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PARAPHRASE TELEGRAM from the Governor of Fiji to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Dated 10th March, 1939. Received 1.45 a.m. 10th March, 1939.

Immediate.

No.51. Secret.

RECEIVED 11 MAR1939

Your telegram No. 37. In view of the fact that the Conference is unlikely to open before Easter I quite agree that for me to leave on March 14th. would involve too long an absence from Suva. I had not contemplated spending more than about a week in Australia and the urgency of the matter was (?group omitted) letter addressed to me by Sir Philip Goldfinch on February 15th, stating that the opinion of Fiji Government and C.S.R. on our proposed labour legislation "are sharply at variance" and asking whether it would be possible for my visit to Sydney to coincide with his conference with all the Fiji ' managers beginning March 21st. A copy of his letter is being sent to you by next mail. If however I should hear direct from New Zealand that the Conference will after all begin before the end of March I presume that you would have no objection to my leaving Suva on March lath, for a few days visit to Sydney as proposed in my telegram No.43.