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Directors: Joe A. Grima George S.Cini

JAG/EA

our ref

your ref

22 April 1975

Mrs. Elisabeth Mann Borgese, Geneva.

Pindeth.

I thought that it would be better to send you this letter through Prof. Polunin, since it may be rather difficult to use the services of the Malta Mission following yesterday's statement in Parliament.

Enclosed is a detailed report of the Prime Minister's statement in reply to Arvid Pardo's letter that was published last week. I would have thought that Arvid had consulted you on the contents of that letter.

You can now see that the issue has become political and there certainly needs to be very careful thinking and planning before any new initiative is taken.

I will certainly be very pleased to advise you regarding any statement you and Arvid would like to make, but it must all be treated very carefully.

Also I would like to come direct to you, and not through the Malta Mission. - So please keep me advised of your whereabouts.

Kindest regards, and looking forward to hearing from you within the next few days.

Grima

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Your letter to "In-Nazzjon Taghna" was published, and the cutting is enclosed.

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Directors: Joe A. Grima George S.Cini

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6 March 1975

Mrs. Elisabeth Mann Borgese, The Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Box 4068, Santa Barbara, California 93103, USA.

Many thanks for your letter of February 14, which was certainly most welcome.

I took note of your comments regarding the declaration of Oaxtepec, and immediately issued it to the press in Malta. Both the Malta Television and Radio mentioned the declaration in their news bulletins, whilst you have cuttings of the report carried in Malta News and L-Orizzont. You will also note that following the issue of our release the Times of Malta carried an editorial on the "Law of the Sea" - a copy of which is also enclosed.

I hope that by the time you will get this letter I would have received a reply from you to my cable regarding the confirmation of the date for your speech in Malta.

I look forward to seeing you here very shortly.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely, Joe A. Grima

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## DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES DIGITAL SEPARATION SHEET

Separation Date: July 22, 2016

Fonds Title: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
Fonds #: MS-2-744
Box-Folder Number: Box 87, Folder 16
Series: Administrative records of the International Ocean Institute
Sub-Series: Correspondence
File: Correspondence between Elisabeth Mann Borgese and Impact (Public Relations) Ltd.

### **Description of item:**

File contains press clippings of the following articles:

"Law of the Sea." Times of Malta, March 3, 1975.

"IOIPC Meeting in Mexico." Malta News, March 3, 1975.

"Tkompli L-Laqgha Dwar Qiegh Il Bahar." L-Orizzont (Il-Marsa, Malta), February 28, 1975.

### **Reason for separation:**

4 pages have been removed from digital copy due to copyright concerns.

# IMPACT

#### THE DECLARATION OF OAXTEPEC

Call for the establishment of an International Seabed Authority

#### Background

The International Ocean Institute's Planning Council recently met in Oaxtepec, Mexico on the invitation of the Mexican Government. A number of Latin American experts on the seabed and ocean affairs joined the meeting.

At the end of the seminar the members of the Planning Council were received by President Luis Echeverria of Mexico, who discussed with them the results of the discussions.

As a result of the Oaxtepec meeting a document has now been produced, on the initiative of the International Ocean Institute, to serve as a basis for further discussion and development, and in the belief that it may make a positive contribution to the continuing debate on the establishment of a new order for ocean space. This document is to be presented at the forthcoming conference on the Law of the Sea in Geneva.

The International Ocean Institute has its headquarters at the Royal University of Walta.

#### THE DECLARATION OF OAXTEPEC

The <u>Declaration of Oaxtepec</u> produced on the initiative of the International Ocean Institute states that the Caracas Session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea has made substantial progress towards the establishment of international machinery, including an Enterprise, to regulate, manage, and develop one particular use of ocean space beyond national jurisdiction and its resources, that is the exploitation of resources from the deep floor of international ocean space.

## New Forms of International Cooperation

Little consideration, however, has yet been given to the development of new forms of international cooperation with regard to other ocean resources and to the traditional uses of ocean space, such as navigation, which are being transformed by technological advance. Also many new uses of the ocean are arising, and interaction between both new and traditional uses of the sea is growing. Increasingly, the need for the preservation of the marine environment requires coordinated action. International criteria for the harmonization of certain ocean uses must be elaborated and the uses themselves must be subjected to regulation, if conflicts are to be avoided and if the potential benefits which the oceans offer are to be realized.

