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MESSAGE FROM THE SWISS AMBASSADOR

To you all, I should like to extend warmest Greetings and Best Wishes on this year's August First Celebrations. I know that, together with your New Zealand friends, you will all join in our National Day, as is the custom at home and in Swiss communities the world over.

Let our thoughts go back to the home country: to the region, the city and the village from which we come, and to our families and friends. May this day again be a memorable occasion in our best traditions, and an inspiration for the future.

It has been my privilege once more to visit New Zealand some months ago, and to take part in the Christmas gathering of the Swiss Club in Wellington. Many of you will also have met our guest from the New Helvetic Society, on an extensive tour at that time.

Soon, a new Charge d'Affaires will take up his duties at the Embassy in Wellington. I am certain that he will receive a warm welcome, and have your full support as has been the case in the past.

So again, with all good wishes to you all,

**E. de Graffenreid,
Swiss Ambassador.**