

D.O.3a.

A. Benin Esq.,

67

No.

F 720¹/259.

Subject:

Pacific Islands.

Reference to previous correspondence:

With the compliments of H. Dixon.

A copy has also been sent to

M. Balfour (R20)
Maj. Jacob (CID)
Maj. Groves (Adm)
Maj. Meers (R20)
Mess Com. Fitch (R20)

Dominions Office, Downing Street,

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17 MAR 1939

(R0639) Wt 15568/3657 20,000(4) 7/36 H & Sr Gp 640

Del no 64 : 15/7/38

TELEGRAM.

CANADA.

From the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada.

Dated 15th. March 1939. Received 3.40 a.m. 16th. March.

No. 67.

Official report of March 14th. state^s that the Vancouver Member of Parliament asked the Prime Minister in the House of Commons that day " In view of the fact that Canada has serious defence problems on the Pacific Ocean " whether it would be possible for Canadian representatives to be sent to the Conference on Pacific Ocean Defence Questions which according to^{the} announcement by the Dominions Office appearing in the Press he stated was to be held at Wellington between representatives of the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.

The Prime Minister's reply was as follows begins. The Canadian Government has not received any communication from any Government with respect to this particular Conference. I think that the reason is clear. The Conference to which my Honourable friend has made reference is one which is being held with respect to matters affecting the Southern Pacific and evidently the Governments immediately concerned have not thought it advisable to invite the Canadian Government to send any representative. Until we are invited it would be as wise for us not to accept.

Ends.