

interim or a permanent agreement. Some thought might also be given to the idea of a two tier commission⁵² to deal separately with the scientific and political aspects of its work.

(b) The functions of control to be exercised by the Commission during the duration of the interim arrangement and powers of recommendation that might be assigned to it in relation to the conclusion of a permanent agreement should be more clearly distinguished and defined than has been done until now by the main advocates of an interim solution.

(c) In regard to control, the nature of the network to be established for reporting events should be more precisely specified.⁵³ The obligations regarding on-site inspection and methods of putting it in operation in relation to the other procedures for identifying doubtful events, should be given greater precision. The consequences of the failure of a party to accept on-site inspection should also be more clearly stated than has been done until now by Sweden and India.⁵⁴ Mexico, on the other hand, has treated such a refusal as a definite breach which would render the treaty null and void. It would be desirable to emphasize that the interim arrangement would not repeat not prejudice the essential interests of the nuclear powers in a permanent treaty.⁵⁵

(d) The interim Commission should have the right to make recommendations on the establishment of additional observation posts, on improvements in detection and identification facilities, and on the need or otherwise for on-site inspections on a permanent basis, in the light of its own experience in administering the interim arrangement.⁵⁶

7. We propose to try to direct the thoughts of the neutrals along the above lines without, however, making specific suggestions until we have received your further views on Canadian proposals. It is our judgment that direct Canadian intervention at this stage would be unhelpful;⁵⁷ that the neutrals are in the best position to establish the delicate balance of interests that may lead to an interim agreement; and that it would therefore be our best course to assist them behind the scenes in achieving that objective. In the light of the neutral reactions it can be decided what further action can be taken by Canada at a later stage.⁵⁸

8. I look forward to receiving your guidance and instructions.

[E.L.M.] BURNS

⁵² Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Seems unnecessarily complicated. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵³ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

This [is] for US & UK to work out in the first instance. Our experts could then be asked for comments. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵⁴ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Our proposal is quite clear on this. If we were to accept mandatory on site inspection our whole procedure would have to be revised. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵⁵ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Our proposal has a clearly specified time limit for the interim arrangement. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵⁶ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Our proposal could readily incorporate all these functions. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵⁷ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Agreed. [K.D. McIlwraith?]

⁵⁸ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

But not without West[ern] Four knowledge that we are doing this. [K.D. McIlwraith?]