

Origl. regd. on 86059/38

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Copy

Committee of Imperial Defence,
Richmond Terrace,
Whitehall, S.W.1.,

6/17/5 II.

With the Secretary's Compliments.

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Forwarded in connection with Dominions Office
letter F.720/152 dated 26th October, 1938.

HI

Copy

SECRET.

27th October, 1938.

Dear Archer,

I am replying to your letter addressed to Dykes No.F.720/152 dated the 26th October with regard to the suggestion of the New Zealand Government that a conference might be held to consider the whole question of islands in the Pacific and Trans-Pacific air routes.

I agree with you that before identifying ourselves with any conference on this subject it would be important to find out exactly what the New Zealand Government had in mind.

I have just seen a telegram from New Zealand dated the 26th October in which they fall in with the suggestion recently made by the Committee of Imperial Defence that Route B should be surveyed in substitution for Route A. I also see that the New Zealand Government have not returned to the question of a Pacific Conference and although the matter is one for you to decide I would have thought that we might leave New Zealand to make the next move. The purpose of the conference is so vague at present that I rather fail to see how we can formulate any proposals unless New Zealand returned to the point and elaborated their ideas in greater detail.

Yours , etc.,

(Sgd) L.C.HOLLIS.

N.E.Archer, Esq., O.B.E.,

Dominions Office.