

COPY

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname and has the honour to state that it has come to the attention of the Government of Guyana that the Suriname State Oil Company (Staatsolie) has purportedly granted rights to a foreign Oil Company to negotiate a production-sharing contract in respect of an area offshore which falls within the jurisdiction of the Government of Guyana. The area in question lies between longitude  $57^{\circ} 06' W$  and longitude  $56^{\circ} 46' W$  from West to East and between latitudes  $6^{\circ} 35' N$  and  $6^{\circ} 25' N$  from North to South. In this connection the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to remind the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname of its Note of April 19, 1978.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be most grateful if the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname would be good enough to provide as early as possible a clarification regarding the information stated above.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname the assurances of its highest consideration.

11 January 1989

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AGREED MINUTES

President Shankar and President Hoyte exchanged information concerning the management and administration of the forests of their respective countries.

They agreed that there were several areas in which they could cooperate in this sector for mutual benefit and undertook to implement, as early as possible, a programme of cooperation in mutually agreed areas.

The two Heads also considered that possibilities existed for closer cooperation for mutual benefit between their two countries in the bauxite sector and resolved to stipulate such cooperation as far as possible.

In this regard they identified research in areas of mutual interest as a possible avenue of cooperation.

With regards energy, President Shankar informed President Hoyte of the decision of the Government of Suriname to proceed with the realisation of the Kabalebo Hydro-Power Project.

The two sides recognized that there exists the potential for problems with respect to Petroleum Development within the area of the North Eastern and North Western Seaward boundaries of Guyana and Suriname respectively.

They agreed that pending settlement of the Border Question, the representatives of the Agencies responsible for Petroleum Development within the two countries, should agree on modalities which would ensure that the opportunities available within the said area can be jointly utilised by the two countries.

They further agreed that with respect to concessions already granted within the said area, by one or other of the parties, such concession shall not be disturbed.

Appropriate modalities shall be put in place for ensuring that arrangements, satisfactory and beneficial to both countries, are reached.



Paramaribo, August 25, 1989

JOINT COMMUNIQUE  
SIGNED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE STATE VISIT  
TO SURINAME  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY CDE. HUGH DESMOND HOYTE, S.C.  
PRESIDENT OF THE COOPERATIVE REPUBLIC  
OF GUYANA  
-----  
AUGUST 25, 1989  
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1. The President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, His Excellency Hugh Desmond Hoyte paid a State visit to Suriname, from 23 through 25 August 1989 at the invitation of the President of the Republic of Suriname, His Excellency Ramsewak Shankar.

President Hoyte was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Joyce Hoyte, and a high-level delegation which included Cde. Rashleigh Jackson, M.P. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cde. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade and Tourism, Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs and representatives of the Private Sector.

They were welcomed by President and Mrs. Shankar and a delegation of high authorities.

During his stay in Suriname, President Hoyte laid a wreath at the War Memorial and addressed an extraordinary session of the National Assembly.

The Guyanese Head of State further paid an orientation visit to the Foundation for the Development of Mechanized Agriculture ("S.M.L.") in Wageningen in the District of Nickerie. He then visited Nieuw-Nickerie, where he planted a tree of friendship

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as a symbol of the good relations between Suriname and Guyana.

President Hoyte met with Guyanese living in the District of Nickerie as well as in Paramaribo and its environs.

The Guyanese Head of State also visited the field operations of the State Oil Company ("N.V. Staatsolie") in the District of Saramacca.

Both Presidents agreed that this State visit placed the relations between their two countries on an even higher level of closeness and declared their commitment to working for the consolidation and further deepening of those relations.

2. The talks between the two Presidents took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere and included an in-depth examination of the relations between the two countries, as well as a review of issues of mutual interest at both the regional and the international level.

3. Both Presidents reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of the United Nations Charter with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security, and reiterated their respect for the right of every state to freely choose its own forms of political, economic and social organisation. Reviewing the current state of affairs within the Non-Aligned

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Movement, they considered that this body should carefully follow recent developments in the world and ensure that the interests of developing countries are not jeopardised by the new relationships being created in the context of the East/West detente.

