

Copy req^d on
3164/39 sent
(Aviation)
on 86057/6/38
Wpac

Notes of an inter-departmental
meeting held at the Admin 30th Dec 1938

To discuss measures for strengthening
Am Govt's claim to Christmas I.

2 Herbertson (Am) % ————— 13. 1. 39

Enclosure dft note for submission to
I.A.C.C. to decide the instructions for UK
ref at NZ Confer

Copy req^d on
3164/39 sent
Aviation

Lab. 510 ————— 14. 1. 39
Note by Alh. (see 2)

Copy req^d on
3164/39 sent
Aviation

+ on 86059/39
Wpac.

4 Notes of a meeting held in D.O.
on 12 Jan.

5 Do. ————— 20/1/39

a copy letter to Dixon D.O. enclosing
brief drawn up for Mr H. G. Atterbury's use
at forthcoming confer.

(incl on 86059/39)
Wpac

6 ————— DO (1720/187) ————— 17. 1. 39

Inc copy of tel 12 to New Zealand.

(incl on
86059/39 Wpac)

7 ————— 70 (A 302/21/45) ————— 20. 1. 39

Inc copy of letter to Jones (Admin)
regarding Hull Island.

The previous papers have, unfortunately, been mislaid, and a search is proceeding for them. In the meantime 6 requires urgent action, and the High Commissioner ought to be informed of the position, especially as it has been suggested ^{in 6} on this file that the New Zealand Government should get in touch with him.

In Mr. Acheson's semi-official letter of the 2nd December, 239 on 86059, ^{Pr 111} to which reference is made in the telegram, 4 on 6214/20A/1939, the High Commissioner was warned that the New Zealand Government had suggested a conference on our policy in Western Pacific in relation to defence, aviation, etc. We do not at the moment, I think, need to give any very great detail as to the agenda for the conference. There will be time to get out to him the briefs prepared by the Air Ministry and the Foreign Office for Sir Harry Batterbee, together with any special instructions on those that we may wish to send. The immediate point is to give him enough information to enable him to fix a date with the New Zealand Government.

I accordingly attach draft for conson.

ABW

23.1.39.

No reservations qua defense.

Whee

23/1

To W.Pac. tel: No 3 — 24.1.39

" Admiralty

- FO
- A. Min
- D. O.

(W/CB) Secer 25.1.39

8
9
10
11
12

Copy to 50
in line with
to A. Min

copy
of reg
3164/39

13 D.O. Fy20/199 Secret — 24. 1. 39
In c/tee 9 secret from Wg d/d 27/1/39

Further action
note drafts
of W.O.S.

14 A To Herbertson Comd
(w/3 c/tee tel 10 from Fiji) 28/1

copy of this
off reg'n
5164/39 sent see
attention

14 All. Additional para to IAC 510 17. 1. 39

15 Fiji tel 18 Secret - 27. 1. 39
Discusses date of proposed confer

1, 2, 3 and 14. Mr. Bigg and I are attending a meeting at the Air Ministry ^{on 7/2} tomorrow to discuss further the brief for Sir Harry Batterbee.

4. The question of preparing notes which is referred to in the minutes of this meeting is being dealt with on 86059/39 Western Pacific.

5. The proposed note enclosed in 5 is satisfactory from our point of view. The note on Hull Island is also satisfactory, except that we can give the following extra information. The lease of the Phoenix Islands which is now held by Burns, Philp and Company was dated 1914 and is for 87 years. An advance party of settlers landed on the island on the 24th of December, 1938 to inaugurate the colonization scheme. These points are being incorporated in the brief on 86059.

No doubt the Dominions Office will give Sir Harry Batterbee the important information contained in the postscript to Mr. Balfour's semi-official letter.

The

The reply to 6 is No.13 and I
15A annex a draft reply to 13. The Dominions
Office will be letting us have a copy of this
telegram when sent. It is necessary to
inform the High Commissioner in regard to this
and at the same time we may as well tell
~~and as it is a defence matter this is being~~
~~him what briefs he will get.~~
~~dealt with on 6214/53.~~

7 will be dealt with on 86059.

15 is ~~being~~ dealt with on ~~6214/53~~.¹²
The annexed draft.

A Bewin
2.2.39.

A B Bewin
6-2/2

16 — C. O. ————— 2/2/39
(Explanatory note)

I have marked the dft. on 86059
for issue.

The dft. letter on this file may
issue as soon as the text of the
D.O. telegram is available.

