



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

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THE Second Session of the Thirty-first Parliament of New Zealand was this day opened by the Governor-General, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following statement of the causes of the calling of this session of Parliament together:

HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Our thoughts continue to be dominated by the great and complex problems besetting the nations of the world who, notwithstanding their competing and conflicting interests, must still strive to live peacefully together. Although the meeting last year of the leaders of the Four Great Powers gave us grounds for hope that a new spirit might prevail and that long outstanding issues between the democracies and the Communist nations might be resolved, these hopes have unhappily not yet been realised.

My Advisers view with deep concern the continued spectacle of violence and subversion in many parts of the world. In the face of this challenging and indeed menacing situation my Government remains convinced that the society of free nations, with which New Zealand is closely associated, must not relax its vigilance nor impair the strength it needs to deter aggression wherever and in whatever diverse form it may appear.

In discharging their responsibilities in the sphere of external affairs, my Ministers have endeavoured to promote the strengthening of the British Commonwealth and the maintenance of the ties that happily bind together so closely the Commonwealth and the United States of America. Active participation in the United Nations and friendly co-operation with the free countries in Asia have been especially vital elements in their policy.

The problems of world peace and security were among those recently discussed by my Prime Minister with the Prime Minister of Australia, and will figure prominently at the meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers later this year.