LIST OF PEOPLE WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THE OCEAN REGIME:

- 1.All participants of all three Center conferences, as listed in the introduction to THE OCEAN REGIME.
- 2. All members of the U.N. Ad Hoc Committee, as listed in the enclosed paper.
- 3. 12 copies to Undersecretary General Jose Rolz Bennett .
- 4. 20 copies to me.

5. The following:

Dr. Karl Treml Oberregierungsrat Deutsche Botschaft Washington, D.C.

Dr. Jens Evensen Le Directeur des diques Ministere Royal angeres Oslo, Norway

Dr. von Heppe Staatssekretaer Bundesministerium ruer wissenschaftliche Forschung Heussalle 2-10 53 Bonn 9, Germany

T.F. Gaskell Britannica House Moor Lane London E.C.2

Professor Carl Q. Christol University of Southern California University Park Los Cangeles, Cal. 90007

Professor Lewis M. Alexander Law of the Sea Institute University of Rhode Island Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Dr. Krishna Rao Ministry of External Affaira Patiala House Tilak Marg New Delhi, India

Professor Shigeru Oda Faculty of Law Sandxix Tohoku University Sendai, Japan

Dr. Hollis D. Hedberg Gulf Oil Corporation Gulf Building Pitts urgh, Pa. 15230

Dr. Aake Anker Ording
Orerettsakforer
Geitmyrsveien 48
Oslo, Norway

Professor Preston E. Cloud Jr. Department of Geology University of California Los Angeles, Cal. 90024

Mr. Wolfgang von Vitzthum (address in Dean Seeley's file)

Professor Erich Kahler 1 Evelyn Place Princeton, New Jersey.

Professor David Riesman

Mr. Lewis Mumford Amenia, New York.

The National Fisherman 22 Mainstreet Camden, Maine 1x 04843.

Professor Wx Gordon R.S. Hawkins, Exe-utive Director Canadian Institute of International Affairs Toronto, Canada.

Hon. Emilio Oribe
Representative of Uruguay,
Council of Organization of American States
Pan American Union
Washington, D.C.

Carlos Otero Lora Sociedad Nacional de Pesqueria Lima, Peru

David Schneider
Marine Science Staff
International Scientific and Technological Affairs
Department of State,
Washington D.C.

Professor Anthony Scott
Department of Economics
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada.

Mr. Ronald Wall Deputy Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food London, England

Mr. Edward Wenk, Jr.
Executive Secretary
National Council on Marine Resources and
Engineering Development, Washington, D.C.

Profeseor Antonin Snejdarek Institute for International Politics and Economy Mala Strana, Vlaska 19 Prag 1, Czechoslovakia

Professor Adam Kruschovsky
Political Institute for International Affairs
u. Warecka la
Warsaw 1. Poland.
Professor Vladimir Brajkovic

Institute for Adriatic Studies
Yugoslav Academy of Sceinces
Zagfak Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Senator Pell

Senator Church

Senator Kuchel

Dr. Kurt F. Reinhardt Channing House 850 Webster St. Apt. 322 Palo Alto, California 94301

Dobrosjelski

Mr. Bernard Reis

10 East 40th Street

New York 16, N.Y.

Mr. Ratan K. Nehru 38 Hamilton Road Allahabad, India

Mr. Momtaz Djamchid 4 Square Lagarde Paris V, France

Professor Richard Falk Stanford University Palo Alto, Cal.

Silviu Brucan

Rich Fryschard. Lall

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Lawyers Lewis M. Mexander, G. Director
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Rhade Island 02887
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Morningside Heights
New York, My 10027 (Soft Hathon free) Coof. Dr. 7. FROWEIN Universität Bachim, NESS GORMANY Prof. D. G. FAENICKE
hudersität Frankfurt/ Heidelberg
(head of Jennan 1LA group
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Revision of Bucharest article, (015tA) 6/69

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The Permanent Commission on the Oceans has concluded its first session. Parallel or complementary work is going on in a number of specialized agencies as well as in the ENDC which is dealing with the very important Soviet proposal for the total disarmament of the ocean floor.

The Malta proposition and its follow-up are the most exciting, and the most hopeful subject before the United Nations now or at any time. That this should happen at a time when the general world-political climate is far from encouraging is a remarkable fact.

Another remarkable feature of this most exciting development now before the United Nations is that it was initiated by a small nation, a mini-nation, with a population of hardly three hundred thousand. It is indeed encouraging that such a small nation should

play such a large role in international affairs. It shows how the power of ideas still can dwarf the power of big money or of big guns.

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A number of important proposals have come forth thus far: the first is, to abolish the open-ended criterion of exploitability and accept the 200 meter depth limit without qualification. It is difficult to imagine that this proposal could be accepted. Some nations would get an enormous continental shelf, others practically none, given the geological irregularities of the ocean floor. This delimitation would seem completely arbitrary.

The National Petroleum Council of the United States proposed an extension of national jurisdiction to a depth of 2,500 meters, to the edge of the abysmal slope, considered to be the natural boundary between the continental shelf and the ocean floor. This limit would not be any more acceptable than the first one: like the 200 meter depth limit, it would leave the determination of the boundary to the uncertainties and whims of marine geology.

A third proposal, put forward by the American President's Commission would combine the 200 and the 2,600 meter depth limits in such a way as to grant exclusive national jurisdiction to a depth limit of 200 meters and to consider the zone between 200 and 2,500 meters as an intermediate zone, under the jurisdiction of the international regime, but reserving to the coastal nation the right to approve any leases granted in this area by the international regime. This is more complex. But if the two factors which it combines are unacceptable separately, there is at least a possibility that they may turn out unacceptable jointly as well.

A fourth proposal, first put forward by the Yugoslav expert Juri Andrassy, would combine a depth limit with a horizontal shelf. Considering that the average width of all continental shelves all over the world is about 50 km, the new treaty should extend national sovereignty to a depth of 200 meters or a distance from shore of 50 km, whichever is farther. There may be variants to this proposal: the horizontal extension might be pushed out somewhat farther, let us say, to 100 km, to assuage the Latin Americans — it would not make too much difference. The criterion,

it would seem, would come far closer to satisfying the demands of justice. A proposal, based on these same criteria, was recently introduced by the Government of Malta in the 42-nation Permanent Committee on the Oceans.

