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Admiral Phipps

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16th June, 1944.

My dear Stallard,

I have during the last few days received several communications from the Prime Minister in London in connection with the legislation bearing on the Asiatic question which is to be dealt with in the Natal Provincial Council.

It is quite clear that he is very much concerned about the position and most anxious that the agreement to which he was a party should be given effect to. He emphasises in particular the great Imperial importance of the matter. In a message which he has asked me to send to Mr. P.E. Mitchell, M.E.C., as leader of the United Party in the Natal Provincial Council, he has put the matter in the following terms:-

"Please convey to all Party supporters in Council my urgent request for seeing Ordinance through and passing second reading before reference to Select Committee. Compromise is of greatest importance from every point of view and its delay or failure will have serious effects and not least in Durban. Appeals which have been made to me from responsible quarters show in what serious light the matter is regarded and I can only impress on all members the gravity of the position. I feel sure my friends will not allow compromise to be delayed or jeopardized".

I fully realise your difficulty as leader of the Dominion Party in regard to this matter and I am not writing this letter to you with a view of asking you to take any action. I felt, however, that it was right that I should indicate to you how the Prime Minister feels about the matter.

I have attempted to see you personally but was advised that you would not be in office this week, hence this letter.

With all good wishes,
Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Col. C.F. Stallard,
P.O. Box 5156,
JOHANNESBURG.