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 Please bring forward
 for briefing folder for
 the Prime Minister's
 meeting with the High
 Commissioner on 22 Nov.

Ref. A085/2835

MR POWELL

The new New Zealand High Commissioner, Mr Bryce Harland, C.D.P. called on Sir Robert Armstrong yesterday.

2. Mr Harland said that despite the New Zealand withdrawal from the regular intelligence-sharing meetings he would make it his business to keep the framework of contacts alive, so that the link could be re-established at some future date. His Government was trying to find a modus vivendi with the United States. As he had told the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, New Zealand had told the United States that they were willing to talk if the United States was. The door was open; but, in Dean Rusk's phrase, the Americans would not pick up the phone. There was so far no sign of a resumption of talks on the legislation proposal or indeed anything else. Senior figures at the White House were evidently preoccupied with the forthcoming United States/Soviet summit. When he saw the Prime Minister on 22 November his main message would be that the New Zealand Government was making a political effort at reconciliation with the United States.

3. Sir Robert Armstrong said that the Prime Minister might refer to the recent CHOGM, which had called for all her qualities of strength and determination. The New Zealand Prime Minister had not been in the front line in putting pressure on her on sanctions against South Africa, but she had found few friends around her. Agreement had eventually been achieved on a declaration, but the process had not been painless. Mr Harland said that he understood that Mr Lange had taken a low profile. He had not been able to agree with Mrs Thatcher, but had sought to avoid an open split in the Commonwealth.

4. Mr Harland said that New Zealand greatly appreciated United Kingdom support on Community access to her agricultural products. Sir Geoffrey Howe had given an assurance that this would continue,



despite counter-pressures from British agriculturalists. The next round of talks would be in August. Meanwhile he was glad to note the strength of United Kingdom/New Zealand relations. There was no dearth of visiting New Zealand Ministers, and New Zealanders always got a very special welcome. He had been particularly struck by this when he visited the New Zealand stall in Westminster Abbey and signed the New Zealand book there. He imagined that the relationship would to some extent erode with the change of generations, but his son who had recently visited the United Kingdom doing routine labouring jobs had been impressed by the knowledge and affection for New Zealand evidently felt by ordinary British people. Sir Robert Armstrong agreed, adding that the farming community were however more apprehensive than ever, given the greater pressures now facing them.

5. Mr Harland said that he might raise with Mrs Thatcher New Zealand economic policies which had been tough but brave. The crunch was coming now, with inflation running at 15 per cent. The Finance Minister, Mr Douglas, had said that if wage increases went through that level, the soft landing he envisaged would turn into a crash landing. He hoped that, on some future visit to London by Mr Douglas, there might be an opportunity for Mrs Thatcher to meet him; he thought she would find him interesting.

? | Sir Robert Armstrong said that he knew that the Prime Minister
· | admired the policies now being pursued in New Zealand.

6. I am sending copies of this minute to Sherard Cowper-Coles, Kieran Murphy and Clare Adams.

M C STARK

6 November 1985

New Zealand: Int Sit Feb 81



CONFIDENTIAL

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seen by
OP
GFC

FROM: S W F Martin
Protocol Department

DATE: 4 October 1985

cc: Private Secretary
PS/Lady Young
PS/Mr Raison
PS/No 10
PS/PUS
PA/Sir W Harding
PA/Dr D C Wilson
PA/Mr Gibbs
PA/Mr Furness
PA/Mr Illman

Mr Furness
South Pacific Department

1. The new High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr Bryce Harland, is due to arrive in London on Tuesday 15 October and will assume his functions immediately.
2. An appointment with the Prime Minister to present the Letter of Introduction has been arranged for Friday 22 November at 9.30 am. An audience of Her Majesty The Queen will also be arranged in due course.
3. In due course, you should arrange for the appropriate FCO Minister to give a lunch in honour of the High Commissioner.
4. Appointments for the High Commissioner to pay his initial calls at the FCO have been made as follows:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Minister of State (Lady Young)	Mon 21 Oct	3.00 pm
Deputy Under Secretary (Sir W Harding)	21 Oct	3.45 pm
Acting Head of CCD (Mr J Illman)	21 Oct	4.30 pm
Assistant Under Secretary (Dr D C Wilson)	21 Oct	5.00 pm
Head of South Pacific Department	Tues 22 Oct	4.30 pm
Vice Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps	22 Oct	5.00 pm
Secretary of State	Mon 28 Oct	10.00 am
Permanent Under Secretary	Fri 1 Nov	12 Noon

5. For these calls would you please prepare a biography of the High Commissioner and a short brief on our relations with New Zealand. They should be given the following distribution:

Top copies on blue paper to:

Protocol Department - to forward to the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps for Her Majesty The Queen. This copy should have the date and 'Foreign and Commonwealth Office' typed at the bottom.

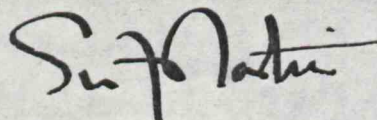
Private Secretary (10 Downing Street)

Other copies to:

Private Secretary - for the Secretary of State
APS to Secretary of State
Minister of State (Lady Young)
Permanent Under Secretary
Deputy Under Secretary (Sir W Harding)

/Assistant

Assistant Under Secretary (Dr D C Wilson)
Assistant Under Secretary (ODA)
Vice Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps
Head of South Pacific Department
Acting Head of Commonwealth Co-ordination Department
4 copies to Protocol Department for Mr Martin



4 October 1985

S W F Martin
Protocol Department