The Soviet Union would terminate national jurisdiction over the continental shelf at the outer limit of territorial waters, that is, twelve nautical miles from shore. This is a radical proposal, but simple and clear-cut. While it will be opposed by commercial interests, it may instead satisfy the demands of the military also in the Western countries: it is an old tradition for the Navies of strong maritime powers to advocate the narrowest possible interpretation of national sovereignty on the high seas: which enables them to operate as closely as possible to the shore of supposedly hostile nations. I would therefore not be surprised in the least if, in the end, something like the Yugoslav or the Soviet proposal prevailed.

A different, regional approach has been suggested by Laurence Reed in his recently published pamphlet "Ocean-Space -- Europe's New Frontier." Reed would have the countries of Western Europe claim sovereignty over the seabed down to depths of 13,500 ft. or out to a distance of 200 miles (whichever is the greater) and then pool their individual national claims under a financially independent Oceanic Development Commission -- the mission of which would be to manage the common seafloor resources on a profitmaking basis. The Commission would be financed by bonus payment, rents, royalties, etc. The idea is not only to pool the resources of the seabed for intelligent exploitation purposes, but also to pool common market technologies for the common good.

If these principles of sovereignty and management were established throughout the world ocean, some 40 percent would come under such regional authorities, with 60 percent remaining available for international control. It is a relatively new approach to establishment of coastal jurisdictions, though analogous in some respects to existing regional river basin compacts. Reed further suggests that the regional authority should be responsible to a maritime problem.

with membership drawn from national parliaments and from companies, labor organizations, and other groups concerned with ocean exploitation.

What is certain, at any rate, is that the question of the territorial boundaries of the regime is not as important as might appear at first sight. It is clear that it will be a political frontier rather than a geological boundary. The coincidence of geological boundary and political frontier is rapidly becoming obsolete as a result of technological development. The ocean frontier is the last frontier to undergo the transformation from geological to political frontier -- and this in an age in which the political frontier, in turn, is losing its solemnity because of the advancing integration of the world community.

It should be kept in mind, furthermore, that what we want to create is not a national territorial "State" in the traditional sense but a functional regime, whose territorial boundaries are far less important and clearly defined than those of an old-fashioned nation-State. The political importance of the limit can be deflated by functional considerations and by a correct assessment of the role to be played in the development of ocean resources by multinational or international organizations whose operations are hampered rather than helped by an overemphasis on political divisions.

More important than its territorial delimitation, therefore, is the question of the functional delimitation of the international regime: the nature and the extent of its jurisdiction.

The Soviet Union advocates the establishment of a code, more or less along the lines of the Outer-Space Treaty, to govern the conduct of nations in ocean space. Considering current and forthcoming activities in outer space and in ocean space, however, a code satisfying the needs of the former would in no way suffice to regulate effectively the latter. The economic exploitation of ocean space does require some machinery, from the "supranational" implications of which the Soviet experts have been shying away thus far. I have a feeling that if such machinery were more precisely defined and described, the Soviet preoccupations might be assuaged.

The United States, though officially it has not made up its mind, tends to the advocacy of a system of registry: nations wishing to explore or exploit a certain portion of ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction would apply to an international registry office for a license which they would obtain on a basis of competitive bidding; they would pay a certain fee to the international office, which would be used by the World Bank or the Development Programme to alleviate world hunger or promote education, or for some other generally laudable purpose. This sounds simple enough -- too simple, in fact. suspect that it raises more problems than it solves; it leaves a host of problems totally out of consideration, e.g., the problem of pollution, which is gigantic and growing from year to year. I have a suspicion, furthermore, that it might turn out completely unacceptable to the Socialist as well as to the developing nations.

The developing nations, in fact, are pressing for the establishment of suitable international machinery to embody the principles of the Maltese proposition. The agency or regime that might result from the criteria of these developing nations would by no means be supranational, nor would it infringe national sovereignty. Its jurisdiction, in fact, might be scaled, both territorially and functionally. On the territorial scale, the regime might issue binding regulations for the seabed, the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction; it might issue recommendations concerning the high seas, where a large body of law already is in existence; and opinions addressed to Member States concerning territorial waters and submarine areas under national jurisdiction. On the functional scale, the regime could of scale, and fold from binding regulations in matters, concerning fisheries or communications: quite a variety of rules, regulations, recommendations and opinions. The enlargement of the concept of "legislation" in this sense, its loosening up over an ever wider range of "laws" or "norms" is a general phenomenon, also at the national level. Planning transforms and enlarges the concept of law. Planning undoubtedly will play an important role in the

ocean regime. In carrying out a plan, consensus is infinitely more important than enforcement, cooperation is more productive than coercion. Thus, also the functional aspect of the problem of the regime's jurisdiction, while obviously in need of precise definitions, may be politically deflated.

A third major issue, or rather, a syndrome of issues, arises from the concept of the peaceful use of the ocean floor. too, already several interpretations are in circulation. The United States tends towards a minimal interpretation, both functionally and territorially. It would limit disarmament to the banning of atomic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction while permitting "conventional arms" on the ocean floor as well as tracking devices. It would restrict such limited disarmament to the ocean floor outside the territorial shelf, however defined. The Soviet interpretation is maximal, in both senses. Disarmament should be complete -- including conventional arms -- and the ocean floor should include the continental shelf, to the outer limit of the territorial water, or 12 miles from shore. Beyond 12 miles from shore no military equipment of any kind, including tracking devices, could be installed on the continental shelf. Neither interpretation is going to prevail unqualified. But the Soviet proposal, also according to neutral and some Western experts, has many merits, and the Soviets are quite willing to further explain and spell out and perhaps modify certain details, in line with current Swedish or Canadian proposals.

What is certain is that the problem of keeping the ocean floor disarmed is a very complicated one. It is impossible to encumber the Regime with complex military functions and controls. It is unrealistic to assume that the great powers would entrust such functions to an international organ free of veto power. There is no doubt that there is a general desire to keep demilitarized those areas which have, thus far, not been militarized, and a provision to this effect must be included in any Treaty establishing an Ocean Regime. But this is no solution. Considering the indivisibility of ocean space, it will turn out to be impossible --- or meaningless -- to keep the seabed demilitarized while atom-bomb

loaded submarines are cruising a few feet from the bottom in shooting range off the coast of "hostile" nations. Submarines, on the other hand, are part and parcel of the whole complex of armaments and disarmament. It is not likely that Nations will give up submarines while the arms race is on in the air and on the ground. The task ahead is arduous and long. Difficult though it may be, the seabed provides a unique and very challenging opportunity for a breakthrough in the disarmament discussions. For here, for the first time, the disarmament and arms control question can be taken out of its isolation, in which progress has been so discouragingly slow, and dealt with in conjunction with the establishment of a peace-system, i.e., the establishment of a regime for the peaceful exploration and exploitation of ocean resources. The hope is that as economic cooperation and interdependence grow under such a regime, the military use of the oceans will become increasingly obsolete and absurd -- and so eliminate itself.

