine weeks. The following suggestions regarding the composition of the Delegation are submitted for consideration and decision:

Chairman—Because decisions of substance may have to be made on short notice, particularly during the latter half of the Conference, it would be desirable to have a member of the Government designated as Chairman of the Delegation. If this is not feasible a Parliamentary Assistant might be designated. Another possibility would be to have the High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom appointed Chairman. Although desirable, it would not be essential for the Chairman to be present for the full nine weeks the Conference will meet.

Vice-Chairman—It is suggested that a senior official be designated as Vice-Chairman. Because of the considerable length of the Conference and the fact that appropriate officials have other official commitments, it does not appear feasible to have any one official designated in this capacity for the duration of the Conference. It is suggested that all of the following be designated as Delegates on the understanding that each would serve as Vice-Chairman as he might be available:

Mr. M.H. Wershof, Permanent Canadian Representative to the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. Marcel Cadieux, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs

Mr. R.G. Robertson, Deputy Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources

Delegates and Advisers—There will be five main working committees of the Conference, three of which will be meeting at any one particular time. Four of these committees are important from a Canadian point of view and it would seem desirable to have a spokesman available for each of these. It is therefore suggested that the following persons be designated as additional delegates:

Mr. S.V. Ozere, Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries

Mr. L.J. Leavey, Canadian Maritime Commission, and

Professor G.F. Curtis, Dean of the Law School of the University of British Columbia. Professor Curtis was retained by the Canadian Government in 1952 to advise the Inter-Departmental Committee on Territorial Waters on the principal changes of doctrine that might affect Canadian law on, or claims to, territorial waters, and assess the degree and character of the possible application of various rules to Canada. Professor Curtis submitted a confidential report to the Inter-Departmental Committee in 1955. He is also advising the Inter-Departmental Committee on a supplementary report which is now being prepared on the status of the waters of the Arctic Archipelago. Professor Curtis