They stressed the importance of the balanced use of natural resources for sustainable development and of the preservation of the environment, and urged that at the forthcoming Conference of Heads of State or Government to be held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in September 1989, the Non-Aligned Movement pay <sup>A</sup>greated attention to issues concerning the environment. They called on the international community to participate constructively in these efforts.

4. With regard to Southern Africa the two Presidents expressed cautious satisfaction that the process of implementing Security Council resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia had begun. They nevertheless stressed the need for the international community to remain vigilant against attempts by the Pretoria regime to derail or subvert that process.

They noted that that regime had recently been coming under increased pressure, both internal and external, to engage in genuine dialogue for the dismantling of apartheid and the establishment of a free society. They reiterated their support for the struggle of the oppressed peoples of South Africa and Namibia for their freedom.

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5. The two Presidents regretted that the goal of peace in the Middle East continued to be elusive, as manifested by the continuing unrest in the occupied territories, among other things. They considered the talks taking place between the United States of America, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation as a positive development. They nevertheless stressed the need for the early convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East, as called for by the General Assembly of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties concerned.

6. Both Presidents noted with satisfaction that an important evolution was taking place in Latin America and the Caribbean, as the States of this region sought to make a more vigorous assertion of their identity and to strengthen the defence and promotion of their own interests. They expressed confidence that this tendency will grow in the future and that the democratisation process currently in motion in the region will continue to flourish.

The two Presidents reiterated their view that there was an essential link between political independence and economic independence. Economic independence, for its part, could not be fully attained so long as no adequate solutions are found to the external debt of the countries of this continent.

They were of the opinion that, under the present circumstances, the external financial obligations are too heavy a burden for the debtor countries to bear and called upon the

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~~rich~~ developed countries to show flexibility in seeking a solution to this problem.

7. The two Presidents took note of the decisions of the recent meeting of Central American Presidents held in Honduras and expressed the hope that a final solution will soon be found to the conflicts in Central America. They reiterated their support for the efforts of the States of the region in this regard within the framework of Esquipulas II.

With regard to the situation in Panama, they expressed support for the efforts of the Organisation of American States to cooperate with the steps being taken by the people of Panama to return their country to the democratic path through dialogue. They reaffirmed their solidarity with the people of Panama and called for continued respect for the integrity of the Torrijos Carter Treaties.

8. Both Presidents reiterated their support for the Treaty for Amazonian Cooperation and for the decisions taken by the Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States in Quito, Ecuador. They declared that the Treaty provides a fruitful and creative framework for cooperation in the Amazon region. Both Heads of State expressed their satisfaction with the results of the Conference of Presidents of Amazonian countries, held in Manaus, Brazil in May 1989, and emphasized the significance of the Declaration adopted on that occasion.

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Furthermore, they reiterated their support for the decisions concerning the protection of the environment, taken during the aforementioned meeting in Manaus, Brazil.

9. President Hoyte informed his host of the recent positive developments within ~~the~~ CARICOM, as expressed in the Grand Anse Declaration of July 1989 in Grenada, and <sup>the</sup> accompanying ~~working~~ programme.

President Shankar reaffirmed Suriname's intention to strengthen ties with this organisation for regional cooperation and integration.

President Hoyte received this reaffirmation with pleasure and reconfirmed Guyana's willingness to support Suriname's request for closer cooperation with the CARICOM.

10. President Shankar informed President Hoyte of the internal developments in Suriname, including the decision taken recently by the National Assembly on the Kourou Agreement, which aims at effecting peace in the interior. President Hoyte took cognizance of this development and expressed the hope that it would lead to durable peace in Eastern Suriname for the benefit of all the people of the country.

11. Both Presidents emphasized their determination to give greater depth to their bilateral relations. They expressed



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their satisfaction with the fact that the Cooperation Council set up between Suriname and Guyana was put into operation on 19 July, 1989, during the working visit of Minister Rashleigh E. Jackson of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and have taken cognizance of the Council's work programme, which is in the process of being implemented.

12. Both Presidents agreed that their respective peoples should be able to have and maintain contact easily with one another. They were of the opinion that the desired intensity in bilateral cooperation can only be attained if both countries succeed in facilitating communications. They expressed the hope that the communications by land, by sea and by air, as well as telecommunications, between Suriname and Guyana would be improved and adapted to modern times, and that possible obstacles that presently stagnate the realisation of the joint ferry project will shortly be removed.