This kind of international economic cooperation in exploring and exploiting the common ocean resources raises a twofold issue: on the one hand, the concept of common property needs to be clarified and embodied in clear and unambiguous terms of international law. On the other hand, it raises the question whether, and to what extent, the administration of common property can be shared by socialist and nonsocialist Nations.

Common property is a novel concept in international law but an ancient one in civil law, antedating the rise of capitalism and socialism. In the Middle Ages, ownership was a "bundle of rights," including the right to use. The Latin proprietas meant both "property" and "propriety," that is, property that had to be used properly. The absoluteness of property, including the right to use it a-socially or to misuse it is a symptom of degeneracy. Absolute ownership is as meaningless as absolute territorial sovereignty or absolute individualism. Property, sovereignty, and individualism have meaning only within a wider social context. They are "common" as much as "individual."

They are linked, furthermore, both in their historical origin and in their philsophical essence, and this may explain why all three of them are in crisis today. The eclipse of the era of absolute individualism is bringing a resurgence of the concept of common property in many and most different places. The validity of the concept is expanding as wealth is no longer created by ownership of land, water, or natural resources but increasingly by science and technology, by education, by organization and design, none of which is "owned" by anybody: which are common property.

According to this concept, ocean resources would not be owned by anybody: not even by the international ocean regime, which thus would not be vested with territoriality. They would be used, privately or publicly or in a combination of both, so long as they were used in the common interest as defined and planned by the competent organs of the ocean regime.

As to the possibility of socialist-nonsocialist cooperation in such a framework, the Soviet delegate to the U.N. has expressed serious doubts on several occasions during the debates of the Ad Hoc Committee and on the floor of the General Assembly. It should be noted, however, that there is no established Socialist doctrine on this subject. Nor is there any international experience that might provide a clear answer. The first hint at a positive answer is provided by the recent Yugoslav-Italian agreement for the exploitation of the Yugoslav continental shelf in the Adriatic. An American paper, the Oil and Gas Journal, concluded from this agreement that "one problem which snagged such ventures in the past — the blending of capitalist and communist interests." had thereby been solved.

I do not think that it has solved the whole problem once and for all. But a beginning has been made, and with goodwill on all sides, based on the conviction that cooperation is more productive than competition, and with some constitutional ingeniousness, now solutions will undoubtedly be found.

A year and a half ago the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, California, initiated a study project on all these problems. The Center held three seminars in which the Center staff was joined by international groups of experts -- Ambassadors to the U.N., scientists, representatives of oil and mining enterprises and fishery organizations. After a year of study the Center published a model statute for the ocean regime proposing concrete solutions to the problems we have just indicated -- and to a number of others. We are not the only organization that has proposed such a model statute; there are a few others in circulation. I can say without boasting, however, that ours is the most complete and complex one, attacking the problem from a systemic or ecological point of view.

In consideration of the Center's work on the law of the seas, the Center received, early this Spring, an invitation from the Government of Malta to hold an international Convocation in Malta in June, 1970, on the peaceful uses of the seas, including the ocean floor. We are now preparing this Convocation which should be attended by about 250 political leaders, scientists, and experts in the extraction of living and nonliving resources from the seas, as well as representatives of all the specialized agencies engaged in one way or another in the development of the oceans and the redistribution of wealth in the world.

The role of nongovernmental organizations (economic, scientific) in the exploration and exploitation of ocean resources is, and is bound to be, of primary importance. It is logical, hence, that they should play an important role in designing the kind of regime most appropriate to let them play this role. The Malta Convocation should give them an occasion to do just that.

Full-scale exploitation of ocean resources may still be twenty, even fifty years off. Or less. No one really knows. Technological forecasters often blow up obstacles and time-spans. Reality may be faster than imagination. It would not be wise to sit back and wait until, once again, technology overtakes

politics. Here is an opportunity -- for once -- for politics, in the architectonic sense, to move ahead of the technological imperative. Here is a chance to develop new patterns of international cooperation, on the scientific, the economic, the political level. The oceans, covering over 70 percent of the earth's surface, are vast. The problems of an ocean regime far exceed the physical boundaries of the oceans. Confronting them imaginatively, creatively, we might contribute to the progress of disarmament, development, and active cooperation in the world as a whole.

THE OCEAN REGIME. Notes prepared for an address to the Association of International Law and International Relations, Burachest, April 9, 1969.

In August, 1967, the Government of Malta proposed to the Secretary General of the United Nations that the agenda of the 22nd General Assembly include the following item: "Declaration and Treaty Concerning the Reservation Exclusively for Peaceful Purposes of the Seabed and the Ocean Floor Underlying the Seas Beyond the Limits of Present National Jurisdiction and the Use of their Resources in the Interest of Mankind." The ensuing discussion led to the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the legal, economic, and technological aspects of the problems involved. The Committee put together a remarkable documentation and studied the issues in some depth. Upon its report to the 23rd General Assembly, this Assembly adopted, in December 1968, a four-part resolution, establishing a Permanent Committee on the Oceans, with a rather wide mandate; proclaiming an International Decade of Ocean Exploration beginning in 1970; recommending the international regulation of anti-pollution measures; recommending studies conducive to the creation of new international machinery to embody the principles of the Maltese proposition.

The permanent Commission on the Oceans has concluded its first session. Parallel or complementary work is going on in a number of specialized agencies as well as in the ENDC which, at this moment, is dealing with the very important Soviet proposal for the total disarmament of the ocean floor.

The Malta proposition and its follow-up are the most exciting, and the most hopeful subject before the United Nations now or at any time. That this should happen at a time when the general world-political climate is far from encouraging is a remarkable fact. It shows that we are moving backward and forward at the same time. This probably is one of the secrets of existence. That is why the era of horros, threatening to throw us back into the Dark Ages, is also the era of hope, promising physical and spiritual well-being for ever greater numbers of people. In the long run, the moves forward have always surpassed the moves back, or else we would still be at the dawn of history.

