Committee of Imperial Defence,
Richmond Terrace,
Whitehall, S.W.1.,

6/17/5 II.

With the Secretary's Compliments.

Forwarded in connection with Dominions Office letter P.720/152 dated 26th October, 1938.
Dear Archer,

I am replying to your letter addressed to Dykes No. F. 780/152 dated the 26th October with regard to the suggestion of the New Zealand Government that a conference might be held to consider the whole question of islands in the Pacific and Trans-Pacific air routes.

I agree with you that before identifying ourselves with any conference on this subject it would be important to find out exactly what the New Zealand Government had in mind.

I have just seen a telegram from New Zealand dated the 26th October in which they fall in with the suggestion recently made by the Committee of Imperial Defence that Route B should be surveyed in substitution for Route A. I also see that the New Zealand Government have not returned to the question of a Pacific Conference and although the matter is one for you to decide I would have thought that we might leave New Zealand to make the next move. The purpose of the conference is so vague at present that I rather fail to see how we can formulate any proposals unless New Zealand returned to the point and elaborated their ideas in greater detail.

Yours, etc.,

(Sgd) L.C. HOLLIS.

N.E. Archer, Esq., C.B.E.,
Dominions Office.