

SECRET

C.O.

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D.O. 3.

Communications on this subject should be addressed to—

THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE,
DOMINIONS OFFICE,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.1,

and the following number quoted:—

F 120/197

Subject: Pacific Islands

RECEIVED
5 FEB 1939
C.O. FILE

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter ^{to} from the Dominions Office of the

Transmitted by direction of the Secretary of State for
Dominion Affairs.

Tel 16 - 2.2.39.
Tel 17 - 1.2.39

A copy has also been sent to the
F.O.
Admny
A.M.
C.I.D.

Dominions Office, Downing Street,

5 FEB 1939

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F. 720/197.

PARAPIHRASE TELEGRAM

NEW ZEALAND

To the Government of New Zealand.

(Sent 11.50 p.m., 1st February, 1939.)

No.17. Secret.

Reference your telegram No.9 of the 22nd January. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom agree that Conference should meet by the middle of March if possible or as soon as may be practicable thereafter. They are endeavouring to arrange for United Kingdom Service representatives to be available at that time and further telegram will be sent as to this as soon as possible.

As regards agenda of Conference on the defence side, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom fully recognise importance of the various matters referred to in your telegram. It will be appreciated however that adequate consideration of some of the topics mentioned, such as those set out under (d), (g) and (h) in your telegram, would call for a meeting more in the nature of an Imperial Conference in which representatives of other Dominions and India might wish to participate. It is assumed that on such topics the task of the present Conference will be merely exploratory with a view to drawing up reports for further consideration by the Governments concerned. This would not apply to immediate practical problems such as those mentioned under (a), (b) and (c), which it is thought could be fully discussed at the Conference with a view to reaching definite conclusions.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom agree that (j) should be included in Agenda.