Another remarkable feature of this most exciting development now before the United Nations is that it was initiated by a small nation, a mini-nation, with a population of hardly three hundred thousand. It is indeed encouraging that such a small nation should play such a large role in international affairs. It shows how the power of ideas still can dwarf the power of big money or of big guns.

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international regime, nations will agree to a narrow construction of the continental shelf and their jurisdiction over it. If there is no regime beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, or one that cannot be trusted, nations will tend to extend their own jurisdiction as far out as possible.

A number of important proposals have come forth thus far: the first is, to abolish the open-ended criterion of exploitability and accept the 200 meter depth limit without qualification. It is difficult to imagine that this proposal could be accepted. Some nations would get an enormous continental shelf, others practically none, given the geological irregularities of the ocean floor. This delimitation would seem completely arbitrary.

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A fourth proposal, first put forward by the Yugoslav expert Juri Andrassy, would combine a depth limit with a horizontal limit. Considering that the average width of all continental shelves all over the world is about 50 km, the new treaty should extend national sovereignty to a depth of 200 meters or a distance from shore of 50 km, whichever is farther. There may be variants to this proposal: the horizontal extension might be pushed out somewhat further, let us say, to a 100 km, to assuage the Latin Americans -- it would not make too much difference. The criterion, it would seem, would

come far closer to satisfying the demands of justice. A proposal, based on these same criteria, was recently introduced by the Government of Malta in the 42-Nation Permanent Committee on the Oceans.

The Soviet Union, finally, would terminate national jurisdiction over the continental shelf at the outer limit of territorial waters, that is, twelve nautical miles from shore. This is a radical proposal, but simple and clear-cut. While it will be opposed by commercial interests, it may instead satisfy the demands of the military also in the Western countries: it is an old tradition for the Navies of strong maritime powers to advocate the narrowest possible interpretation of national sovereignty on the high seas: which enables them to operate as closely as possible to the shore of supposedly hostile nations. I would therefore not be surprised in the least if, in the end, something like the Yugoslav or the Soviet proposal prevailed.

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It should be kept in mind, furthermore, that what we want to create is not a national territorial "State" in the traditional sense but a functional regime, whose territorial boundaries are far less important and clearly defined than those of an old-fashioned nation-State. Suppose, for instance, nongovernmental and intergovernmental organizations were to play an important role in the ocean regime -- a role already foreshadowed in the Outer-Space Treaty where they have respondibilities "as if they were nations." Suppose, as the main actors in the development of ocean resources, enterprises were recognized as associate members

of the regime, somewhere alongside, even though subordinated to, nation-States; that they were responsible for their actions and the dues and fees they might have to pay, no matter where they operated, whether within the limits of national jurisdiction or outside of it. In this case, the problem of the Continental Shelf and the limits of national jurisdiction -- while still needing to be solved, would be considerably deflated.

More important than its territorial delimitation thus is the question of the functional delimitation of the international regime: the nature and the extent of its jurisdiction.

The Soviet Union advocates the establishment of a code, more or less along the lines of the Outer-Space Treaty, to govern the conduct of nations in ocean space. Considering current and forthcoming activities in outer space and in ocean space, however, a code satisfying the needs of the former would in no way suffice to regulate effectively the latter. The economic exploitation of ocean space does require some machinery, from the "supranational" implications of which the Soviet experts have been shying away thus far. I have a feeling that if such mac_hinery were more precisely defined and described, the Soviet preoccupations might be assuaged.

The United States, though officially it has not made up its mind, tends to the advocacy of a system of registry: Nations wishing to explore or exploit a certain portion of ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction would apply to an international registry office for a licence which they would obtain on a basis of competitive bidding; they would pay a certain fee to the international office, which would be used by the World Bank or the Development Programme to alleviate world hunger or promote education, or for some other generally laudable purpose. this sounds simple enough -- too simple, in fact. I suspect that it raises more problems than it solves; it leaves a host of problems totally out of consideration -- e.g., the problem of pollution, which is gigantic and growing from year to year. I have a suspicion, furthermore, that it might turn out completely unacceptable to the Socialist as well as to the developing nations.

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of the Maltese proposition. The agency or regime that might result from the criteria of these developing nations, would by no means be supranational, nor would it infringe national sovereignty. Its jurisdiction, in fact, might be scaled, both territorially and functionally. On the territorial scale, the Regime might issue binding regulations for the seabed, the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction; it might issue recommendations concerning the high seas, where a large body of law already is in existence; and opinions addressed to Member States concerning territorial waters and submarine areas under national jurisdiction. On the functional scale, the Regime could issue anything from binding regulations in matters of security and pollution, to recommendations in matters concerning fisheries or communications: quite a variety of rules, regulations, recommendations and opinion. The enlargement of the concept of "legislation" in this sense, its loosening up over an ever wider range of "laws" or "norms" is a general phenomenon, also at the national level. Planning transforms and enlarges the concept of law. Planning undoubtedly will play an important role in the ocean regime. In carrying out a plan, consensus is infinitely more important than enforcement, cooperation is more productive than coercion. Thus also the functional aspect of the problem of the Regime's jurisdiction, while obviously in need of precise definitions, may be politically deflated.

A third major issue, or rather, a syndrom of issues, arises from the concept of the peaceful use of the ocean floor. Here, too, already several interpretations are in circulation. The United States tends towards a minimal interpretation, both functionally and territorially. It would limit disarmament to the banning of atomic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction while permitting "conventional arms" on the ocean floor as well as tracking devices. It would restrict such limited disarmament to the ocean floor outside the territorial shelf however defined. The Soviet interpretation is maximal, in both senses. Disarmament should be complete -- including conventional arms -- and the ocean floor should include the continental shelf, to the outer limit of the territorial

water, or 12 miles from shore. Beyond 12 miles from shore no military equipment of any kind, including tracking devices, could be installed on the continental shelf. Neither interpretation is going to prevail unqualified. But the Soviet proposal, also according to neutral and some Western experts, has many merits, and the Soviets are quite willing to further explain and spell out and perhaps modify, certain details.

