Meeting of the Cabinet to be held at No. 10, Downing Street, S.W.1., on WEDNESDAY, 6th MAY, 1956, at 11.0 a.m.

AGENDA

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
   (a) Germany and the Locarno Treaty - (If required)
       (Reference Cabinet 33 (36) Conclusion 3)
   (b) The Italo-Abyssinian War
       (Reference Cabinet 33 (36) Conclusion 2)
   (c) The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty Negotiations
       (Reference Cabinet 31 (36) Conclusion 6)

       Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.
       C.P. 126 (36) - already circulated.

2. RELATIONS WITH THE IRISH FREE STATE.
   (Reference Cabinet 8 (36) Conclusion 5)

       Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs.
       C.P. 124 (36) - already circulated.

3. DENUNCIATION BY THE INDIAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE OTTAWA AGREEMENT.
   (Reference Cabinet 5 (35) Conclusion 5).

       Memorandum by the Secretary of State for India.
       C.P. 111 (36) - already circulated.

4. OIL DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONIAL EMPIRE: POLICY OF BRITISH CONTROL.
   (Reference Cabinet 3 (36) Conclusion 5)

       Memorandum by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.
       C.P. 119 (36) - already circulated.
5. DEFENCE REQUIREMENTS: THE LABOUR ISSUES INVOLVED.

(Reference Cabinet 28 (36) Conclusion 8)
Memorandum by the Minister of Health.
C.P. 117 (36) - already circulated.

6. BROADCASTING.

(Reference Cabinet 33 (36) Conclusion 5)
Report of Cabinet Committee.
C.P. 113 (36) - already circulated.

7. WATERLOO BRIDGE

(Reference Cabinet 28 (35) Conclusion l)
Memorandum by the Minister of Transport.
C.P. 114 (36) - already circulated.

8. ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES) BILL.

(Reference Cabinet 11 (34) Conclusion 12)
Memorandum by the Minister of Transport.
C.P. 116 (36) - already circulated.
Supplementary Note by the Minister of Transport.
C.P. 116.A (36) - to be circulated.

9. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS.

For Friday, the 8th May.

1. Voluntary Hospitals (Paying Patients) Bill (Lords); Report and Third Reading. (Mr. Storey (U))

2. Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Bill; Further consideration and Third Reading. (Mr. Loftus (U))

(Reference Cabinet 30 (36) Conclusion 8)

3. Public Meeting Act (1908) Amendment Bill; Second Reading. (Mr. Lyons (U))

(Signed) M.P.A. HANKEY
Secretary to the Cabinet

2, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1.

5th May, 1936.
CONCLUSIONS of a Meeting of the Cabinet held at 10, Downing Street, S.W.I., on WEDNESDAY, 6th MAY, 1936, at 11.0 a.m.

PRESENT:
The Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P.,
Prime Minister. (In the Chair)

The Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P.,
Prime Minister. (In the Chair)

The Right Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P.,
Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Right Hon. Sir John Simon, G.C.S.I.,
K.C.V.O., O.B.E., K.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Home Affairs.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, M.P.,
Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs.

The Right Hon. The Marquess of Zetland,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Secretary of State for India.

The Right Hon. J.H. Thomas, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Swinton, G.B.E.,
M.C., Secretary of State for Air.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Swinton, G.B.E.,
M.C., Secretary of State for Air.

The Right Hon. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P.,
Secretary of State for War.

The Right Hon. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P.,
Secretary of State for War.

The Right Hon. Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Right Hon. Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

The Right Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, K.B.E.,
C.M.G., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

The Right Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, K.B.E.,
C.M.G., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland.

The Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P.,
President of the Board of Trade.

The Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P.,
President of the Board of Trade.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Hailsham,
Lord Chancellor.

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Lord Chancellor.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Hailsham,
Lord Chancellor.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Swinton, G.B.E.,
M.C., Secretary of State for Air.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Swinton, G.B.E.,
M.C., Secretary of State for Air.

The Right Hon. JoH. Thomas, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Right Hon. JoH. Thomas, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Right Hon. Walter Elliot, M.C., M.P.,
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Right Hon. Walter Elliot, M.C., M.P.,
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Halifax, K.G.,
G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Lord Privy Seal.

The Right Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.C., M.P.,
President of the Board of Education.

