

SECRET

Minutes. Allied Joint Declaration.

G 275/4/4.

H.E.

There is one point which arises in connection with the signature by the Dominion Governments of the "Joint Declaration" which ought perhaps to be cleared up, and that is how the consent and approval of the New Zealand Government and of the Government of India (supposing India does sign) is to be obtained. As regards New Zealand the Embassy is, strictly speaking, still responsible for New Zealand diplomatic affairs here since, although the establishment of a separate New Zealand Legation has been decided on, the New Zealand Minister has not yet arrived. On the other hand, Mr. Langstone is attending these meetings on behalf of New Zealand and it might therefore be more tactful to suggest that he should communicate direct with his Government on the subject rather than that the Embassy should.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

See - /4

~~since~~ The situation as regards India is rather different and I imagine that even though Sir G. Bajpai may be attending the meetings and may perhaps eventually sign on behalf of India, it would be better if the consent of the Government of India were to be obtained through London, i.e. through the F.O. and India Office.

H. W. ...

29th December, 1941

FRHM:HS

Let with ask Mr Langstone to communicate direct with N.Z. Govt must wait till we hear

Len of Lora is to new.

Jr.

28.12

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.