13. The two Presidents exchanged information concerning the management and administration of the forests of their respective countries. They agreed that there were several areas in which they could cooperate in this sector for mutual benefit and undertook to implement, as early as possible, a programme of cooperation in mutually agreed areas.

The two Heads also considered that possibilities existed

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for closer cooperation for mutual benefit between their two countries in the bauxite sector and resolved to stimulate such cooperation as far as possible. In this regard they identified research in areas of mutual interest as a possible avenue of cooperation.

President Shankar informed President Hoyte of the decision of the Government of Suriname to proceed with the realisation of the Kabalebo Hydro-Power Project, ~~subject to the decisions of the relevant Joint Study Group established in 1979 by the two countries.~~ President Hoyte reiterated support for the project and expressed Guyana's readiness to cooperate fully for its implementation. *11 The Presidents agreed that*

*pending settlement of the border question, authorities responsible for petroleum development within the two countries should agree on modalities which would ensure that the opportunities available within the*

14. The representatives of the Private sector of the two countries agreed on a framework for regular consultations and identified areas for cooperation in trade and economic ventures.

*area of the north eastern and south western boundaries of Guyana and Suriname respectively can be jointly utilized by the two countries.*

It was agreed that a trade mission from Suriname would visit Guyana to identify concrete ways in which trade could be expanded, including a banking arrangement to minimise the need for foreign exchange.

Both sides agreed to collaborate 'in making representation for improvements in the procedures and mechanisms for accessing rice and other commodities into the preferential E.E.C. market.

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15. As regards the solution of the problems concerning the determination of the joint border between the two countries, both Presidents decided to put the Commission established especially for this matter into operation as soon as possible.

16. President Hoyte's proposal to set up a youth exchange programme was accepted with pleasure by President Shankar.

17. President Shankar likewise received with much satisfaction the proposal by President Hoyte for an exchange between representatives of the graphic and performing arts of the two countries.

18. The President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana expressed his sincere appreciation for the hospitality and kind attentions bestowed upon him, his wife and his delegation by the President, the Government and the people of Suriname. He stated that this visit is an important milestone in the development of the relations between the two countries.

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19. At the end of the State visit both Presidents expressed their satisfaction with the results of their talks, which were held in an atmosphere of fraternity and mutual respect. They decided to keep the relations between the two countries under continual review and to consult as required.

Paramaribo August 25, 1989

The President of the Cooperative  
Republic of Guyana,

The President of the Republic of  
Suriname.

HUGH DESMOND HOYTE

RAMSEWAK SHANKAR

18/8

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BACKGROUND

ON HIS VISIT TO THE SURINAME PRESIDENT IN AUGUST 1989, THE CDE. PRESIDENT AGREED WITH PRESIDENT SHANKAR THAT "PENDING SETTLEMENT OF THE BORDER QUESTION, THE AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD AGREE ON MODALITIES WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE WITHIN THE AREA [OF OVERLAP] CAN BE JOINTLY UTILISED BY THE TWO COUNTRIES".

THERE HAS BEEN ONE MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF GNRA AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF STAATSOOLIE, THE STATE OIL COMPANY IN FEBRUARY 1990, GNRA HAS BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN FROM STAATSOOLIE A DATE FOR ANOTHER MEETING TO CONCLUDE THE DISCUSSIONS.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ACTING THROUGH THE GUYANA EMBASSY IN SURINAME AS WELL AS DIRECTLY THROUGH THE SURINAME FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS SIMILARLY BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING A DATE FOR SETTLEMENT OF THIS MATTER.

GUYANA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY  
FEBRUARY 5, 1991

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IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT THE CDE, PRESIDENT REQUESTS STRONGLY FROM THE SURINAME PRESIDENT THE FOLLOWING:

- 1: EARLY STEPS TO COMPLETE DISCUSSION ON THE MODALITIES FOR TREATMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE OFF-SHORE AREA OF OVERLAP BETWEEN GUYANA AND SURINAME, PENDING SETTLEMENT OF THE BORDER BETWEEN GUYANA AND SURINAME.
  