W.S.
6/2/39

at once
3/2/39

17 — D. O. —————
Info to CwGul NZ & Australia

18 Re to 17 sent to General Fiji 6/2/39

19 *Re extract from minutes of
64th meeting of N.C.A.C.*

Mr. Dixon has informed me that they have received six copies of a memo. by the Chiefs of Staff on New Zealand Co-operation in Imperial Defence. for use at the proposed Conference, and he has sent us two copies (C.O.S. 832 nos 27-28), one for record on our papers and the other for communication to Sir H. Luke.

The next Fiji mail leaves on Saturday, and the all sea route will take at least a month. Although I see from no. 19 that the Confce. has ^{been} deferred until April, we do not know when Sir H. Luke expects to leave Fiji for New Zealand. It is for consou., therefore, whether this memo. should be sent to him at Fiji, or whether it should be sent direct to New Zealand to reach him on his arrival there. In view of the nature of the document, I suggest that it would be safer to send it direct to New Zealand. The New Zealand mail leaves tomorrow.

Smith 8/2/39.

20 To Gov. ^{Fiji} ~~Dixon~~ - tel 20 - secret - 8.2.39.

21 (To) Balfour A609/21/45 — 27.11.39
of letter to Herbertson

19. I agree that it would be safer to send to N.Z. as I do not think it will be necessary for Sir H. Luke to have much local advice on it as it mainly concerns N.Z.

*Copy req.
in 3164/39
A. Watson*

broader principles. The H.C. will be
acquainted with the position at
Janning Island. ? send copy

AB Dixon
accordingly to N. 2 - Mr Dixon
will perhaps say how it should
be addressed.

Audwin 9/2/38

AB Dixon
9/2

I find that the next ocean
mail to New Zealand does not go until
to-day week. I think that the
best procedure will be for me to
send a copy of the memo. to Mr Boyd
Shannon and ask that it may be
communicated to Sir H. Lubbock on arrival.

AB Dixon
9/2/39

22. 2. Boyd - Shannon (WCP 27 of COS 832) 14/2

23. Fiji let set sent - 9. 2. 39
will be able to arrive Auckland any
date after March 17. for fuel NZ advised.

23 can be put by

Audwin 11/2 alone

24 DO 720/195 ————— 9. 2. 39
Letter to Boyd Shannon d/d 9/2
enclosing brief for UK rep on political
issues

25 Fiji d/d 36. Sent ————— 17. 2. 39
Darius to be informed early when UK rep
will be present to open confer

? As in d/d
Sydney 18/2
CWT 18/2

25^A To Fiji d/d 26 sent ————— 20/2/39

26 DO. 720/209 See ————— 17. 2. 39
Incl 18 from Australia d/d 15/2
+ incl 21 see from U of d/d 16/2

27 DO 720/214 See ————— 18. 2. 39
In Cpl from Wg No 23 See 17/2
+ see from Boyd Shannon N° 21 See d/d
11/2

24 can be put by.

26. 27. D.O have consulted us S-O as
to the form of reply. Wait till
outward telegram is received

andam 4/3/39

~~28 Herberton Mtn. ————— 20. 2. 39
Sub. Aug 1939 on 3164/39 Aviation fbr.
In 3 of recommendations + of 20 items
etc taken from IAC fbr 510.~~

29 Tel 20 30 Sent. to General Fiji - 27/2/39

30 to Boyd Shannon ————— 1. 3. 39.

31 Do. — 21. 2. 39.

Two copies tel. of 20. 2. 39 to
Govt. of Australia, U.K. H.C. in Australia,
& Gov. General N. Zealand.

32 Do. — 23. 2. 39

Two of tel. 30 Secret from U.K. H.C. in
Australia.

33 Do. — 23. 2. 39.

Two of tel. 34 Secret to U.K. H.C. in
Australia.

34 Do. — 1. 3. 39

Two of tel. 21 Secret from Govt. Australia
& of tel. 33 Secret from U.K. H.C. in
Australia.

As far as the C.O. is concerned,
we must wait until the dust dies
down - But there are questions
which could be usefully discussed
with Fiji & the W. Pac & N.Z. alone
- e.g. the future of the Union &
Line groups, ~~and the~~ ^{and the} ~~importance~~ ^{importance} ~~of the~~ ^{of the} N.Z. is
and ^{more} ~~more~~ immediately concerned ^{than the} ~~than the~~ ^{Command}
I think, with the aviation facilities
in the islands: & we might possibly
have to consider whether they might
not be able to get on with that
part of the Conference before the
Australians arrived. This however
is a hare which it may not be

+ between
New Zealand
Australia

United States

necessary to loose.