What is certain is that the problem of keeping the ocean floor disarmed is a very complicated one. It is impossible to encumber the Regime with complex military functions and controls. It is unrealistic to assume that the great powers would entrust such functions to an international organ free of veto power. There is no doubt that there is a general desire to keep demilitarized those areas which have, thus far, not been militarized, and a provision to this effect must be included in any Treaty establishing an Ocean Regime. But this is no solution. Considering the indivisibility of ocean space it will turn out to be impossible -- or meaningless -- to keep the sea-bed demilitarized while atom-bomb loaded submarines are cruising a few feet from the bottom in shooting range off the coast of "hostile" nations. Submarines, on the other hand, are part and parcel of the whole complex of armaments and disarmament. It is not likely that Nations will give up submarines while the arms race is on in the air and on the ground. The task ahead is arduous and long. Difficult though it may be, the sea-bed provides a unique and very challenging opportunity for a break-through in the disarmament discussions. For here, for the first time, the disarmament and arms control question can be taken out of its isolation, in which progress has been so discouragingly slow, and dealt with in conjunction with the establishment of a peace-system -- i.e., the establishment of a regime for the peaceful exploration and exploitation of ocean resources. The hope is that as economic cooperation and interdependence grow under such a regime, the military use of the oceans will become increasingly obsolete and absurd -- and so eliminate itself.

This kind of international economic cooperation in exploring and exploiting the common ocean resources raises a twofold issue: On the one hand, the concept of common property needs to be

clarified and embodied in clear and unambiguous terms of international law. On the other hand, it raises the question whether, and to what extent, the administration of common property can be shared by socialist and nonsocialist Nations.

Common property is a novel concept in international law but an ancient one in civil law, antedating the rise of capitalism and socialism. In the Middle Ages, ownership was a "bundle of rights," including the right to use. The Latin proprietas meant both "property" and "propriety," that is, property that had to be used properly. The absoluteness of property, including the right to use it a-socially or to misuse it, is a symptom of degeneracy. Absolute ownership is as meaningless as absolute territorial sovereignty or absolute individualism. Property, sovereignty, and individualism have meaning only within a wider social context. They are "common" as much as "individual." They are linked, furthermore, both in their historical origin and in their philosophical essence, and this may explain why all three of them are in crisis today. The eclypse of the era of absolute individualism is bringing a resurgence of the concept of common property in many and most different places: in the teachings of the Catholic Church, in Boodhan, in Yugoslav constitutional law. The validity of the concept is expanding as wealth is no longer created by ownership of land, water, or natural resources but increasingly by sclience and technology, by education, by organization and design, none of which is "owned" by anybody: which are common property.

According to this concept, ocean resources would not be owned by anybody: not even by the international ocean regime, which thus would not be vested with territoriality. They would be used, privately or publicly or in a combination of both, so long as they were used in the common interest as defined and planned by the competent organs of the ocean regime.

As to the possibility of socialist-nonsocialist cooperation in such a framework, the Soviet delegate to the U.N. has expressed serious doubts on several occasions during the debates of the Ad Hoc Committee and on the floor of the General Assembly. It should be noted, however,

that there is no established Socialist doctrine on this subject. Nor is there any international experience that might provide a clear answer. The first hint at a positive answer is provided by the recent Yugoslav -Italian agreement for the exploitation of the Yugoslav continental shelf in the Adriatic. An American paper, the Oil and Gas Journal concludes from this agreement that "one problem which snagged such ventures in the past -- the blending of capitalist and communist interests," has thereby been solved.

I do not think that it has solved the whole problem once and for all. But a beginning has been made, and with good will on all sides, based on the conviction that cooperation is more productive than competition, and with some constitutional ingeniousness, now solutions will undoubtedly be found.

A year and a half ago the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, California, initiated a study project on all these problems. The Center held three seminars in which the Center staff was joined by international groups of experts -- Ambassadors to the U.N., scientists, representatives of oil and mining enterprises and fishery organizations. After a year of study the Center published a model statute for the ocean regime proposing concrete solutions to the problems we have just indicated -- and to a number of others. We are not the only organization that has proposed such a model statute; there are a few others in circulation. I can say without boasting, however, that ours is the most complete and the most complex one, attacking the problem from a systemic or ecological point of view.

In consideration of the Center's work on the law of the Seas, the Center received, early this Spring, an invitation from the Government of Malta to hold an international Convocation in Malta in June 1970 on the peaceful uses of the seas, including the ocean floor. We are now preparing this Convocation which should be attended by about 250 political leaders, scientists, and experts in the extraction of living and nonliving resources from the seas, as well as representatives of all the specialized agencies engaged in one way or another in the development of

the oceans and the redistribution of wealth in the world.

We are preparing a considerable body of research material -- about a thousand pages of fundamental background papers, surveys, estimates, model plans -- and hope that this material will be of some use to the United Nations in getting the international ocean decade off the ground. A private, unofficial gathering of this kind obviously is not burdened by official political responsibilities and can produce more daring and pioneering ideas than a governmental organization. We want to make sure to get a good balance between socialist, nonsocialist and unaligned countries, between developed and developing, between landlocked and maritime nations, and to have all regions of the world equitably represented.

Of course we want to have a good Romanian delegation -- the Romania Amgassador to the United Nations, Mr. Diaconescu, participated in one of our Center seminars -- and to discuss this with you, and to have your advice and cooperation has been the reason for my comin here today, apart, of course, from the pleasure of visiting, for the first time, your country, and of seeing again my friend Ambassador Brucan.

ELISABETH MANN BORGESE

E.M. Borgese Bueleareet, April 1969

> The Oceans are free. The mere thought of their being appropriated by any ruler however mighty, by any nation however great, has something blasphemous. The oceans are the most sublime expression on earth of what is extrahuman, superhuman. That the oceans are free is, in fact, the oldest of all international laws. Ivan the Terrible was the first to formulate it, in his own way. The oceans, he said, are "God's Road." Queen Elisabeth, in disposing of the Spanish Ambassador's complaint on the depradations by Sir Francis Drake on the Spanish treasure fleet, is quoted as having said, "the use of the sea and the air is common to all. Neither can title to the oceans belong to any people or private persons forasmuch as neither nature nor public use or custom permitted any possession thereof." And the Abbe Gregoire noted in his memoirs: Ce qui est d'un usage inépuisable ou innocent, comme la mer, appartent à tous et ne peut être la proprieté d'aucun people. And this is still the law today. It is the gist of the Conventions on the High Seas, adpted in 1958.