The Right Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.C., M.P.,
President of the Board of Education.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Monsell, G.B.E.,
First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Right Hon. The Viscount Monsell, G.B.E.,
First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Right Hon. Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P.,
Minister of Health.

The Right Hon. Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P.,
Minister of Health.

The Right Hon. Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P.,
Minister of Health.

The Right Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P.,
First Commissioner of Works.

The Right Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, M.P.,
First Commissioner of Works.

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT:

Major the Right Hon. G.C. Tryon, M.P.,
Postmaster General. (For Conclusion 13)
FOREIGN POLICY.

Questions to be addressed to the German Government.

(Previous Reference: Cabinet 33 (36), Conclusion 3.)

1. The Cabinet had before them a further re-draft of the Despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin (C.P.-127 (36)) revised by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in accordance with the Cabinet Conclusions referred to in the margin.

The revised draft was discussed paragraph by paragraph.

**Paragraph 6.** The suggestion was made to omit in the 10th line the following words:— "free to deny its obligation on the ground that that party", for the reason that the words quoted might be read as reflecting on German good faith.

It was pointed out, however, that any possible sting was removed by the last sentence of the paragraph.

The Cabinet agreed that in the penultimate line for the word "invite" should be substituted the word "welcome".

**Paragraph 8.** The suggestion was made that the following words should be omitted from the ninth and tenth lines:— "she recognises and intends in future to respect the".

As an alternative it was suggested to omit only the words "in future".

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs accepted this, subject to the result of consultation with his advisers.

**Paragraph 12.** The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs accepted a proposal by the Lord Privy Seal to invert the order of the ideas put forward in this paragraph; that is to say, to bring in earlier the last sentence of the paragraph.

Subject to the above amendments, the Cabinet agreed —

To approve the revised draft of the Despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin, circulated by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in his Note of May 5, 1936 (C.P.-127 (36)).
2. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs handed round a draft of a telegram (Appendix I) he proposed to send to His Majesty's Ambassador in Berlin giving him instructions as to his procedure in presenting the Questions referred to in the previous Conclusion to the German Government. He explained that the first paragraph of the draft would have to be amended in accordance with Conclusion 1 above.

The second paragraph was criticised on the ground that it might be interpreted by His Majesty's Ambassador as an instruction to press the German Government at the very outset to give a real clarification of the doubtful points in their peace proposals and that this might lead to a sharp reply instead of, or prior to, the desired invitation being given for a visit by a British Minister.

One suggestion was that, instead of the phrase "His Majesty's Government expect a real clarification of all the doubtful points" etc., might be put "His Majesty's Government hope ultimately to obtain a real clarification of all the doubtful points", etc.

The Lord President of the Council suggested that the second paragraph should become the penultimate paragraph of the telegram.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs agreed to this.

The Lord President of the Council also urged a modification of the wording in the third paragraph, so as to make clear that the visit of a British Minister would take place only on an invitation from the German Government.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs also accepted this proposal, and stated that he would amend the telegram so as to give discretion to His Majesty's Ambassador to make reference to a visit by a British Minister at the earliest convenient stage in his negotiations.
Subject to the above amendments, the Cabinet agreed —

To approve the draft telegram attached in Appendix I.

(NOTE: A copy of the telegram as actually sent is attached as Appendix II.)
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs then raised the question of the procedure towards France and Belgium in respect of the Questions to Germany. He did not propose to publish the Telegram or the Despatch containing the Questions at present, but he was already being pressed by the French Government for a copy of the Questions, and, given the circumstances in which they had been produced, he thought it impossible to withhold them from the French and Belgian Governments after they had been communicated to the German Government.

The Cabinet were reminded that the Questions would be certain to leak out after they had been handed to the French Government.

The Cabinet agreed —

That the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be authorised to communicate the Questions addressed to the German Government to the French and Belgian Governments immediately after they had been presented to the German Government.
4. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs raised certain questions resulting from the Italian victory in Abyssinia on which he required decisions in connection with both the Parliamentary Debate the same afternoon and the forthcoming Meetings at the League of Nations, where he would be in the Chair at the Council.

