



THE NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY

Published by Authority

WELLINGTON: THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 1967

THE First Session of the Thirty-fifth 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:

For the last time, I have the honour of addressing you, in Parliament assembled, as the mouthpiece and representative of Her Majesty The Queen. No greater honour could befall anybody, and I have cherished it dearly.

Since we arrived in New Zealand nearly five years ago, it has been my great privilege, accompanied by my wife, to carry The Queen's greetings to Her people into every corner of the country, and to all such of New Zealand's dependencies as are inhabited; and to be entrusted in turn with messages of affectionate devotion to The Queen's Crown and Person. These I have faithfully delivered.

It was a great privilege also last year to visit New Zealand sailors, soldiers, and airmen in Malaysia and in Singapore: to hear at first hand of their splendid reputation in those countries, and to see with my own eyes how rightly that reputation has been earned.

By the warmth of our welcome everywhere, from both Europeans and Maori, we have been deeply moved. As long as we live we will always treasure our memories of New Zealand, and of all the goodness towards us of the people whom you represent. And to you yourselves, their elected representatives, we offer our warmest thanks for all the kindness which you have ever shewn us.

Next week my wife and I will pay our final visit to Western Samoa and the Cook Islands. We look forward to this opportunity to renew friendships and to see something of the progress made in both these countries.

In the international sphere, since I last addressed you concern has been increasingly focussed on South-East Asia. My Government remains convinced of the imperative need for New Zealand to play a continuing part in the collective endeavour to maintain security in this area; only in this way can small countries be assured of the right freely to determine their own future. New Zealand's military and medical assistance to the Republic of Vietnam has accordingly been increased and at the same time substantial forces have been maintained with the Commonwealth Strategic Reserve in Malaysia.