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PM. No. 36/1968

PM's VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND

The Prime Minister, Mr John Gorton, will leave on Wednesday, for a three-day goodwill visit to New Zealand. This is his first overseas journey as Prime Minister.

He will fly direct from Canberra to Wellington, where he will have a full programme of official engagements on Thursday. He will lay a wreath at the War Memorial, have meetings with the Prime Minister (Mr Holyoake) and the NZ Cabinet, give a press conference, speak at a State Luncheon, and call on the Deputy Mayor of Wellington.

On Friday, he will go to Palmerston North where he will inspect the Massey University and Dairy Research Institute.

After spending the night at Wairakei, centre of the geothermal area, Mr Gorton will go on to Auckland on Saturday to officially open the New Zealand Easter Show, returning to Canberra on Sunday (31st).

The Prime Minister and Mrs Gorton, accompanied by the New Zealand High Commissioner, Mr J. Luke Hazlett and Mrs Hazlett, will travel to New Zealand in an RAAF aircraft.

Full details of the itinerary are attached.

CANBERRA,
22 March 1968

PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA'S VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 27 March

4.45 pm Leave Canberra
10.00 pm Arrive Wellington Airport (non-ceremonial welcome)
(approx.) Brief informal meeting with PR representatives
at airport

Thursday, 28 March

9.40 am Lay wreath at War Memorial
10.05 am Call on Prime Minister
10.30 am Meeting with Ministers of Cabinet
Noon Formal meeting with news media
12.30 pm Call on Deputy Leader of Opposition
1.00 pm State Luncheon
4.30 pm Call on Deputy Mayor
5.45 pm Reception at Hutt given by Manufacturers' Federation
8.00 pm Buffet Dinner by Australian High Commissioner

Friday, 29 March

9.00 am Leave by car for Massey University
11.00 am Visit Massey University
11.45 am Visit Dairy Research Institute
1.00 pm Attend Civic Luncheon at Palmerston North
2.45 pm Depart by air for Taupo
4.00 pm Arrive Taupo
4.15 pm Arrive by car at Hotel Wairakei (Stay overnight)

Saturday, 30 March

11.55 am Depart Taupo by air for Auckland
12.55 pm Arrive Mangere Airport
1.15 pm Arrive Epsom Showgrounds
1.30 pm Luncheon
Open New Zealand Easter Show
View Exhibits
4.45 pm Depart showgrounds by car for Hotel Intercontinental
(Stay overnight) Dine privately at Hotel.

Sunday, 31 March

10.30 am Informal meeting with PR representatives
10.45 am Leave for Mangere Airport
11.15 am Ceremonial farewell
11.30 am Depart from New Zealand