Thus the law has remained the same, but the reality it was to rule has changed - - changed past recognition.

For what whas the freedom of the seas for the ancient?

It was a simple matter. It was bi-dimensional, as the pictures people painted before the invention of perspective. It was freedom to navigate, and freedom to fish, in a space, and from a supply, which were illimited. Technology has changed all that. The invention of the submarine in the the first ancestor of Polaris was late sixteenth century --/a wooden frame, covered byth leather, that could be rowed under water at a depth of about 12 feet and actually was used successfully in a

the laying of submarine cables in the nineteenth century, and Charles Lindberg's epoch-making flight across the fitlantic in 1924 added, so to speak a new, vertical, dimension to the freedoms of the Sea. The laws governing Navigation could easily enough be extended to cover submarine as well as surface navigation. The freedom to lay cables and the freedom to fly in ocean space were embodied in separate Conventions, still valid today.

But technology did not stop at that. The laying of cables, especially, necessitated extensive geological research. The ocean floor, covering more than 70 percent of the earth's surface, was charted and mapped, with its gorges and mountain ranges and oil and gas, peaks, and found to hold/copper and zinc, manganese and nickel in untold quantities. The means to extract this wealth are rapidly being developed. Oil has been extracted successfully at a depth of 2,000 feet. The director of Research and Development of the Kennecot Corporation -- one of the major American mining corporations -- recently announced that everything was ready for large-scale extraction of manganese nodules from the ocean floor at a depth of five to six thousand feet, beginning in 1974. According to conservative estimates, within twenty years, 80 to 90 per cent of the world's metal supply will come from the oceans. Add to this that the oceans might well yield a major share for the growing world population, plancton cultivated in portions of the ocean whose temperature may be raised by atomic energy or controlled thermo-pollution, "trash fish", until recently despised and unused, but now husbanded and herded by dolphin sheepdogs and converted in floating factories into fish protein concentrate. Methods have been devised to extract

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eatable proteins even from petroddum. Every major oil company is working with a food processing company to perfect these methods and make the product palatable. It has been calculated that less than one per cent of the current oil production would be enough to supply proteins for the entire world population. Starvation could be banned from this earth. That it still exists today is in fact a moral scandal. For it is in no way an economic or material necessity. It is the consequence of gross inequations and mismanagement. It is a political-more than an physical-economic fact.

For whose is the ownership of all this wealth, located in no-man's land, indisputably beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

There is a rather precise analogy between the situation in outer space and the situation in the deep seas. If you start from any national territory, and you move upward, you cross the atmosphere; you move outward, and you cross the territorial waters. Both still are under national jurisdiction. Then, from the atmosphere, you move into outer space; from the territorial waters, into the High Seas. Both are extranational. Space law, as embodied in the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and the Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies of 1967, in fact, has borrowed heavily from traditional maritime law. It has developed some new principles, which now are being borrowed back by maritime law. One of these is the peaceful use of outer space. The Treaty provides that

States Parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner. Outer space is defined as the common province of mankind, just as the oceans are its common heritage; this principle, in space law, already implies the recognition of a community of interests, expressed in Article I of the Treatyé "The exploration and use of outer space...shall be carried out for the benefit and the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind."

These very principles are now expanded and developed to apply to ocean space.

From outer space, then, you hit the moon and the other celestial bodiest from the High Seas, you hit the ocean floor. The analogy is exact. Only that the moon and the other celestial bodies are --at least for the time being -- without any direct economic interest. The ocean floor, as we have seen, is charged with explosive economic potential. Only-that the moon and the other celestial bodies are contiguous only to outer space, not in any way to the earth and its nations, and that it is clear, therefore that they fall under space law, not the jurisdiction of any nation. The Treaty, in fact, establishes just that. The ocean floor, on the other hand, is contiguous both to the High Seas, in a vertical sense, and to the Nations, in a horizontal (or diagonal, slanting) sense. Thus it might be subject either to the law of the seas or to the law of the lands.

This, in fact, is the great question today, and the answer has not yet been given.

For mankind has embarked on both roads at the same time.

The course of extending to the ocean floor the law of the land was initiated with the so-called Truman doctrine of the Continental Shelf, subsequently embodied in a Treaty, Geneva, 1958, and ratified by over 40 nations. The Treaty extends national jurisdiction to the submerged lands of the Continental Shelf to a depth of 200 maters of the superjacent water, or beyond that limit where technological developments permit the exploitation of the ocean floor. The Treaty is ambiguous in two ways: the boundaries of national jurisdiction are fluid, both territorially and functionally. In a territorial sense, the boundary is left open-ended by the criterion of exploitability, which would extend the limits of national jurisdiction in accordance with technological progress, to a point which remains undefined by the vague concept of "adjacency." In a functional sense, it is not clear whether "jurisdiction" means merely the right to explore and exploit the natural resources of the continental shelf however delimited, or whether it means national sovereignty in the full sense, including the right to military uses. Being ambiguous, it is a bad treaty. Abiding by it, the great, maritime, developed nations could indeed proceed to extend the law of the land farther and deeper into ocean space. Neo-imperialism might attempt to carve up the submarine lands, the way old imperialism carved up Asia and Africa. In the process wan the rich would become rich, the poor poorer: until large scale pollution and the science-fiction type of

horrors of submarine werfare would make a weate land of

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of this wonderland. The oceans would die. Poisoned. Polluted. Poisoning. Polluting. It would be just a phase in the death of our planet as a whole.

The course of extending the law of the seas to the submarine lands was initiated with the now famous proposals of the Government of Malta to the United Nations in the fall of 1967, that the agenda of the 22nd General include the following: "Declaration and traty concerning the reservation exclusively for peaceful purposes of the se abed and the ocean floor underlying the seas beyond the limits of present national jurisdiction and the use of their resources in the interest of mankind." The insuing discussion was one of the most exciting ever heard before the United Nations, and resulted in the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the legal, economic, and ted nological aspects of the problems involved. The Committee put together a rather remarkable discussion and studied the issues in some depth. Upon its report to the 23rd General Assembly, this Assembly adopted, in December 1968, a four part Resolution,

- -- establishing a Permanent Committee on the Oceans with a rather wide mandate;
- -- declaring an International Decade of Ocean Exploration, beginning 1970;
- -- recommending the international regulation of antipollution measures;
- -- and recommending studies conducive to the creation of a new international mechanism or machinery to embody the principles of the Maltese proposition.

