



OFFICE OF THE
PRIME MINISTER

P.O. BOX G1, HONIARA
SOLOMON ISLANDS
TELEPHONE: 21863/4
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9 June 2000

H E Mr Nick Hurley
New Zealand High Commissioner
HONIARA

Your Excellency

I refer to your letter dated 9 June which reads as follows:

Dear Prime Minister

I have the honour to refer to my recent discussions with you concerning the deteriorating security situation in Solomon Islands, giving rise to fears for the safety of foreign nationals in your country.

In this regard, I have the honour to advise that the New Zealand Government wishes to offer a means of assisted evacuation (by sea or by air), and appropriate protection, to New Zealand citizens and certain others currently in Solomon Islands. This will involve the deployment of a contingent of New Zealand Defence Force and associated personnel, for the purposes of facilitating the evacuation and providing any necessary protection, including to evacuees and to New Zealand diplomatic and consular personnel stationed in Solomon Islands.

I now propose on behalf of the Government of New Zealand that an Agreement be reached between our two Governments in this matter on the following terms:

All New Zealand Defence Force and associated personnel who are deployed to Solomon Islands for the purposes mentioned above shall be accorded immunity from the jurisdiction of the Solomon Islands authorities, except in any case where the New Zealand authorities expressly consent otherwise.

The Government of Solomon Islands shall waive all claims against the Government of New Zealand or against New Zealand personnel arising out of the performance by those personnel of their duties. The two Governments shall consult on the settlement of any other claims.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Solomon Islands, I have the honour to propose that this letter, together with your reply to that effect, shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on the date of your reply.

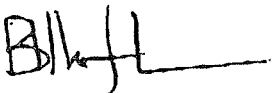
Accept, Prime Minister, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Nick Hurley
High Commissioner

I have the honour to confirm that the contents of your letter are acceptable to the Solomon Islands Government, and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments relating to the deployment of New Zealand forces to Solomon Islands which shall enter into force on the date of this reply.

Yours sincerely



Hon Bartholomew Ulufa'alu
Prime Minister



NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

TE AKA AORERE
HONIARA

9 June 2000

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Hon Bartholomew Ulufa'alu
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands
HONIARA

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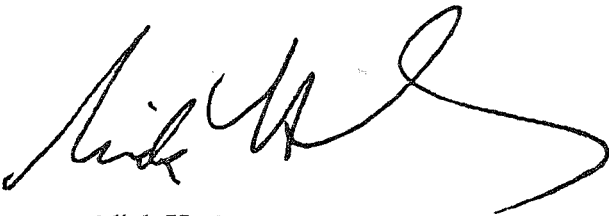
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Accept, Prime Minister, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Hurley', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Nick Hurley
High Commissioner