After a somewhat protracted discussion the Cabinet agreed —

(a) That in the Parliamentary Debate that afternoon, if pressed as to the future of the League of Nations, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be authorised to say that it was too early for him to make a statement that afternoon; the matter was fundamental to our foreign policy and would have to be studied intensively in consultation with the Dominions:

(b) That at the League of Nations the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be authorised to say that as a consequence of recent events there would have to be a stock-taking of the present position of the Covenant. As this would probably have to be undertaken by the Assembly, and not by the Council, it would be as well for Governments to consider the matter in the first instance. (But see below.)

(c) That it would be preferable for the subject to be considered at the regular annual session of the Assembly in September rather than at a special session:

(d) That the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should examine whether it would be possible and desirable for the Council of the League of Nations to appoint a Committee to consider in advance a re-draft of the Covenant, instead of leaving it to the regular Meetings of the Assembly, and report to the Cabinet Committee on Foreign Policy:

(e) That so far as the Italo-Abyssinian affair was concerned, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should not agree to join the French in making representations to Rome on the basis of the Treaty of 1906; but that he should be authorised (as he himself proposed) to inform the French that we would make no joint approach to Rome; that Italy ought now to tell the League what her proposals were for the future of Abyssinia; and that the
more reasonable the Italians were, the better would be their chance of securing a removal of sanctions:

(f) That so far as sanctions were concerned, the attitude of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (as he himself proposed) in Parliament should be to say that he would advocate no new sanctions and that the future of existing sanctions was a question for the League of Nations to decide. At the League he should not take the initiative for a decision either to put on new sanctions or to take off existing sanctions.

(The President of the Board of Trade reminded the Cabinet of the heavy penalties that were falling on British nationals through the application of sanctions.)
5. At the request of the Secretary of State for India, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs undertook to make enquiry as to whether there were any signs that Italy, following her success in Abyssinia, had designs on the Yemen and Saudi Arabia, with a view to securing a position on both sides of the Red Sea.

In this connection the Cabinet were reminded that there was a satisfactory Treaty with the Yemen.
LOCARNO POWERS.

Proposed Meeting at Geneva.

(Previous Reference: Cabinet 28 (36), Conclusion 2.)

6. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs informed the Cabinet that the Belgian Ambassador had approached him with a view to a meeting of the Locarno Powers during the forthcoming Session at Geneva. He had replied that he would rather it did not take place.
7. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs informed the Cabinet that he had been approached as to the raising of the question of Austrian re-armament at the forthcoming meetings at Geneva, but he deprecated the subject being raised.
8. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (C.P.-126 (36)) reverting to the discussion referred to in the margin regarding the insertion of a time limit in the prospective Treaty with Egypt. There was appended to the Memorandum a draft of two Clauses dealing (a) with British rights in the Canal Zone and (b) with the duration of the Treaty. The principal issue turned on the last sentence of the second Clause which read: "In case of the high contracting parties being unable to agree upon the terms of the revised Treaty, the difference will be submitted to the Council of the League of Nations". It was for the consideration of the Cabinet whether it was more advantageous, if the Egyptian Delegation refused to accept the Clause without the last sentence, to allow the negotiations to break on this point, or to secure a Treaty with this last sentence.

While several members of the Cabinet felt that the proposals of the Foreign Office might, on merits, place us in a better position at the end of twenty years than a Treaty limited to twenty years, for the reason that it would contain the Egyptian Government's recognition of our permanent interest in the Suez Canal, it was pointed out that the meaning of the proposals was not clear. They were intended to satisfy the Egyptians that their requirements were met, and our own people that it was not as unsatisfactory as at first sight it appeared. It would be a very difficult matter to explain to Parliament without causing difficulties with the Egyptians.

The Lord Chancellor expressed doubts as to whether the proposals of the Foreign Office, in the Annex to C.P.-126 (36)), did enable us to maintain our position
after twenty years. If the Egyptian Government did not agree, we should have to take the matter to the Council of the League. If the Council agreed, we should have to accept their decision. If the Council did not agree, he gathered that the Foreign Office took the view that we should continue as before. He did not think that that was clear. Neither would he like to assume the probability that the Council would be unanimous. By that time several states Members of the Council might be hostile to ourselves. The Council might even have been abolished. The real issue, however, was as to whether we would agree that in twenty years' time we should be prepared to submit an interest, which was of vital importance to the British Empire, to some outside body.

