

D.O.3a.

A.B. ~~Atkinson~~ Ex.

37

No.

F. 720/172.

Subject:

Pacific Islands.

7 DEC 1938  
Q. O. REGY

Reference to previous correspondence:

6-12-38

With the compliments of *Mr. Dixon*.

A copy has also been sent to *Mr. Balfour (FO)*

Dominions Office, Downing Street,

193

6 DEC 1938

(R5952) Wt 32346/3586 5,000 2/36 H & SP Gp640  
(R6639) Wt 15568/3657 20,000(4) 7/36



F.720/172.

6 December, 1938.

Dear Herbertson,

With reference to my letter of today about Pacific Islands questions, there is one aspect of the matter in connection with Civil Aviation to which we should like to draw special attention.

As was stated in the last sentence of the Foreign Office memorandum of the 22nd November, the important point in this connection would seem to be to ensure that a British Commonwealth Company will be available, whenever required, to lodge an application with the United States Government for landing facilities in islands under United States sovereignty.

It seems clear that the United Kingdom representatives at the meeting proposed by the New Zealand Government will be expected to explain what are the United Kingdom Government's ideas with regard to the formation of such a Company.

Presumably the consideration of this question and of any other questions connected with Civil Aviation  
which

J.J.W. HERBERTSON, ESQ., O.B.E.



which it would be desired to raise at the proposed meeting will fall to be dealt with by the Imperial Air Communications Committee or a Sub-Committee of that Committee. In this connection, the question whether Trans-Tasman Airways would be a suitable Company for dealing with larger problems of Trans-Pacific flight is one requiring very careful consideration.

As regards the question of a meeting place, you will see that the draft telegram enclosed in my letter of today suggests that this might be New Zealand. The New Zealand Government suggested the meeting and are at present taking the lead in these Pacific Island matters, and we want to encourage their interest in these questions. Moreover, from the international point of view, a meeting in New Zealand would, we should think, assume less interest than a meeting in Fiji, and would be less likely to rouse the United States to fresh embarrassing action.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Balfour and Acheson, and I enclose a copy of a letter to Jacob as to the matters referred to in the first part.

We



We should like to send the telegram to ~~X~~  
New Zealand as soon as possible, and I should be  
grateful, therefore, if you could let me know as  
soon as possible whether you concur in its terms,  
without awaiting consideration of the matters referred  
to in this letter.

Signed C. W. DIXON