- 2: TO THIS END THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA THROUGH THE GUYANA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY WOULD BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE A TEAM FROM SURINAME REPRESENTED BY THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY, AND ARMED WITH FULL AUTHORITY, ON 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY OR ANY EARLIER DATE TO DEAL CONCLUSIVELY WITH THIS LONG OUTSTANDING ISSUE.

GUYANA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

FEBRUARY 5, 1991

(610)

MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF GUYANA AND THE PRESIDENT  
OF SURINAME, SKELDON, FEBRUARY 7TH, 1991

A SUMMARY OF THE DECISIONS


The meeting commenced at 12:15 hours after the two Presidents accompanied, Suriname, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Guyana by the Special Adviser on Foreign Affairs, had met privately for a brief exchange of views.

At the public session President Hoyte welcomed President Kraag to Guyana. In return, President Kraag conveyed his appreciation to Guyana for the understanding displayed during "a sensitive period of nation-building".

The two Presidents then withdrew leaving the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Suriname and the Special Adviser to the President of Guyana on Foreign Affairs and their respective delegations to discuss the matters identified during the tête-à-tête.

Thereupon the two delegations discussed the following areas of bilateral co-operation and agreed as follows:

(i) TRIANGLE OVERLAP AND PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT:

 It was agreed that the GNRA and STAATSOLIE, the Suriname Oil Company, would meet in Georgetown during the course of February 1991 to conclude discussions on the modalities for the treatment of natural resources within the framework of the Agreed Minutes of August 1989.

(ii) COOPERATION COUNCIL:

It was agreed that the Council should be convened early in April 1991 in Georgetown and that both sides should determine the agenda prior to the meeting to reflect the matters raised including areas for economic cooperation, illegal trade and illegal immigration.

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(iii) REGIONAL PROJECTS:

It was agreed that a Suriname team should visit Guyana prior to the Regional Programming Meeting in Georgetown on Lome IV projects to discuss new joint projects.

It was also understood that there would be a review of the existing projects: Ferry, Telecoms and the Marine Resource Assessment and Rice Research projects with a view to clearing the current obstacles.

(iv) DRUGS:

It was agreed that Guyanese officials would visit Suriname within the context of the Agreement reached between the two countries in July 1989 for the prevention, control and suppression of the illicit production, traffic and consumption of narcotics.

(v) CIVIL AVIATION:

Outstanding was Guyana's comment on the draft bilateral agreement .

Attached is a copy of the Joint Statement Released to the Press.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
1991-02-14



BRIEF REPORT ON VISIT BY STAATSOLIE  
REPRESENTATIVE TO GUYANA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY  
TO DISCUSS MODALITIES FOR AREA OF OVERLAP.

INTRODUCTION

A decision was taken by the Presidents of Guyana and Suriname in August 1989 that pending resolution of the border issue, representatives of the relevant agencies responsible for petroleum development in the respective countries meet and discuss the modalities for the treatment of the Area of Overlap; i.e the area offshore that lies between the lines North 10° East and North 30° East.

Two meetings were held in Suriname between GNRA and Staatsolie since that time, (the last being in February, 1990) which were inconclusive but from which a "working document" was drafted for further discussions.

In February 1991, the two Presidents met again and it was decided that the two agencies should meet again to resolve these modalities conclusively; it being understood that both teams would have members with the authority that would allow for this conclusivity.

The teams met in Guyana from February 22 to February 25, 1991 at GNRA. They consisted of:

GUYANA

Dr. Barton Scotland - Team Leader and Deputy Chairman,  
Guyana Natural Resources Agency

Brian L. Sucre - Director, Petroleum Unit (GNRA)

SURINAME

Mr. Rueben Yang - Chief Engineer, Staatsolie

Mr. M. Mohammed - Consul Officer, Suriname Embassy

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Advice and guidance were given by Ambassador, Special Adviser to the President, Dr. Cedric Grant and Mr. Winston King, Executive Chairman, Guyana Natural Resources Agency (Guyana) and Suriname's Ambassador to Guyana, His Excellency Dr. John Kolader (Suriname).

