

FOR PRESS:

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VISIT TO UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. William McMahon

The following statement is being issued simultaneously in Washington and Canberra:-

"In pursuance of the continuous consultations that occur between the two Governments, the Prime Minister of Australia will visit Washington at the invitation of President Nixon and have discussions with him on 2 November on matters of mutual concern."

The Prime Minister of Britain, Mr. Edward Heath, invited me upon my appointment as Prime Minister, to visit Britain for discussions.

I informed Mr. Heath that although I could not accept the invitation immediately, I would do so as soon as it became practicable.

We have now agreed that I should visit the United Kingdom as part of my forthcoming journey.

In the circumstances that exist, it is appropriate that I should visit both London and Washington.

CANBERRA.
17 October, 1971.