A necessary complement to the exercise of comprehensive powers by coastal states in wide areas is international management of ocean space beyond national jurisdiction (international ocean space) since the continued existence of the freedoms of the High Seas beyond national maritime areas must frustrate to a greater or lesser degree national management of the sea and its resources within national jurisdiction; this is particularly the case in the light of contemporary military and technological developments. In addition such international management would enable landlocked and other geographically disadvantaged States to participate on an equal footing in the management of and benefits from international ocean space and its resources. It is in the immediate interest of all developing nations striving for a new international economic order to establish a new regime for ocean space. The creation of a machinery to administer ocean space beyond national jurisdiction and its resources would be an important institutional step in the direction of the new economic order.

#### New Strategy

To this end, a new strategy is suggested which, building upon the results of Caracas, could provide a common focus for the work of the three main conference committees; could cement the unity of developing countries through adoption of a common goal; and could appropriately utilize international institutions.

The new strategy would be based upon the assumption that international management of ocean space beyond national jurisdiction is a necessary complement to the exercise of comprehensive powers by coastal states in wide areas. Accordingly, the establishment of an International Seabed Authority as envisaged by the First Committee of UNCLOS will need to be supplemented by other organizational mechanisms dealing with the management and regulation of other uses of international ocean space. At the same time it is suggested that appropriate arrangements be made to deal with all ocean space activities not covered by existing intergovernmental organizations, particularly with regard to ocean space beyond national jurisdiction.

Such arrangements would entail, on the one hand, functional coordination and possible restructuring of these organizational mechanisms; on the other hand there is a need for a permanent body to keep under constant review the existing activities of the United Nations system relating to the seas and oceans and to provide a forum for the discussion of emerging problems relating to ocean space. In addition, other functions of this permanent body could be:

- To integrate the work of the agencies and organizations whose primary activities are directed towards the oceans;
- 2. To deal with all ocean activities not covered by existing intergovernmental organizations;
- 3. To harmonize interactions of multiple ocean space uses;
- To promote cooperation between national and international management systems;
- 5. To ensure effective international cooperation with technologically less-advanced countries in the development of national ocean space;
- 6. To ensure equitable distribution of benefits derived from the exploitation of the resources of international ocean space;
- 7. To promote the progressive development of the law of the sea;
- 8. To assume some functions with regard to dispute settlement.

It is emphasized that the new strategy would not require any change in the terms of reference of the First Committee nor would it contradict the Declaration of Principles contained in Resolution 2749 (XXV); at the same time, all the work of the First Committee could be utilized. The new strategy would open new perspectives for the work of the Second Committee, particularly with regard to the concept of the High Seas, since, no matter where boundaries are drawn eventually, the fundamental problems of the marine revolution are still with us, the activities of States in ocean space and the interactions of all uses must still be harmonized and, on occasion, regulated. On the contrary, it is likely that the new strategy, holding forth the unifying prospect of an effective management system for international ocean space, could facilitate the solutions of some of the thorny problems dealt with by the Second Committee. For the work of the Third Committee, the new strategy would provide a coherent institutional framework which has been lacking thus far.

#### Possible Difficulties

The new strategy would take into account the possible difficulties associated with the lack of regional arrangements, while at the same time it could accommodate a variety of regional developments, whether in the area of fisheries management, pollution control, or other peaceful activities in ocean space, such as envisaged by this Seminar with regard to the Caribbean region, or to other regions where regional organization is at an advanced stage of development. A global ocean regime, to be effective, should be articulated in regional organizations; regional organizations, on the other hand, to be effective, should adhere to global guidelines.

The new strategy rests on the continued convictions that the concept of the Common Heritage of Mankind holds the key to the future and is a step toward the creation of the new international economic order. This step must be taken.

This document has been produced on the initiative of the International Ocean Institute as a basis for further discussion and development and in the belief that it may make a positive contribution to the continuing debate on the establishment of a new order for ocean space. It is emphasized that it in no way reflects official views but only the views of the majority of participants at the Oaxtepec meeting.

Issued on behalf of: The International Ocean Institute by: Impact (Public Relations) Limited, Floor 4, Valletta Buildings, South Street, Valletta.

For further information please contact:

Mr.	Joe A.	Grima	20899/25211
Mr.	George	S. Cini	20899/25211

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21 February 1975



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