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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SEC DEF HAS SEEN

17 MAY 1976

In reply refer to:  
I-5140/76

20 MAY 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Meeting with Mr. Selden, Ambassador to New Zealand

Mr. Armistead I. Selden, Jr., Ambassador to New Zealand, is in Washington for consultations prior to beginning his home leave. In addition to his meeting with you this Thursday (20 May, 1430 hours), he has requested appointments with Deputy Secretary of Defense Clements, Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA), and Chief of Naval Operations.

Ambassador Selden was a former member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee from 1955 to 1969 and was the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs from 1970 to 1972.

Ambassador Selden desires to pay his respects and may raise the following topics with you:

1. New Government in New Zealand. The advent of the Muldoon Government has significantly benefited our security ties and broadened the commonality of our interests. The Prime Minister's strong, positive approach toward security issues has set a definite tone. He is solidly in favor of ANZUS and is ready to do all within his power to insure its continuation. You might ask Ambassador Selden what more we might be doing with them in the security field.

2. Sino-Soviet Activities in the Southwest Pacific. New Zealand is becoming increasingly concerned over the increased Sino-Soviet activity. They have recently reported that Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister will visit PRC in May, have carefully monitored the activities of the PRC ships near Fiji, and have investigated the Soviet offer to the King of Tonga to construct an international class airport in exchange for a quiet anchorage in Tongan waters for a Soviet fish factory ship.

3. Duplication of Effort: Fiji Surveillance Effort. In accordance with the Radford-Co11ins Agreement, each of the ANZUS countries is assigned a part of the surrounding oceans for various responsibilities (to include surveillance effort). Soon after the two PRC ships were sighted off Fiji, it became apparent to the Director of the New Zealand Defense Intelligence that the US unilaterally had initiated surveillance of the PRC ships without telling New Zealand. This was an unfortunate error. The Defense Attache has attempted to explain the situation to the Director.

*New Zealand*

*17 May 76*

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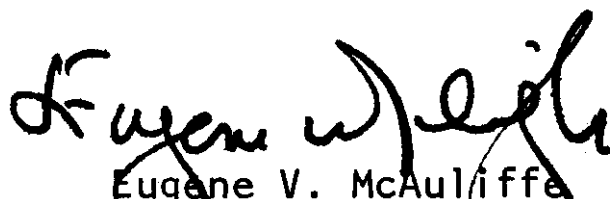
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4. Nuclear Powered Warship Visits. We appear on the verge of reopening NPW access to New Zealand. A request for the USS Truxton (CGN-35) to visit a New Zealand port from 27 August to 2 September 1976 has been submitted. Answers to a series of legal questions posed by New Zealand were dispatched on 13 May. Prime Minister Muldoon is bearing up well under increasing opposition to his NPW stance.

- A special point to keep in mind when looking at US-New Zealand relations' overall is that Muldoon's position on security issues and his open-armed acceptance of NPW visits cannot be separated from New Zealand's critical economic difficulties. Although the GNZ has studiously avoided openly linking NPW visits with access to US markets for its products, particularly beef, such a linkage in effect already has been established by the numerous appeals that have been made by the GNZ to visiting senior US officials, senators and congressmen.

A meeting information sheet is at Tab A and a biography is at Tab B.

Attachments

  
Eugene V. McAuliffe  
Assistant Secretary of Defense

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

17 May 1976

**MEETING INFORMATION SHEET**

**NAME AND TITLE OF VISITOR:** Mr. Armistead I. Selden,  
Ambassador to New Zealand

**TIME AND DATE:** 1430, 20 May 1976

**LOCATION:** Office of Secretary of Defense

**HOW TO ADDRESS VISITOR:** Ambassador Selden

**ATTENDEES:** U.S. Ambassador Selden  
The Secretary of Defense  
Military Assistant  
Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA),  
Mr. McAuliffe  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA),  
Mr. Abramowitz  
Assistant for New Zealand, Col Houser

**APPOINTMENTS WITH OTHER SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS:** Deputy Secretary of Defense  
Clements  
Assistant Secretary of  
Defense (ISA)  
Chief of Naval Operations



**'ARMI STEAD' I. SELDEN, JR.  
SWORN IN  
AS U.S. AMBASSADOR  
TO NEW ZEALAND, FIJI, TONGA,  
AND WESTERN SAMOA**

Armistead Inge Selden, Jr., of Greensboro, Alabama; was sworn in today as United States Ambassador to New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa. He succeeds Ambassador Kenneth Franzheim II, who resigned in December 1972.

Mr. Selden was born on February 20, 1921, in Greensboro, Alabama. He received a B.A. degree in 1942 from the University of the South and an LL.B degree in 1948 from the University of Alabama. He served with the United States Navy from 1942 to 1946.

Mr. Selden was in private law practice in Greensboro from 1948 to 1953. A member of the Alabama House of Representatives from 1950 to 1951. In 1953 he became a United States Representative from Alabama. He was a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee from 1955 to 1969, and was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs from 1959 to 1969. He returned to private law practice in 1969.

From 1970 to 1972, Mr. Selden was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs. During 1972-73, he was a Consultant to the Department of Defense. He received the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Award in 1972.

He became a member of the law firm Lucas, Selden, Friedman and Mann in Washington, D.C. in 1973 and at the same time became associated with the law firm of Roson, Wright, Harwood and Selden, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Ambassador Selden is married to the former Mary Jane Wright. They have three sons -- Armistead Selden III, Jack Wright Selden and Thomas Lawson Selden -- and two daughters -- Martee Selden (Mrs. James H. Hewitt) and Edith Cobbs Selden.

