

2. Nehru said that he was not repeat not an expert on this subject and unfortunately Dr. Bhabha who is his adviser on these matters could not repeat not be consulted until after his return to India from abroad in about two weeks time. He then went on to say that the attitude of the Soviet Union placed all non-aligned countries, such as India, in a particularly difficult position as all countries in the communist bloc could obtain supplies from the Soviet Union without restrictions. While Nehru did not repeat not say so, he implied that countries allied to the USA and UK also had advantages.

3. While he was extremely pleasant, Nehru left me in no repeat no doubt that India has definitely made up its mind about this problem and was not repeat not likely to be influenced by any arguments. I doubt that there will be any change in India's attitude even if Nehru takes the matter up again with Dr. Bhabha.

4. This afternoon I received from Nehru a letter to which is attached the memorandum on safeguards. Nehru says: "Perhaps you would send this to Mr. Diefenbaker with my compliments and regards." I am sending you by deferred telegram texts of letter and memorandum.

5. The gist of memorandum follows: India is willing to exert every effort to assist in a system to prevent the diversion of fissionable materials to military purposes provided the system (a) is consistent with the honour and dignity of every nation to which it is made applicable; (b) is universally applied; (c) takes into account that atomic energy is the life blood of the future economy of many states. The system of safeguards under consideration satisfies none of the three criteria. The only system of safeguards practicable and effective would envisage world-wide controls applicable to all nations without discrimination. The Government of India are ready to give adherence to a practical and effective system achieving an effective measure of world security.

[C.A.] RONNING

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*Note du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
pour le premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Prime Minister*

[Ottawa], July 29, 1960

APPROACH TO PRIME MINISTER NEHRU REGARDING  
THE ATTITUDE OF INDIA TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL  
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY SAFEGUARDS

The attached telegram No. 412 of July 23 from New Delhi contains Prime Minister Nehru's reply to your letter of June 28 urging him to reconsider the Indian attitude towards the proposed system of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards against the diversion to military use of nuclear materials supplied for peaceful purposes.

As you will recall, we had hoped that Mr. Nehru, if approached directly and personally, would have been prepared to give fresh thought to this problem. His answer indicates, however, that he has not done so but has instead preferred to repeat the position developed in the Statute Conference in 1957 and since put forward insistently by the officials of the Indian Atomic Energy Department.

In view of the great importance to Canada of an early resolution of the safeguards issue, it was I think right to make this effort, which takes its place as part of the coordinated campaign we are developing with the United States and the United Kingdom to muster support for