The Cabinet were reminded that the Dominions took a very strong view on this subject, which had been ventilated by the Deputy Prime Minister of Australia at the last Meeting of the Committee of Imperial Defence.

The Dominions' objections were likely to be stated publicly, and this would react on the House of Commons. In the course of the discussion the general view was that the House of Commons, in present circumstances, could not be induced to accept a settlement which appeared to place, or would be represented as liable to place, a matter of vital importance to Imperial communications in the hands of the League of Nations or some other outside authority in twenty years' time.

One suggestion was that if the Treaty was for twenty years there was no reason why it should not contain a clause recognising the importance of our position in regard to the Suez Canal; but it was suggested that the Egyptians would never accept the inclusion of such a clause.
After considerable discussion the Cabinet agreed —

That a Cabinet Committee, composed as follows —

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
The Chancellor of the Exchequer,
The Lord Chancellor,
The Home Secretary,
The Minister for Co-ordination of Defence,
The Minister of Health —

should meet on the following day, Thursday, May 7th, at 2.45 p.m., to examine the Foreign Office proposals: to put this complicated matter in the simplest possible language: and to make recommendations.

(N.B. The Home Secretary undertook, if time permitted, to prepare a document for the Committee's consideration.)
9. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs (C.P.-124 (36)), raising the whole question of the present relations between this country and the Irish Free State, and recommending the appointment of a United Kingdom High Commissioner in Dublin and the opening of informal discussions between officials on both sides, with a view to exploring the possibility of a general settlement. In the view of the Secretary of State it would be an advantage to have one comprehensive set of negotiations rather than to deal piecemeal with the position of the Crown, nationality, defence, the financial dispute, and other outstanding questions. There would also be advantages in not embodying any new agreement in a formal Treaty.

The Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs proposed that his memorandum should be referred to the Irish Situation Committee. He suggested that the tentative proposals for a settlement of the financial dispute should be discussed between the Dominions Office and the Treasury before being taken by the Committee. He also suggested that the memorandum on "Coast Defences in the Irish Free State" (Appendix II to C.P. 124(36)) should be considered at an early date by the Committee of Imperial Defence.

The Cabinet agreed:

(a) That the memorandum by the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs (C.P. 124 (36)) should be referred to the Irish Situation Committee.

(b) That the following Ministers should be added to the Irish Situation Committee:

- The Secretary of State for the Colonies.
- The Minister for Co-Ordination of Defence.
- The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
(c) That the proposals for a financial settlement in C.P. 124 (36) should be discussed between the Dominions Office and the Treasury before being brought up at the Cabinet Committee.

(d) That the Committee of Imperial Defence should, at an early date, consider the report of the Chiefs of Staff's Committee on "Coast Defences in the Irish Free State" (C.P. 124 (36) Appendix II).

(e) That the Dominions Office should confer as necessary with the Board of Trade staff on aspects of the question concerning them.
10. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Secretary of State for India (C.P. 111 (36))
drawing attention to the Resolution of the Indian
Legislative Assembly demanding the denunciation of
the Ottawa Agreement (a denunciation which would
not become effective until the expiration of six
months' notice), and to the Report of the Special
Tariff Board on the rates of duty on Lancashire
goods.

The Cabinet agreed:

That the next move should be left
to the Indian Government.
11. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (C.P.-119 (36)) asking for authority to announce the raising of the embargo on foreign participation in oil development in the Colonial Empire. (The embargo did not apply to the Mandated Territories). It was proposed, however, to make foreign participation subject in future to the precise conditions set out in the Memorandum.

The removal of the present restriction would, it was thought, be further evidence of the willingness of His Majesty's Government to remove any cause of legitimate complaint regarding the freedom of access to Colonial raw materials.

The Cabinet agreed:

(a) To approve the proposal of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that foreign participation in oil development in the Colonial Empire should be permitted, subject to the conditions proposed in his memorandum.

(b) To take note, however, that the Secretary of State did not propose to make an announcement in the House of Commons on the subject.
12. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Minister of Health (C.P.-117 (36)) proposing:

(a) the establishment of some liaison machinery, in order to avoid any competition for building labour between the Defence programme and the housing programme likely to force up the cost of building; and

(b) further liaison between the Defence Departments and the Ministry of Health with a view to controlling the location of the new buildings about to be erected by private industry for the purposes of the Defence programme, and thus avoiding the inconveniences of unplanned development.

