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Australia 13-16 Feb.

Some notes on Australia

SOME NOTES ON AUSTRALIA

General information

The area of Australia is some 3 million square miles, with Papua and the Trust Territory of New Guinea occupying 183,000 square miles. Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom jointly administer the Trust Territory of Nauru, an island of 12 square miles. The Australian Antarctic Territory comprises nearly half of the approximately 5 million square miles of the Antarctic Continent.

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There are three main political parties - the Labour, Liberal and Country parties.

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slight interest in the main currents of Socialist theory. Other important elements that underlie its policies are Australian nationalism, anti-militarism, protectionism and a concern for the right of the "little" man. Within the Labour Party is a substantial Catholic element, which has attempted to direct the Party into strong action against the Communists and to foster a foreign policy directed against the Soviet Union and Communist China, and the issue of Catholic control has begun to assume importance inside the Party. Before the recent elections, the split came into the open and contributed to the victory of the conservative forces. A faction of the Party opposed to the leadership of Dr. H. V. Evatt formed the Anti-Communist Labour Party, criticizing his policies as too solicitous toward the Communists. Dr. Evatt ousted this group from the regular Labour Party. While the Anti-Communist Labour Party was defeated, failing to win any seats in the House, it contributed substantially to the Government's victory in the election. It is expected that Dr. Evatt will face a stiff fight to remain Leader of the Party. His Deputy is Arthur Calwell.

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The Press

Australia has no real party press, and in fact almost all its leading newspapers are anti-Labour, anti-Country Party, and generally critical of the Government. Moreover, there is little circulation of papers outside the States in which they are published. In Sydney, the leading papers are the Sydney Morning Herald, the Daily Telegraph and the Daily Mirror. In Melbourne, they are the Herald, the Sun-Pictorial, the Argus, and the Age. Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart also have dailies with a circulation of close to 100,000.

Government

In the recent elections, the Liberal-Country Party Coalition Government headed by Prime Minister Menzies won 75 seats in the House of Representatives to 47 for the Labour Party, and has 30 seats in the Senate to 28 for Labour,

with 2 seats still undecided but likely to go to the splinter Anti-Communist Labour Party. The Liberal Party Leader serves as Prime Minister, while the Country Party Leader, Sir Arthur Fadden, serves as Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer. Fifteen portfolios are allotted to Liberal Ministers and five to Country Party men. The Ministers for External Affairs, for Defence and for Territories, respectively Messrs. Casey, McBride and Hasluck, are all Liberal Party members.

External relations

Before the Second World War, Australian interest in foreign affairs was not widespread, and consisted chiefly in fears of extensive Oriental immigration or attack, strong ties with Britain and reliance on the Royal Navy, and an emotional interest in the Middle East owing to Australian losses in that area in World War I. Governments generally depended upon British policy, opposed war, and took little real interest in foreign affairs. The country sensed great danger and shock in 1942 when Japanese invasion appeared imminent and no assistance from British seapower was available. That the invasion was forestalled by the American victory in the Battle of the Coral Sea has had a profound influence in Australia. There is reported to be considerable popular liking for Americans, as well as some ambivalence caused by the fact that an emotional attachment toward Britain must be tempered by the realization that in the future again it would be not the British Navy but American efforts that will determine Australian freedom in a conflict.

Australia's situation in the Pacific has exercised continually greater influence on her foreign policies. That her fate is linked with that of the neighbouring countries of the "Near North" was stressed by External Affairs Minister Casey in a recent statement. Her assistance in the Korean conflict, her dispatch of forces to fight Communist guerrillas in Malaya, her opposition to Indonesian possession of New Guinea, all result from uneasiness over the possibility of Communist influence spreading in her direction. In matters of defence, Australia has sought regional as well as global partners. The ANZUS Pact is regarded as of more practical benefit than the traditional arrangements with the United Kingdom. The latter ties remain important largely in the context of United Nations efforts on behalf of peace; accordingly Australians have found it expedient and necessary to give full support to the United Nations. In 1954 Australia helped lead in negotiation of the SEATO Treaty, and was so anxious to get some form of binding agreement of interested Powers to stem aggression in Southeast Asia that the Government committed the country to armed support in advance of consultation with either Parliament or people. Further-

more, the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic Development in South and Southeast Asia, now a subject of great interest among Australians, originated from a proposal at the January 1950 meeting of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers by Mr. Spender, the Australian Minister for External Affairs, recommending that the Commonwealth Governments consider a project of economic co-ordination whereby each contributing member would provide material help to the countries of Southeast Asia. The Plan has included both long-range economic development programmes and technical assistance.

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12 January 1956

SOME NOTES ON AUSTRALIA

ADDENDUM

Government

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BUREAU OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Australia:

The national correspondent in the field of social welfare is: Mr. F. H. ROWE, Director-General, Department of Social Services, Western House, 83 William Street, Melbourne, Australia. (Former Representative of Australia on the Social Commission).

