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CYPHER TELEGRAM

NEW ZEALAND.

From the United Kingdom High Commissioner in New Zealand.

Dated 15th April, 1939. Received 6.41 a.m., 15th April.

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No. 85 Secret.

My telegram of 14th April No. 84 Secret Conference today gave general consideration in Committee to items (B) (3) (c) and (D) on the Agenda. Under (B) (3) New Zealand delegation explained impracticability of New Zealand providing more than one armed merchant cruiser for Tasman trade. Possibilities of sending New Zealand forces to Singapore and Trincomalee on lines suggested in C.O.S.332 were tentatively mentioned and in the course of discussion an enquiry from New Zealand delegation was answered on lines of your Secret telegram of the 6th April No. 34. Defence of Fanning Island was also broadly discussed prior to detailed discussion by a sub committee. Under item (C) question of cooperation in an eventual air reconnaissance screen between Port Moresby and Suva was approached. Under item (D) New Zealand delegation suggested inter alia the desirability of a New Zealand liaison officer at the War Office.

2. It is proposed that Committees should be set up next week to deal with questions (1) strategical questions (2) supply (3) civil aviation.

Copy by mail to High Commissioner Canberra.