The Minister for Defence Co-Ordination said he did not wish to establish any very elaborate machinery in connection with the liaison proposed. He would rather have adhoc machinery in each Department.

The Minister of Health said his main object was to get ample warning of building schemes which were to be undertaken by the Defence Services.

The Secretary of State for Scotland said his position was the same as that of the Minister of Health.

The Cabinet agreed:

That the Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland should confer with the Ministers concerned with a view to arranging an effective liaison.
The Cabinet had again under consideration the Report of the Cabinet Committee which had examined the recommendations of the Ullswater Report on the future of broadcasting after the end of 1936 (C.P. 113 (36)).

The Home Secretary brought to the notice of the Cabinet all the paragraphs in succession on which decisions had not already been taken.

The Cabinet agreed:

(a) To approve the proposals of the Cabinet Committee as set forth in C.P. 113 (36).

(b) That as regards the outstanding point in Conclusion (h) of the Summary viz the use in the British Empire broadcasting of languages other than English, the general principle should be to use the English language but that if any departure was proposed, the Government Department concerned (e.g. The Dominions Office or the Colonial Office) should be consulted before the arrangements for the broadcast were made.

(c) That as regards Conclusion (m)(ii) which reads as follows:-

"The Corporation shall not make an announcement that an item has been cancelled at the request of a Department, except with the express consent of the Department concerned."

the draughtsman of the Charter should be asked to find a way to provide for this without making it too prominent.

(d) That the next steps should be as follows:-

(i) For the Postmaster General to arrange for the preparation of the draft Charter.

(ii) For the Postmaster General to see the British Broadcasting Company with a view to getting their consent on the question of staff representation - on which, if they would not assist voluntarily, it would be necessary to make provision in the Charter.
(iii) For the Postmaster General to discuss with the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury the question of parliamentary procedure.
14. The Cabinet had before them a Memorandum by the Minister of Transport (C.P.-114 (36)), recalling last year's decision to regard the question of a grant from the Road Fund, in respect of the demolition of Waterloo Bridge and the erection of a new bridge, as settled by the previous declarations of Parliament against the destruction of the Bridge. The L.C.C. now intended to ask once more for a Road Fund grant; this was disclosed in the Memorandum accompanying their Money Bill of the present Session. The Minister proposed to adhere to the position adopted last year.

The Cabinet approved the proposal of the Minister of Transport.
15. The Cabinet had before them a memorandum by the Minister of Transport (C.P.116(56)) dated the 26th April, 1936, in which he asked for the authority of the Cabinet to support the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Bill introduced by a Private Member and which, at that time, was shortly to be considered by Standing Committee B.

The Prime Minister informed the Cabinet then that the Private Member's Bill to which the above memorandum referred had passed through Committee on the morning of the 5th May with the amendments desired by the Committee. It was, therefore, unnecessary for him to trouble the Cabinet in the matter beyond asking leave to support its remaining stages if they could be secured without any material expenditure of Government time.

The Cabinet agreed:

To approve the proposal of the Minister of Transport as set forth above.
16. The Cabinet had under consideration the Voluntary Hospitals (Paying Patients) Bill, introduced by a Private Member, of which the Report and Third Reading were to be taken on Friday, the 8th May.

The Minister of Health informed the Cabinet that he wished to support the Bill and that it would probably be passed by the House of Commons.

The Cabinet agreed with the Minister of Health.
17. The Cabinet had before them the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Bill introduced by a Private Member and which was due for further consideration and Third Reading on Friday, the 8th May.

The Cabinet were informed that the Bill was proceeding.
18. The Cabinet had before them the Public Meeting Act (1908) Amendment Bill to be introduced by a Private Member in the House of Commons on Friday, the 8th May.

The Cabinet were informed that similar Bills had been introduced in 1928 and 1933. The Government had offered no opposition but the Bill had not passed Second Reading.

The Cabinet agreed:

That no objection should be offered to the Bill.
19. The Lord President of the Council informed the Cabinet that strong objection had been taken in many quarters to the selection of 13th May, 1937, as the date for the King's Coronation. He had consulted the Cabinet Committee on the previous evening and they had agreed that the date should be altered from Thursday, the 13th May, to Wednesday, the 12th May.

