

- On the **2nd December, 1977** Prince Leonard sent a telegram to the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia declaring that **a state of war existed** between the Commonwealth and the Principality, and that his Government severed all diplomatic relations with the Commonwealth. This action would in fact not have greatly surprised the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Sir John Kerr. During November, 1977 he had been sent a letter from Prince Leonard. In that letter Prince Leonard stated that he considered that he would have to do something to alter the relations between their Governments because he felt that the Commonwealth Government was not abiding strictly by specific law.
- On the **4th December, 1977** whilst the Commonwealth Government was pondering its predicament in this situation, Prince Leonard sent a further telegram to the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia. The telegram advised the Governor General that the **state of war between the Principality and the Commonwealth of Australia had now officially ceased**, that his Government would now accept diplomatic relations with the Commonwealth; and that he trusted that the Governor General would enforce on his Government the requirement that in respect the laws of war under which sovereignty is automatic to a country undefeated from a state of war. The Principality is at this time of writing still undefeated.

**** NOTE: Copies of original declaration and cessation telegrams on pages following****

COPY TELEGRAM

5. 10 p.m. Friday 2nd December 1977.

HIS EXCELLENCY
SIR JOHN KERR
GOVERNOR GENERAL
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA

CONFIRMING MY LETTER OF 28TH NOVEMBER RE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S LACK OF
RESPECT OF THE LAWS NOT ONLY ON MY PEOPLE BUT ALSO ON PEOPLE OF
YOUR OWN COUNTRY AND MR. KEATINGS FURTHER DISRESPECT TO THE COURTS
PREVIOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DURESS HAVING BEEN APPLICABLE IT IS MY
OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO DECLARE THAT A STATE OF WAR NOW EXISTS
BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ARE AT
THIS TIME NOW SEVERED.

PRINCE LEONARD.
SOVEREIGN
HUTT RIVER PROVINCE.

COPY TELEGRAM

3. 30 p.m. Sunday 4th December 1977.

HIS EXCELLENCY
SIR JOHN KERR
GOVERNOR GENERAL
GOVERNMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA

IT IS MY OFFICIAL DUTY TO ADVISE YOU THAT THE STATE OF WAR BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES HAS NOW CEASED AND MY GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEPT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO ENDEAVOUR TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED MUTUAL CO-OPERATION AS IS BEFITTING SOVEREIGN COUNTRIES INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WHICH FOLLOWS THE NOW PRESENT SITUATION FROM THE LAWS OF WAR WHEREIN AFTER EVEN A SITUATION OF ONE DAY OF DECLARED WAR IT FOLLOWS UPON CESSATION ABSOLUTE SOVEREIGNTY TO THE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES PLEASE HAVE YOUR GOVERNMENTS OBEY NOW THE LAWS OF WAR OR JOINTLY CALL FOR THE UNITED NATIONS TO SUPERVISE ALL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

PRINCE LEONARD.
SOVEREIGN.
HUIT RIVER PROVINCE.