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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

18 October, 1983

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T155/83

Dear Prime Minister,

During last year's Falklands operation, you made available a Royal New Zealand Navy frigate to the Royal Navy. For most of the time since then either HMNZS CANTERBURY or HMNZS WAIKATO has participated in the patrol in the Indian Ocean.

As you know, this joint operation has now come to an end. Michael Heseltine and Admiral Fieldhouse have already expressed their appreciation to their New Zealand counterparts.

I should like to reiterate my personal gratitude to you for this spontaneous act of generosity, which was characteristic of the staunch support that you gave us over the Falklands issue from the very outset. It has been a great help to the Royal Navy, both during the South Atlantic operation and in its aftermath, to be able to take advantage of the attachment of one of your frigates and I know that both Navies have valued the shared operational experience.

Please accept my deepest thanks.

Warm regards  
Yours sincerely  
Rogaret Dalbey SH

The Right Honourable R.D. Muldoon, CH, MP.

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 October, 1983

Operation Armilla: Royal New Zealand Navy Participation

You wrote to David Barclay on 10 October suggesting that the Prime Minister should send a message of thanks to Mr. Muldoon for the help which we have received from the New Zealand Navy since the Falklands operation.

I enclose a letter which the Prime Minister has signed and should be grateful if you would arrange for its delivery.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to John Holmes (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

A. J. COLES

S. H. Lowe, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence

EM



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB  
Telephone 01-~~9207622~~ 218 2111/3

MO 14/12

10th October 1983

Dear David,

*GR*

*Type letter as  
enclosed.*

*the way*

OPERATION ARMILLA: RNZN PARTICIPATION

Last year, at the height of the Falklands operation, the New Zealand Prime Minister offered to make available a frigate to the Royal Navy. This offer was accepted and for most of the past 16 months either HMNZS CANTERBURY or HMNZS WAIKATO has joined an RN ship on the Gulf of Oman patrol. The attachment, which has been extended as a result of successive exchanges between the Defence Secretary and his New Zealand counterpart, has now had to come to an end and WAIKATO rejoined the New Zealand Fleet at the end of September.

Both Mr Heseltine and the First Sea Lord have expressed their thanks to the New Zealand Defence Minister and Chief of Naval Staff respectively. As the offer was made by Mr Muldoon personally, the Prime Minister may wish also to send a message of thanks and a suitable draft is attached.

I am copying this letter to Marsha Fenwick at the FCO.

*Yours*

*A H Lowe*

(S H LOWE)  
Private Secretary

D Barclay Esq

DRAFT LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER TO THE RT HON ROBERT MULDOON CH

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As you know, this joint operation has now come to an end. Michael Heseltine and Admiral Fieldhouse have already expressed their appreciation to their New Zealand counterparts. I should like to reiterate my personal gratitude to you for this spontaneous act of generosity, which was characteristic of the staunch support that you <sup>gave</sup> ~~have given~~ us over the Falklands issue from the very outset. It has been a great help to the Royal Navy, both during the South Atlantic operation and in its aftermath, to be able to take advantage of the attachment of one of your frigates and I know that both Navies have valued the shared operational experience.

Please accept my deepest thanks.

RM  
/w.

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