The permanent Commission on the Oceans has just concluded

its first session. Parallel or complementary work is going on in a number of specialized agencies as well as in the ENDC, which, just now, is dealing with the very important Soviet proposal for the total disarmament of the ocean floor.

The Malta proposition and its follow up are undo jubtedly the most exciting, the most hopeful subject before the United Nations now or at any time. That this should happen at a time when the general world-political climate is far from encouraging is a remarkable fact. It shows that we are moving backward and forward at the same time. This probably is one of the secrets of existence, of being. That is why the era of horrors, threatening to throw us back into the Dan Ages, is also the era of hope, promising physical and spiritu well-being for ever greater number of people. That is why the Vietnams of various dimensions and descriptions take place in the same international arena that is giving us the Outer-Ppace Treaty, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Antarctic Tree and now, the Ocean Space Treaty. In the long run, the moves forward have always surpassed the moves back, or else we wou still be at the dawn on history.

Manother remarkable feature of this most exciting development now before the United Nations is that it was initiated by a small nation, a mini-nation, with a population of hardly three hundred thousand. It is indeed incouraging that such a small nation should play such an important role in internation affairs. It shows how the power of ideas still can dwarf the power of guns and the power of money.

I should like now to outline quite briefly the main issues inherent in the Maltese proposition. They are big issue

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and they must be faced imaginatively and courageously -and promptly, or else the Maltese proposition will re main
in the realm of pious hopes, whereas, in reality, the grab is
on, and before we know it, it will be too late to do anything
about it.

The first problem is the territorial delimitation of the era "beyond national jurisdiction," or the era of jurisdiction of the international ocean regime. Given the ambiguities we mentioned just a little while ago, it is clear that the establishment of this regime mank implies a revision of the Continental Shelf Act of 1958. It is equally clear that the kind of regision that may be agreed upon depends on the nature of the regime to be established if it is a good, trustworthy international regime, nations will agree to a narrow construction of the continental shelf and their jurisdiction over it. If there is no regime beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, or one that cannot be trusted, nations will tend to extend their own jurisdiction as far out as possible.

Four important proposals have come forth thus far:
the first is, to abolish the open-ended criterion of
exploitability and accept the 200 meter depth limit without
qualification. It is difficult to imagine that this proposal
could be accepted. Some nations would get an enormous continents.
shelf; others practically none, given the geological irregularities of the ocean floor. This delimitation would seem
completely arbitrary.

The National Petroleum Council of the United States has proposed an extension of national jurisdiction to a depth of 2,500 meters, to the e dge of the abysmal slope, considered

shelf and the ocean floor. This limit would be no more acceptable than the first one; like the 200 meter depth limit, it would leave the determination of the boundary to the whims of marine geodogy.

A third proposal, first put forward by the Yugoslav expert Juri Andrassy, would combine a depth limit with a horizontal limit. Considering that the average width of all continental shelves all over the world is about 50 km, the new treaty should make extend national sovereignty to a depth of 200 meters or a distance from shore of 50 km -- whichever is farther. Thirmanagemaxianag

A fourth proposal, put forward by the American President's Commission -- the Stratton Commission -- would combine the 200 and the 2,500 meter depth limits in such a way as to grant exclusive national jurisdicttion to a depth limit of 200 meters and to consider the zone between 200 and 2,500 meters as an intermediate zone, under the jurisdiction of the international regime, but reserving to the coastal nation the right to approve on any leases granted in this area by the international regime. I don't have any violent objection to this proposal either, although it is far less good than the Yugoslav proposal.

The functional day to the formal day to the fact of the Yugoslav proposal.

The Soviet Union, finally, would terminate national jurisdiction over the continental shelf at the outer limit of the territorial waters, that is, twelve nautical miles from shore. This is a radical proposal, but simple and clear-cut. While it will be opposed by commercial interests, it may instead satisfy the demands of the military also in the Western countries it is an old tradition for the Navies of strong maritime powers to advocate the narrowest possible interpretation of national sovereignty on the high seas: which enables them to operate as closely as possible to the shores of supposedly hostile nations. I would therefore not be surprised in the least if, in the end, something like the Yugoslay or the Soviet proposal prevailed.

What is certain, on the other hand, is that the question of the territorial boundaries of the regime is not as important as might appear at first sight. It is clear that it will be a political frontier rather than a geological boundary. The coincidence of geological boundary and political frontier is rapidly becoming obsolete as a result of technological development. The ocean frontier is the last frontier undergoing the transformation from geological to political frontier -- and this in an age in which the political frontier, in turn, is losing its solemnity because of the advancing integration of the world community.

Second, it should be kept in mind that what we want to create is not a national territorial "State" in the traditional sense but a functional regime, whose territorial boundaries are far less important and clearly defined as those of an old-fashioned nation-State. Suppose, for instance, nongovernmental and intergovernmental organizations were to play an

an important role in the ocean regime -- a role already foreshadowed in the Outer-Space Treaty where they have responsibilities "as if they were nations." Suppose, as the main actors in the development of ocean resources, they were recognized as members or associate members of the regime, somewhere alongside the nation-States: that they were responsible for their actions and the dues and fees they might have to pay, no matter where they operated, whether within the limits of national jurisdiction or outside of it. In this case, the problem of the Continental Shelve and the limits of national jurisdiction -- while still needing to be solved, would be considerably deflated.

More important than its territorial delimitation thus is the question of the functional delimitation of the international regimes the nature and the extent of its jurisdiction.

The Soviet Union advocates the establishment of a code, more or less along the lines of the Outer Space Treaty, to govern the conduct of nations in ocean space. Considering outer ocean current and forthcoming activities in MINION space and in MINION space, however, a code satisfying the needs of the former would in no way suffice to regulate effectively the latter. The economic exploitation of ocean space does require some machinery, from the "supranational" implications of which the Soviet experts have been shying away thus far. I have a feeling that if such machinery were more MINION precisely defined and described, the Soviet fears might be assuaged.

The United States, though officially it has not made up its mind, tends to the advocacy of a system of registry:

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of ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction would apply to an international registry office for a licence which they would obtain on a basis of competitive bidding; they would pay a certain fee to the international office, which would be used by the World Bank or the Developmen t Programme to alleviate world hunger or promote education, or for some other generally laudable purpose. This sounds simple enough -- too simple, in fact. I suspect that it raises more problem than it solves; it leaves a host of problems totally out of consideration -- e.g., the problem of pollution, which is gigantic and growing from year to year. I have a suspicion, furthermore, that it might turn out completely unacceptable to the Socialist as well as to the developing nations.

