

POST OFFICE
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NO RESPONSE TELEPHONE

WELLINGTON
N.Z.
20 JUL 1979
TELEGRAPH SECTION

3601 WN GX4
C26 224/3 URGENT GOVT FRANKED PARLIAMENTBUILDINGS 11A

1-15r

MS R CAPPER
2A RAROA CRESCENT
KELBURN

TE
Time
To 757 352
By

LATER TODAY I SHALL BE RELEASING TO THE NEWS MEDIA MY DECISION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HOSPITALS ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WELLINGTON HOSPITAL BOARD TO CLOSE ST HELENS HOSPITAL STOP IT WAS NOT AN EASY DECISION TO TAKE BUT AFTER THE MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATIONS I AM SATISFIED IT WAS THE ONLY COURSE WHICH I COULD NOW TAKE STOP I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR SUBMISSIONS ON THIS APPLICATION WHICH RECEIVED MY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AS WELL AS THAT OF THE HOSPITAL ADVISORY COUNCIL WHICH SUPPORTED THE WELLINGTON HOSPITAL BOARDS REQUEST TO CLOSE

STOP I AM SATISFIED THAT IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF BOTH MOTHERS AND BABIES THAT OBSTETRIC AND GYNAECOLOGICAL SERVICES BE CONCENTRATED IN ONE BUILDING AT THE BASE HOSPITAL INSTEAD OF HAVING THE SKILLED RESOURCES NEEDED FOR THE PROPER CARE OF MOTHERS AND BABIES BEING DISSIPATED OVER SEVERAL INSTITUTIONS STOP

THE REPUTATION EARNED BY ST HELENS IS FULLY ACKNOWLEDGED BUT I AM ASSURED THAT ONCE ESTABLISHED THERE IS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE NEW WELLINGTON WOMENS HOSPITAL WILL GAIN A SIMILAR REPUTATION THROUGH THE DEDICATION OF THE STAFF WHO WITH THE MOTHERS AND BABIES WILL HAVE THE ADVANTAGES OF A FULLY EQUIPPED AND SERVICED SPECIALISED UNIT IN A BASE HOSPITAL
GEORGE F GAIR MINISTER OF HEALTH

VCOL ~~W-2A~~
3601 WN GX5

J.H.S.P.

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