## WORLD SURVEY BY PREMIERS

## SIR ANTHONY GIVES VIEWS ON RUSSIA

By Our Political Correspondent The nine Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth, after brief speeches of welcome, yesterday plunged into the main topic of their conference, a survey of the international situation. The meetings are being held in the Cabinet room at 10, Downing Street.

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ofics to: Mr. E. Cohert.

This discussion will continue today and possibly to-morrow. It aims at achieving a common appraisal of recent changes in Soviet policy and of the consequences on defence policy of the development of the hydrogen bomb.

Sir Anthony Eden began with an account of his meetings with Marshal Bulganin and Mr. Khruschev and the conclusions he had drawn from these exchanges. Mr. Nehru also gave his impressions of his own meetings with the Soviet leaders.

The official statement said; "The Prime Ministers embarked on a general discussion of the international situation which will be continued to-morrow."

## ATTENDANCE RESTRICTED

Besides Sir Anthony Eden, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Foreign Secretary, the Earl of Home, Commonwealth Relations Secretary, and Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Colonial Secretary, were present.

The number of United Kingdom Ministers attending plenary sessions is being kept to a minimum. There has been a feeling in the past that the representation was too heavy and detracted from the intimacy of the talks.

Next week there will be restricted meetings on specific defence issues. Sir Anthony Eden will raise with Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and possibly Pakistali, the question of whether these countries can relieve Britain of some of her responsibilities in the Middle and Far East.

## **AFRICA TERRITORIES**

Such relief will be necessary if the Government is to get rid of National Service before the next election. Lord Home will have private talks with Mr. Strijdom on the future of High Commission Territories in Africa. These are Swaziland, Basutoland and Bechuanaland.

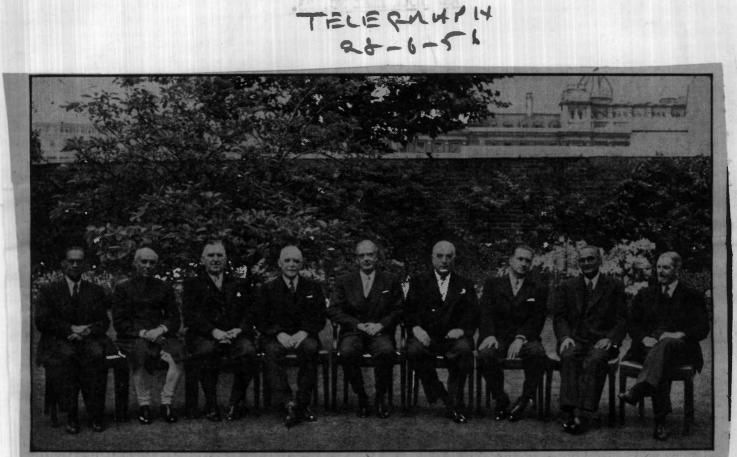
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The Commonwealth Secretary will also have talks with Viscount Malvern, Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. They will discuss its future constitutional status.

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COMMONWEALTH TALKS OPEN. Sir Anthony Eden posing in the garden of 10, Downing Street with eight Commonwealth Prime Ministers when the 10-day conference opened yesterday. The Prime Ministers made a survey of the international situation.

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8th June, 1956

LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. Bandaranaike (Ceylon), Mr. Nehru (India), Mr. Holland (New Zealand), Mr. St. Laurent (Canada), Sir Anthony Eden, Mr. Menzies (Australia), Mr. Strijdom (South Africa), Mr. Mohammed Ali (Pakistan) and Viscount Malvern (Central African Federation).

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