

CABLEGRAM.

**SECRET**

CA:On.

Sent: 4th June, 1954.  
2308.

FROM:

Recd: 5th June, 1954.  
0900Australian Delegation,  
GENEVA.G.C.154. SECRET.

For the Secretary from Watt.

Bedell Smith invited McIntosh (New Zealand) and myself to see him tonight. He said he wanted to give the A.N.Z.U.S. partners in Geneva confidential information about the French-American talks regarding conditions on which American intervention in Indo-China might conceivably take place. The information he gave was consistent with but less detailed than the information we had already received from the United Kingdom supplemented by Spender's advice from Washington. Main emphasis was some reassurance against any hasty action and some playing up of difficulty in securing precise answers from the French.

2. McIntosh and I took the opportunity to explain frankly once again Australian and New Zealand reservations regarding proposal for winding up the Korean debate. This subject is dealt with in a separate telegram. Bedell Smith's hands are completely tied by Dulles.

3. We then had general discussion on Indo-China. Bedell Smith is very pessimistic regarding prospects of any reasonable settlement here and thinks Molotov's visit to Moscow resulted in stiffening of Communist line. He thinks Eden is also increasingly disturbed.

4. Ball of A.A.P. - Reuters questioned McIntosh regarding alleged "A.N.Z.U.S. Meeting" which a member of the American Delegation had told him was to be held tonight. McIntosh denied any such meeting. Ball pressed for comment from me but in view of past history with him here I refused to comment. We informed Bedell Smith who immediately agreed there had been no question of holding a formal A.N.Z.U.S. Meeting.

MIN & DEPT. E.A.  
MIN & DEPT. DEFENCE  
P.M'S.

5th June, 1954.

Dep. Secy. of State Copy

*Attention*

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Situation in Indo China - Australian policy