#### THE DISCUSSIONS

During the meetings, discussions were centered on the "working document" - "Modalities for Treatment of the Offshore Area of Overlap Between Guyana and Suriname" which was drafted by Guyana at the February 1990 meeting in Suriname between GNRA and Staatsolie.

It was apparent from the outset however, that Mr. Yang, though claiming that he was given the mandate by Suriname to discuss with GNRA, was not in a position to decide conclusively on any issue without seeking legal advice from Suriname. There was no legal representation on the Suriname side. Mr. Yang was being advised by Ambassador Kolader.

Attachment 1 is a copy of a new draft of the "working document" based on these discussions and since Suriname claimed that they could not sign or agree in whole without legal advice, it was decided by the teams and its advisors that the sections that dealt with the LASMO/BHP concession for which there was agreement on both sides, should be isolated and a Memorandum of Understanding prepared which would reflect this agreement and also would mandate the teams to meet again within thirty days (the first meeting to begin during the week of March 4, 1991) to agree on the Modalities. A copy of this Memorandum of Understanding is attached (Attachment 2).

It was also decided that for any future deliberations the teams will consist of the very senior officials of Staatsolie and GNRA and any other officials (including legal consul) that the respective countries may require to conclude these discussions.

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SURINAME PROPOSALS

Though LASMO/BHP's concession is taken care of in the Memorandum of Understanding, and the new draft of the "working document" is generally agreed upon by both sides, not included in this new draft are some proposals tabled by Suriname which will have to be considered in any future deliberations. They are:

- (1) An option for a period of time on the area north of LASMO/BHP for Suriname to try to contract to an oil company (PECTEN ?)
- (2) Suriname presence on any rig during any drilling by LASMO/BHP.

CONCLUSIONS

Suriname has finally shown the willingness to conclude a modalities type of arrangement for the Area of Overlap, however there is a feeling that at future meetings there will be some new proposals in addition to those above which may pose some problems for Guyana.

PETROLEUM UNIT,  
GUYANA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY,  
February 27, 1991



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No. 2651 GdM

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and has the honour to request urgent attention for the following.

The Government of the Republic of Suriname has received information that Guyanese newspapers reported that currently the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, in cooperation with one or more private oil/ holding companies, is conducting exploration / exploitation activities in the North West Offshore area within the territory of the Republic of Suriname .

The Ministry wishes to reiterate the conviction of the Government of Suriname as to the Corantijn river being an integral part of the Surinamese territory and that therefore all the activities on this river fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Suriname .

In this respect, the Ministry herewith expresses the grave concern of the Government of the Republic of Suriname with regard to economic activities and acts of control in the area concerned - by or with the consent of the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana .

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Suriname, the Ministry is therefore seeking clarification from the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and should there be activities of any sort in the area concerned, the Government of the Republic of Suriname would expect an immediate termination of such activities, in conformity with the internationally accepted principle of territorial integrity.

FROM : GUYANA EMBASSY

FAX NO. : 597 477895

May. 12 2000 03:38PM P3

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana the assurances of its highest consideration.

Paramaribo , 11 May 2000



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana  
Georgetown

(29)

Note No: 353/2000

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's Note No 2651 GdM dated May 11, 2000.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has noted that the concern expressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Suriname that the Government of Guyana, in cooperation with the Government of the Netherlands, is conducting exploration and exploitation activities in the North West Offshore area within the territory of the Republic of Suriname, is based on allegations contained in newspaper reports.

The Ministry wishes to state that any exploration/exploitation activity, which may be in progress at the present time with the permission or at the instance of the Government of Guyana, is being conducted in the territory of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is therefore concerned over the tenor of the Note Verbale from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Suriname wherein is expressed the expectation of the Government of the Republic of Suriname that the Government of Guyana immediately terminate any such activities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also wishes to reiterate that the Corentyne River is a border river and as such attracts all the characteristics and features which such rivers bear in international law. The Government of Guyana still subscribes to the view that the resources of the Corentyne River ought to be explored and exploited for the economic benefit of the peoples of both countries.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana wishes to recommend that the Guyana and Suriname National Border Commissions reconvene at the earliest opportunity to continue deliberations on issues relating to developments in the Corentyne area.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana avails itself of this opportunity to state to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname the assurances of its highest consideration.

