

23rd Sept. 1915

N1/357

MEMO/

Resident Agent,
Aitutaki.

I am directed by the Hon. the Minister to enquire as to the prospect of recruiting men for the Expeditionary Force from Aitutaki, and other Islands.

I have your list of six names, but more men may offer if it is known the Government will really accept them.

I am at present enlisting Rarotonganians, and expect 100 men. They will leave for Wellington for training on the 30th instant. The men must be between the ages of 20 and 40. Preference given to single men. The men are accepted after medical examination. I think it likely, if the men offer in sufficient number, a special steamer will visit the Islands to take them to New Zealand. A doctor would accompany the vessel to make the necessary examinations. The pay is 5/- per day for privates, and they would be required to serve for the duration of the War, or until they could be returned to New Zealand.


Officer in Charge.