

JB.

CAIBERRA...A.C.T.

11 JUN 1939

My dear Prime Minister,

Referring to your letter of the 10th May, 1939, relative to the petition forwarded by the Hon. Secretary, Australian Aborigines' League, I desire to advise that the petition in question was the medium of a submission to Cabinet by my predecessor in office, in February, 1938. Cabinet then agreed that no good purpose would be gained by submitting the petition to His Majesty the King, as requested by the Australian Aborigines' League, and decided to take no action in the matter.

Mr. Cooper may be assured that the officers of my Department charged with the protection of aboriginals in the Northern Territory are fully appreciative of their responsibility in connection with the welfare of aboriginals and that adequate steps will be taken to implement the Government's recently adopted policy which has for its objective the welfare and education of the aboriginal population of the Territory.

Mr. Cooper's letter of the 19th April is returned herewith. The petition has been returned direct to the Secretary of your Department.

M.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. S. FOLL

The Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies, K.C., M.P.,
Prime Minister,
CAIBERRA...A.C.T.

(H.S. Foll)

Foll



PRIME MINISTER,

CANBERRA.

10th May, 1939.

Senator the Honourable H.S. Foll,
Minister for the Interior,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

My dear Minister for the Interior,

I enclose for your perusal a letter which I received from Mr. W. Cooper, honorary secretary of the Australian Aborigines' League, together with a copy of my reply. I am also sending under separate cover the petition in question.

After perusal, would you kindly return these papers to me.

I have seen our official file, and note that the petition in question has already been before your Department.

I should be glad to have any comments you may care to make.

Yours sincerely,

R. G. Menzies

RM

Enclos:

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CANBERRA.

17th May, 1939.

22 MAY 1939

My dear Prime Minister,

I acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 10th instant, together with a letter received by you from Mr. W. Cooper, Honorary Secretary, Australian Aborigines' League. I am also in receipt of the petition referred to, which you forwarded under separate cover.

I shall be pleased to avail myself of the opportunity of perusing the papers in question. As soon as possible, I shall reply more fully on this matter and, at the same time, return the papers as requested by you.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. S. FOLL

(H.S. Foll).

Papers of...

The Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies, K.C., M.P., The Secretary,
Prime Minister,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Retained by direction,

[Signature]

NOTE:

Prime Minister requests that papers be returned.

Private Secret