

86410/39.

9 November, 1939.

Sir,

9. 6. 39.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary MacDonald to transmit to you, to be laid before Viscount Halifax, a copy of a despatch from the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, proposing that a branch of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony Postal Service, should be established on Canton Island. This proposal has already formed the subject of semi-official correspondence under Foreign Office reference A.6980/21/45.

2. Having regard to the terms of articles 2 and 3 of the Exchange of Notes of the 6th of April, 1939, Mr. MacDonald would be grateful if His Majesty's Ambassador in Washington could be instructed to ascertain from the Government of the United States of America that they have no objection to this proposal.

Sir,

3.

Your most obedient servant,

(Iga) ABA

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
FOREIGN OFFICE.

3. In this connection, I am to invite attention to the enclosed copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Government in New Zealand. (A copy of this telegram was sent semi-officially to the Foreign Office in a letter from the Dominions Office of the 24th of October). Mr. MacDonald is advised that the arrangements contemplated by Pan American Airways as stated in this telegram amount in effect to the establishment of a United States Postal Service on Canton Island. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have apparently received no notification from the Government of the United States regarding these arrangements, but it may be considered appropriate to refer to them in approaching the United States Government regarding the proposal for establishing a British Post Office on the Island.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Iga) ABAleson

Office of the Secretary
Tel: No: 192
19. 10. 39.

24th August, 1939.