The Cabinet agreed:

That the Lord President of the Council should have authority to recommend to the King that His Majesty's Coronation should be held on Wednesday, the 12th May, 1937, instead of Thursday, the 13th May.

(The Cabinet were reminded that the date of the Coronation is still to be kept secret.)

8, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1.

6th May, 1937.
APPENDIX I.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
May 6th, 1936.
Despatched M.

My telegram No. 112.

Cabinet approve the draft despatch sent to Your Excellency by air bag yesterday; and you should now act as directed therein.

Your Excellency will realise that though the German Government are not specifically asked for answers on certain of the points dealt with, His Majesty's Government expect a real clarification of all the doubtful points mentioned in paragraphs 6, 7 (first sentence), 8 (two separate points), 9, 10 (six separate points), 11 (five separate points) and 12 (before Germany's return to the League is discussed).

Your Excellency should impress upon the Chancellor that His Majesty's Government earnestly trust that the German Government's answers on these points may be of such nature as to facilitate the early opening of the negotiations which both our Governments hope may lead to a general settlement in Europe. His Majesty's Government are particularly anxious that no room should be left for misunderstanding in matters so important; and if, therefore, the German Government's preliminary discussions with Your Excellency suggest that such a course would be useful and if the German Government consider that it would be of assistance to have an oral discussion with a British Minister, His Majesty's Government would be happy to
make early arrangements for one of His Majesty's Ministers though not the Foreign Secretary, to visit Berlin in order to assist Your Excellency in your discussions.

I told the French Ambassador on May 4th that I did not intend to give to the French or any other Government a copy in advance of our proposed communication to the German Government. After your interview with the Chancellor has taken place you are authorised to give your French, Belgian and Italian colleagues, if they enquire, a brief general account of what passed. I will in due course myself give copies of your communication to the French, Belgian and Italian Ambassadors here.
APPENDIX II.

Cypher telegram to Sir E. Phipps (Berlin)

Foreign Office, 6th May, 1936, 8.00 p.m.

No. 113. BY TELEPHONE.

IMMEDIATE.

My telegram No. 112.

Cabinet approve the draft despatch sent to Your Excellency by air bag yesterday (which should be numbered 541 and dated to-day) subject to the three following modifications.

(a) in penultimate sentence of paragraph 2 inverted commas should close after word "peace" and not after word "work."

(b) for "would invite" in last sentence of paragraph 6 read "will invite" and

(c) in last sentence of paragraph 8 delete "in future."

In view of the Chancellor's absence from Berlin (see your telegrams Nos. 155 and 156) you should as suggested make your communication to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and see the Chancellor himself as soon as possible after his return to Berlin.

Your Excellency should impress upon the German Government that His Majesty's Government earnestly trust that their answers on these points may be of such a nature as to facilitate the early opening of the negotiations which both our Governments hope may lead to a general settlement in Europe.

His Majesty's Government are particularly anxious that no room should be left for misunderstanding in matters so important. If, therefore, Your Excellency judges at any time from your preliminary discussions with the German Government that such a course would be useful and that they consider
that it would be of assistance, Your Excellency is authorised to indicate that His Majesty's Government would be happy to accept an invitation for one of His Majesty's Ministers, though not the Foreign Secretary, to pay an early visit to Berlin in order to assist Your Excellency in your discussions. I leave to Your Excellency's discretion to decide at what moment such an indication could advantageously be given with a view to furthering prospects of successful negotiation. From our point of view what we want to avoid is that the German Government should return an unsatisfactory answer to our enquiries without hearing from a Minister, who had himself participated in the discussions here, the whole range of considerations we have had in view.

Your Excellency will realise that though the German Government are not specifically asked for answers on certain of the points dealt with, His Majesty's Government will hope to obtain a clarification of all the doubtful points mentioned in paragraphs 6, 7 (first sentence), 8 (two separate points), 9, 10 (six separate points), 11 (five separate points) and 12 (before Germany's return to the League is discussed).

I told the French Ambassador on 4th May that I did not intend to give to the French or any other Government a copy in advance of our proposed communication to the German Government. Immediately after your interview with the Chancellor has taken place you are authorised to give your French, Belgian and Italian colleagues if they enquire a very general account of what passed. I will in due course myself give copies of your communication to the French, Belgian and Italian Ambassadors here.