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Now, according to this concepts ocean resources would not be owned by anybody: not even by the international Ocean Regime, which thus would not be vested with territoriality. They would be <u>used</u> privately or publicly or in a combination of both, so long as they were used in the common interest as defined and planned by the competent organs of the ocean regime.

As to the possibility of socialist-nonsocialist cooperation in such a framework, the Soviet delegates have expressed serious doubts on several occasions the debates of the Ad Hoc Committee and on the floor of the General Assembly. It should be noted, however, that there is no established Social's t d octrine on this subject. nor is there any international experience that might provide a clear answer. A first hint at a positive answer is provided by the recent Yugoslav-Italian agreement for the exploitation of the Yugoslav continental shelf in the Adriatic. An American paper, the Oil and Gas Journal, has this comment: "One problem which snagged such ventures in the past -the blending of capitalist and communist interests -apparently was solved last July. Yugoslavia, in a move to alleviate its chronic capital shortage, passed a law allowing foreign participation of up to forty-nine per cent in Yugoslav industrial en erprises. The law provides for the joint enterprises to be run by committees with equal representation from foreign firms. The share of foreign workers in the Yugoslav economy, however, will not be allowed to rise above five per cent. The tax on foreigners' profits will 'never

be above thirty-five per cent' and will be lower if more than the prescribed minimum of twenty per cent is reinvested in Yugoslavia."

Far be it from us to assume that this agreement sets a precedent for the solution of the whole problem. But a beginning has been made, and with good will on all sides, based on the conviction that cooperation is more productive than competition, and with some constitutional ingeniousness, new solutions will undoubtedly be found.

There is no doubt that membership in the ocean regime must be universal. No nation, large or small, developed or developing, landlocked or maritime, should be excluded. Membership in the United Nations should not be required as a condition for membership in the ocean regime.

This raises the question of the relationship between this regime and the United Nations. There is general agreeme that the Regime cannot be the United Nations whose structure—with the one-nation-one-vote system in the General Assembly and the veto in the Security Council -- is not suited for the tasks that must be assumed by the Regime. The Regime must be independent of the United Nations, yet it must be in some way associated with it if it is to strengthen, not to wensken, the United Nations. It must emanate from it. It must be legitimized by it. It must be structured in such a way as to coordinate all the activities that are concerned with the oceans in all of the U.N. agencies and committies.

Considering the vastness and complexity of its tasks,
the Regime cannot be a "specialized agency"; on the contrary,
it must synthesize certain aspects of the activities of all
specialized agencies. It will have features of a corporation,

a business, a cooperative, a government. It will be both governmental and nongovernmental, acting in a sphere where public international law and private in ernational law have long since begun to blend. It must be administratively efficient. It must be the trustee for all mankind. It must give maximum opportunity for participation.

It is obvious that within the United Nations family there is no single organ that meets all these special requirements. Hence, the regime must be sui generis. Certainly it must use everything it can use -- in legal precedents -- and there are many, and of many different kinds -- in existing organizations, and ongoing efforts. But it must not shy from innovation where innovation is needed.

A year and a half ago the Center for the Study of Democratic Kaxstitutions initiated a study project on all these problems. We had three seminars in which our staff was joined by international groups of experts --Ambassadors to the U.N., scientists, representatives of oil and mining corporation and fishery organizations. After a year of study we produced a model statute for the ocean regime proposing concrete solutions to the problems we have just indicated -- and to a host of others. We are not the only organization that has proposed such a model statute; there are a few others in circulation. I can say without boasting, however, that ours is the most complete and the most complex one. It is too late now for me to try to summarize it for you. I think our most original contribution is in the attempt to constitutionalize the concept of common property and to find new prenciples of representation in an international assembly in a world community in which the traditional principles seem no longer applicable warkaban and practical. The parliamentary democracy we have inherited from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries is at the end of its tether even at the level of the nation-State. This is due to a variety of reasons: the unmanageable size of electorates; the impact of technological nonpolitical (social, economic, cultural) factors on politics; the rise of bureaucracy; the interdependence of domestic and foreign, national and international issues -- to name but a few. A new form of democracy is bound to emerge: MEXEM from a transition as bold and imaginative as was the transition from direct to representational democracy, when the size of the political community made the former co solete. This new form of democracy is already recognizable: we call it participational democracy: and khaxxasisiisixxaamkriexxxsiixafxkhamxxhxxaxxanda ********** Socialism has made decisive contributions to it. I should say that, at this moment, especially the Yugoslav Constitution of 1963 is pathbreaking in many ways. In other ways, France is setting another interesting precedent in its constitutional struggle today.

Convinced that international organization must be based on the most advanced and sophisticated experience of social, political, and economic organization, not on primitive or obsolete ones, we have tried to adapt these new principles to the requirements and functions of an ocean regime. It was a challenging task.

In consequence of this work on the law of the seas

in 1968, the Center received an invitation from the Government of Malta to hold an international Convocation in Malta in June 1970 on the peaceful uses of the seas, including the ocean floor. We are now pre-paring this Convocation which should be attended by about 250 political leaders, scientists, and experts in the extraction of living and nonliving resrouces from the seas as well as representatives of all the specialized agencies engaged in one way or another in the development of the oceans and the redistribution of wealth in the world. We are preparing a considerable research material -- about a thousand pages of fundamental background papers, surveys, estimates, model plans -and hope that this material will be of use to the United Nations in getting the international ocean decade off the ground. A private, unofficial gathering of this kind obviously is not burdened by official political responsibilities and can produce more daring and pioneering ideas than a governmental organization. We want to make sure to get a good balance between socialist, nonsocialist and unaligned countries, between developed and developing countries, and between landlocked and maritime countries, and to have all regions of the world equitably represented.

Of course we want to have a good Romanian delegation

-- the Romanian Ambassador to the U.N., Mr. Diaconesto,

participated in our Center seminars resulting in the

model statute -- and to discuss this with you and to

have your advice and cooperation has been the reason

for my coming here today, apart, of course, from the pleasure of visiting, for the first time your country and of seeing again my friend, Ambassador Brucan. Duslianet ?

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