For the moment ? Wait

(ad) A. Bervi

(ad) C.W. Dixon.

(ad) F.T. Lee

* between N.Z.S.,
New Zealand &
Australia

This means that the Conference on the
Western Pacific Islands which at one
time looked like being torpedoed by the
refusal of Australia to take part, will now
go ahead. Fiji is in touch with New Zealand
about details.

A. Bervi
3/3/39.

W.S. 4/3/39

at m.c.

35

do.

6/3/39

(In reply tel 32 to New Zealand. 6/3/39)

36

Apr

7/3/39

(Jac 250 Proposed Conference)

37

do.

3/3/39

(In reply tel 38 see to Govt of Australia 3/3/39)

38

Fiji

tel 43 See.

3/3/39

(Defence Conference)

35-39 can be put by. The enclosures
36 have been dealt with already: & it
requires no further action as far as the
C.O are concerned.

✓
Easter Day is
April 9th
A.B.

38 requires an early answer.

If the Governor leaves Fiji on the 14th March he would be at Sydney in about a week. He would thus have over a fortnight in Australia if the Conference doesn't open till after Easter, ^{which seems rather long.}
We don't know exactly when the Conference will open but it can hardly start now until about that date: & the Governor will probably get the quickest information from Sir H.B. Atterton who is due to arrive in N.Z. tomorrow.

I attach a draft for comment which is self-explanatory.

A.B. Win

8/3/39

curdison

8/3/39

W.S.

8/3/39

at once

39 To Fiji tel no 37 — 8.3.39

40. do. — Sec — 4/3/39

(In copy tel 35 Sec of 3/3/39 from health and tel 27 Sec of 2/3/39 from New Zealand, as to the date of the proposed Pacific defence conf.)

Pub. by.

W.S. 10/3/39

✓ 41 Do. ————— See ————— 8/3/39
(In copy tel to both Australia no(17) +
New Zealand No 33) 7/3/39.

✓ 42 Do. ————— See ————— 9/3/39
In copy Tel 23 from NZ 6/3/39
• Dep See " " 16/8/39
• - Tel 18 to both Australia 7/3/39
• Tel 34 to New Zealand 7/3/39
• Tel see to Mr Boyd Shannon N.Z. 7/3/39

✓ 43 Do. ————— See ————— 9/3/39
(In copy tel 39 to UK Dep both 8/3/39)

✓ 44 Do. ————— See ————— 9/3/39
(In copy see + personal letter from Mr Boyd Shannon
N.Z. dated 14/8/39)

✓ 45 Fiji — See tel 51 ————— 10/3/39
(arrangements for attending the conf)

✓ 46 Do. ————— See ————— 10/3/39
(Copy N.Z. tel 29 see. N.Z. agree to proposals
contained in Tel 35 see)

✓ 47 Do. ————— See ————— 10/3/39
In copy tel from both 24 of 8/3/39
" " to both 19 } 8/3/39
" " N.Z. } 35 } 8/3/39
from Boyd Shannon 26. 8/3/39
to both 40 } 8/3/39
" N.Zaland — } 8/3/39

X 48 Do. ————— See ————— 10/3/39
(In copy tel 41 see from Dep both 7/10/3/39)

✓ 49. do. ————— see ————— 11/3/39
(In copy tel from ^{to} bulth 25 - 11/3/39
" " 26 - 11/3/39
" " 32 - 11/3/39)

✓ 50. do. ————— see ————— 13/3/39
(Tel from rep NY 30 see 11/3/39)

✓ 51. do. ————— see ————— 13/3/39
(Tel to bulth } 22 } 11/3/39
" " } 37 }

✓ 52. do. ————— see ————— 13/3/39
(In copy tel 32 from Strick NY)

✓ 53. do. ————— see ————— 14/3/39
(In copy tel 4 see of 14/3/39 to Strick NY,
36 " " " " from " " " ")

✓ 54. do. ————— see ————— 14/3/39
(In copy tel 31 from Strick NY)
" 3 to " "
46 " " bulth)

✓ 55. do. ————— see ————— 14/3/39
(In copy tel 35 see 14/3/39 from Strick NY.)
47 " " to Strick bulth)

✓ 56. do. ————— see ————— 14/3/39
(In copy dup see of 14/3/39 to Strick NY.)

✓ 57. do. ————— see ————— 13/3/39
(In copy dup reply to tel 41 of 10/3/39 (48))

✓ 58. do. H.G. West: Pac. — tel 19 secret — 16/3/39.

Duplicate registered
Siji reference 56
(6214/20 A/39)