



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 August 1982

I attach a copy of a letter from the Prime Minister of New Zealand about the inaugural flight of Air New Zealand from Auckland to London. Although the letter is dated 20 August, we did not receive it until today. I should be grateful for your advice on whether a reply is needed, and if so, may we please have a draft by Wednesday 8 September.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to John Whitlock (Department of Trade).

Timothy Flesher

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

HU

SUBJECT
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T 1618/82

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 1618/82



cc master
ops

Prime Minister:

Prime Minister
Wellington
New Zealand

This only arrived
today. I hope it did
not come by Air

20 August 1982

New Zealand! We will provide
The Right Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London,
ENGLAND

a draft reply

JF

31/8.

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Dear Margaret,

It gives me much pleasure to convey to
you our warm greetings on this the first
flight by Air New Zealand from Auckland to
London.

This new service is the realisation
of a dream of more than 40 years when
New Zealand first began its own air services.

It reinforces the bonds between our two
countries and expresses them in a tangible
form. I am proud that the koru emblem on the
tail of our aircraft will again grace British
skies.

We are pleased that our airline is operating
this service alongside British Airways. Your
airline has a fine record of service between
our two countries.

Though our countries are on opposite sides
of the world, this new service will bring us so
much closer. I wish it well and trust it enjoys
the success it deserves.

Sincerely,

R. D. Muldoon

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