GEORGETOWN

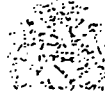
May 17, 2000



FRL GUYANA EMBASSY

FAX NO. : 597 477895

May. 31 2000 04:00PM P1



GES:18/9

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA  
P.O. Box 87 Telephone 477895  
Telefax 472679  
Cable address: Guyval  
Paramaribo - Suriname

Paramaribo, May 31, 2000

Honourable Clement Rohce  
Minister  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
South Road & New Garden Street  
Georgetown


Dear Minister,

I was summoned hastily to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon. His Excellency Mr. Errol Snijders, Minister of Foreign Affairs, handed me the attached Note. Also present were Ambassador Hasrat, Drs Ali-Mohamed, Director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and another official from the Ministry.

Minister Snijders intimated that they would seek recourse to Caricom and other International Organizations but feel that we should meet at the highest level as soon as possible to solve the issue.

For your information and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

  
Karshanjee Arjun  
Ambassador



FAA EMBASSY

FAX NO. : 597 477895

May. 31 2000 04:00PM P2



Note:2566/HA/eb.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and with reference to the latter's Note no. 353/2000, dated May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2000 regarding the exploration and exploitation activities in the North West Offshore area, within the territory of the Republic of Suriname, wishes to communicate the following.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to draw the attention of the Government of Guyana to the long standing fact that the Corantijn river constitutes an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Suriname and therefore falls within its sovereignty.

The Government of the Republic of Suriname wishes to reiterate that from the point mark Latitude : 5° 59' 53" .8 North, Longitude : 57° 08' 51" .5 West, the direction of the boundary line in the territorial waters is on a true bearing of 10° East.

Within this context the territory located eastward of this demarcation line is considered an integral part of the Surinamese territory and all activities undertaken in this area without the permission of the Government of the Republic of Suriname constitute an illegal act.

Therefore the Government once again strongly insists on the forthwith termination of all activities being undertaken in this area.

The Government of the Republic of Suriname is determined to protect its territorial integrity and national sovereignty utilising all avenues offered by international law and international practice on these matters.

GUAYANA EMBASSY

FAX NO. : 597 477895

May. 31 2000 04:01PM P3

The Ministry, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Suriname invites the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana for deliberations in order to clarify any misunderstanding concerning the maritime border, that may exist on the side of the Guyanese Government.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana the assurances of its highest consideration.

Paramaribo, May 31, 2000

To:  
The Embassy of the  
Cooperative Republic  
of Guyana  
Paramaribo



NOTE VERBALE NO:400/2000

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname and has the honour to refer to the latter's Note No. 2566/HA/eb dated May 31, 2000.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to state the position of the Government of Guyana regarding the location of the common maritime boundary between Guyana and Suriname as follows: ~~It is the view of the Government of Guyana that the common~~ boundary commences at the intersection of the seaward prolongation of the N 10° E line between two concrete marks on the Guyana mainland with the line of mean low water springs and extends thence seawards along the line of equidistance to the outer limit of Guyana's continental shelf, i.e. 200 nautical miles from Guyana's baseline, and beyond to the outer limit of Guyana's potential extended continental shelf.

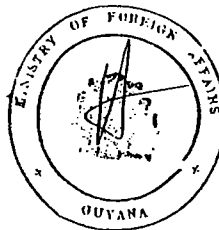
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to further reiterate that any exploration/exploitation activity, which may be in progress at the present time with the permission or at the instance of the Government of Guyana, is being conducted in the territory of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to reaffirm the position of the Government of Guyana as stated in Note No. 353/2000 dated May 17, 2000 that the Corentyne River is a border river and as such attracts all the characteristics and features which such rivers bear in international law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to state that the Government of Guyana remains favourably disposed to engage in dialogue either at the bilateral or multilateral levels with a view to addressing any misunderstandings that may exist on the side of the Surinamese Government concerning the common maritime boundary between the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Republic of Suriname. In this regard, the Government of Guyana is inviting the Government of Suriname to send a high level delegation to Georgetown within twenty four (24) hours to commence dialogue on these and other related matters.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Suriname the assurances of its highest consideration.



GEORGETOWN  
JUNE 2, 2000