

PARAPHRASE TELEGRAM

MEW ZEALAND

From the United Kingdom High Commissioner in New Zealand. Dated 17th July, 1939. Received 9.30 a.m., 17th July, 1939.

No. 158. Secret.

198. Addressed to the Dominions Office No. 188 repeated to the Governor of Fiji. With reference to paragraph 2 of Governor General's telegram of the 16th May No. 54 Secret. Construction of two landing grounds in Fiji. Public Works Department states that unless the work can be completed before the beginning of the wet season at the end of October it will be almost impossible for either aerodrome to be ready for use before July, 1940. The Air Department have therefore asked if replies on this point could be expedited (2) It is further stated that if the proposal is approved the Covernment of Fiji will have to negotiate immediately for the purchase of land and compensation. The estimates I have are in Fiji currenty, Wandi site £2,500, Wausori site £2,400 but I assume that this aspect of the matter will be dealt with by the Government of Fiji. The total estimates of £56,400 sterling included these amounts.

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