

D.O.3a.

7025/2A
SECRET

A. G. Lees Esq

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No. F 720/364

Subject: Pacific defence conference

Reference to previous correspondence:

Letter from the DO of the 30/5/39 10.
F720/343

Del. 85. 24. 39

With the compliments of Mr Pitblado

A copy has also been sent to Mr Balfour,
Col. Jacobs,
W/C Hoeter,
Major Grover.

Dominions Office, Downing Street,

193

27 JUL 1939

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CYPHER TELEGRAM

To the Governments of New Zealand and the Commonwealth of Australia.

(Sent 1 p.m., 27th July, 1939.)

Your telegram No.54 of the 16th May. Paragraph 2. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom agree with the recommendation of the Pacific Defence Conference that two landing grounds should be constructed in Fiji the cost to be shared equally between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and His Majesty's Government in New Zealand.

2. Governor of Fiji is being instructed to communicate with New Zealand Government so as to enable work to be begun as soon as possible. It is assumed that a firm estimate of the cost which it is appreciated may vary to some extent from the approximate estimate in the Conference Report, will be furnished in due course by New Zealand Government who will also indicate their wishes as to arrangements for the payment of the United Kingdom contribution (i.e. half above estimate).

This telegram has been shown in draft to Mr. Nash.

Addressed to New Zealand No.85. Repeated to Commonwealth of Australia No.67.