The national correspondents in the field of social defence are: Mr. A. R. WHATMORE, Inspector General, Penal and Gaols Department, Spring Street, Melbourne C. 1, STATE OF VICTORIA; Inspector F. E. BISCHOP, Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Department, Brisbane, STATE OF QUEENSLAND; Colonel J.J. SCANLAN, Comptroller of Prisons, Hobart, STATE OF TASMANIA; Mr. L. C. J. NOTT, Comptroller General of Prisons, Prison Department, Sydney, New South Wales; Mr. A. MacKILLOP, Comptroller General of Prisons, Perth, WESTERN AUSTRALIA; Mr. J. H. ALLEN, Sheriff and Comptroller of Prisons, Supreme Court Building, King William Street, Adelaide, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The Government of Australia has not yet identified itself with one of the regional consultative groups, as provided for under resolution 415 (V). The most suitable group, from the point of view of cultural affinities, is the European group and it would be helpful for the Government to be urged to indicate its desire to be identified with this group.

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AUSTRALIAN OFFICERS
SERVING WITH
THE UNITED NATIONS MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP
IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Lieutenant General R. H. Nimmo, Chief Military Observer
(United Nations staff member since October 1950
promoted as of 1 January 1956 to D-2)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Date of Entry on Duty</u>
Colonel R. A. Perkins	NX 700340	8 June 1955
Lieutenant Colonel R. H. Marson	QX 700192	28 June 1954
Major C. N. McLean	VX 700349	13 November 1953
Major F. H. Moy	NX 700454	26 January 1955
Major J. D. Murray	WX 700165	27 July 1954
Major D. A. Williams	NX 700452	26 September 1954

* * * * *

31 December 1955

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Australia:

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Mr. F. H. ROWE, Director-General, Department of Social Services,
Western House, 83 William Street, Melbourne, Australia. (Former
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The national correspondents in the field of social defence are:
Mr. A. R. WHATMORE, Inspector General, Penal and Gaols Department,
Spring Street, Melbourne C. 1, STATE OF VICTORIA; Inspector F. E.
BISCHOF, Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Department,
Brisbane, STATE OF QUEENSLAND; Colonel J.J. SCANLAN, Comptroller of
Prisons, Hobart, STATE OF TASMANIA; Mr. L. C. J. NOTT, Comptroller
General of Prisons, Prison Department, Sydney, New South Wales;
Mr. A. MacKILLOP, Comptroller General of Prisons, Perth, WESTERN
AUSTRALIA: Mr. J. H. ALLEN, Sheriff and Comptroller of Prisons,
Supreme Court Building, King William Street, Adelaide, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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AUSTRALIA

* D-2	Nimmo, Robert H.	(Pol. Mission)
D-1	Smith, George I.	(DPI)
P-5	Judd, Percival	(ESA)
P-5	Menzies, Gordon	(PERS)
P-5	Tenison-Woods, M.	(ESA)
P-4	Dunn, Maxwell	(DPI)
P-4	Pittendrigh, R.	(DPI)
P-4	Townsend, George W.	(TRI)
P-4	Mylne, G.S.	(ECAFE)
P-3	Hall, David L.D.	(PSCA)
P-3	Taylor, Kenneth	(ESA)
P-3	Podbielski, G.	(ECE)
* P-3	Rooke, Thomas A.	(Pol. Mission)
P-2	Badger, Kathleen	(CONF.SER.)
P-2	Burge, Rupert	(ESA)
* P-2	Travis, Arthur A.	(CONF.SER.)
P-2	Williams, Norman	(CONF.SER.)
P-1	Campbell, Barbara	(ESA)
G-5	Davies, Margaret	(ESA)

* Not counted for purposes of geographical distribution.

SYDNEY INFORMATION CENTRE

Mr. A.H.W. Williams, Director
United Nations Information Centre
Box 4030, General Post Office
Sydney, Australia

Street Address: Stanton House
133 Pitt Street

Cable Address: OMNIPRESS
SYDNEY (AUSTRALIA)

Telephone: BW-5141

Area Covered: Australia and New Zealand

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD



BUREAU DE L'ASSISTANCE TECHNIQUE

UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 4-1234

CABLE ADDRESS: TECABOARD • NEW YORK

REFERENCE:

CANBERRA - AUSTRALIA

Joint TAB/UNICEF Office in Sydney.

TAB Liaison Officer: Mr. John Minter (U.S.) - P.4

TAB Office Address: Stanton House, 133 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW

Office Telephone No. BW. 6954, 6956

Contribution: 1956 pledge announced for the first
half of the year: US\$312,500

Level of Approved 1956 Category I
Technical Assistance Programme: *none*

Comment:

No problems.

A U S T R A L I A

TAB Resident Representative

Mr. John Minter
Stanton House
133 Pitt Street
Sydney, NSW, Australia

Cable address: TECABOARD
SYDNEY (AUSTRALIA)

Telephone: BW 6954, 6956

Mr. Minter serves also as representative for UNICEF.
His office and that of the Office of the Department of
Public Information are together.

Australia's 1956 Contribution to the Expanded Programme

\$312,500 has been pledged for the first half of 1956;
pledge for second half of the year has not been announced.

U N I C E F

AUSTRALIA

Field Representative:

Mr. John R. Minter
UNICEF Representative, Southwest
Pacific Office
Stanton House
133 Pitt Street
Sydney, N.S.W., Australia

Cable address: UNICEF
SYDNEY

Telephone: BW 6954 and BW 6956

Allocations:

-

Projects Assisted:

-

Government Contributions: \$12,702,704

Australia occupies second place in a list of 1955 contributions on a per capita basis.