

D.O.3a.

**SECRET**

28

No. D510/75

Subject: New Zealand defence.

Reference to previous correspondence:

Del. 71. 28.6.39  
Del. 176 28.6.39

With the compliments of Mr Dixon

A copy has also been sent to Mr Balfour  
Major Jacobs  
Major Howe  
Major Means  
Mr A. Foster.

Dominions Office, Downing Street.

28 JUN 1939

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(R5952) Wt 32346/3590 5,000 2/36 H & Sr Gp640  
(R6639) Wt 15508/3657 20,000(4) 7/36

NEW ZEALAND.

From the United Kingdom High Commissioner in New Zealand.

Dated 28th. June. 1939. Received 10.19 a.m. 28th. June.

No. 176.

Governor General's speech to Parliament today included the following defence points.

(1) Ministers are in communication with the other Governments concerned as to practicable implementation of the recommendations of the Pacific Defence Conference.

(2) Inauguration of a further programme of Naval development including the provision of a post recruits training centre in connection with which 3 seagoing training vessels of the modern type are to be built and will be available in war for minesweeping and anti submarine duties. **Dockyard repairs facilities are being further strengthened and reserves of oil fuel and stores increased.**

(3) Except for horsed mounted rifle regiments, mobile portion of the forces is fully motorised and it is hoped will soon be fully mechanised. Mackesy's report is receiving careful consideration.

(4) Air defence programme has been further accelerated and enlarged.