

practice, however, I understand that Canada is not at present equipped to take back irradiated fuel elements for chemical separation and that for economic reasons it is unlikely in future to enter into such transactions. Moreover, since any other foreseeable traffic would continue to be export rather than import, we should not be undertaking any obligations which, in view of the classified work done at Chalk River for the United States and the United Kingdom, it might be difficult to fulfill. On the contrary, there would be practical and financial advantages to transferring to the IAEA the obligation to administer our bilateral safeguards, since we have no machinery of our own for this job and have not yet taken steps to develop any. This is a problem which we should have had to face in the very near future in any case.

I understand that officials of the Minister of Trade and Commerce will be putting up a similar memorandum to him. I should therefore be grateful if you would indicate your views on this subject so that, if there is agreement on the course proposed in this memorandum, we could at once approach the Japanese and the Swiss with the proposal regarding safeguards, and could also inform the United States of the action we are taking.<sup>7</sup>

N.A. R[OBERTSON]

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DEA/14003-J2-3-40

*Note du chef de la 1<sup>ère</sup> Direction économique  
au sous-secrétaire d'État adjoint aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Head, Economic (1) Division,  
to Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

CONFIDENTIAL

[Ottawa], September 7, 1960

INDIAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC  
ENERGY AGENCY SAFEGUARDS

I have been informed by the Commonwealth Division that Mr. K. Sankara Pillai, who is at present in charge of the Indian High Commissioner's Office, is under instructions to discuss safeguards with this Department. Since he will probably ask for an appointment with you, and since you may not be familiar with the numerous recent developments on this subject, a summary of the present position is given below:

2. You will recall that on June 28 the Prime Minister wrote a brief personal letter to Mr. Nehru urging India's support for Agency safeguards. The text of Mr. Nehru's very negative reply and of an appended memorandum on the Indian position, which had been prepared in the first place for despatch to Mr. Macmillan, is given in New Delhi telegram No. 412 of July 23 (attached).

3. As part of the campaign of diplomatic approaches agreed upon with the United States and the United Kingdom, we had offered to take the initiative in New Delhi. After receipt of Mr. Nehru's letter, however, we thought that a further substantive approach was not likely to be useful. We suggested instead that an aide mémoire might be given to the Indians simply informing them as a matter of courtesy of the approaches that we were making in other capitals. Mr. Ronning advised strongly against our doing this and as neither the United States nor the United Kingdom was very enthusiastic about the idea, it was dropped. Instead, it has

<sup>7</sup> Notes marginales :/Marginal notes:

Aug. 19/60. Plan "B" is OK. I do not think text of proposals need go to Cabinet. H.C. G[reen]

Informed by telephone Aug. 19 that Mr. Churchill had also approved. [Auteur inconnu/Author unknown]