

1913.
NEW ZEALAND.

NAVAL DEFENCE:

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY AND THE PRIME MINISTER
OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

I.

From Right Hon. R. L. BORDEN, K.C., M.P., to Mr. CHURCHILL.

MY DEAR MR. CHURCHILL,—

Ottawa, Ontario, 18th December, 1912.

It has been suggested to me that the construction of large warships of the most modern type has been attended with great difficulties in its earlier stages, and that the cost has been excessive. If I am not trespassing too much on your good nature, I would be glad to receive any information along that line, so that it will be available if necessary.

Yours faithfully,

R. L. BORDEN.

The Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, M.P., First Lord of Admiralty, London, England.

II.

From Right Hon. R. L. BORDEN, K.C., M.P., to Mr. CHURCHILL.

MY DEAR MR. CHURCHILL,—

Ottawa, Ontario, 18th December, 1912.

One of the officials in the Canadian Naval Service has made up the enclosed estimate as to the first cost and the annual cost of maintenance of two fleet units. Although I possess no special or technical knowledge of such matters, I am inclined to think that the estimate is too low. Perhaps you would be good enough to submit it to the technical officers of your Department, or to persons experienced in naval construction, and let me have an estimate which might be used in Parliament if necessary.

Yours faithfully,

R. L. BORDEN.

The Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, M.P., First Lord of Admiralty, London, England.

ENCLOSURE.

	First Cost.		Annual Cost of Upkeep (exclusive of Depreciation).	
	British.	Canadian.*	British.	Canadian.†
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1 battle-cruiser	11,750,000	15,650,000	700,000	980,000
3 cruisers of Bristol class	3,393,000	4,524,000	700,000	980,000
6 destroyers	3,600,000	4,800,000	486,000	680,000
3 submarines	1,350,000	1,800,000	120,000	168,000
Cost of one fleet unit	20,093,000	26,774,000	2,006,000	2,808,000
Cost of two fleet units	40,186,000	53,548,000	4,012,000	5,616,000

* Based on lowest tender received by previous Government for construction of cruisers and destroyers.

† 40 per cent. in excess of British cost.