



PRIME MINISTER

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT. HON.
WILLIAM McMAHON, CH, MP, IN THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES, CANBERRA

ROYAL VISIT

20 SEPTEMBER, 1972

I wish to inform the House that it is being announced today from Buckingham Palace that The Queen will open the Sydney Opera House on Saturday 20 October, 1973.

The announcement arises from an invitation which as Prime Minister of Australia I was most happy to convey to Her Majesty with the full support and concurrence of the Premier of New South Wales.

Her Majesty's visit will be a short one, limited to a brief stay in Canberra and then her visit to Sydney. It will follow the pattern of Royal visits for specific purposes - in this case the opening of the Opera House.

The likely dates are arrival on Wednesday 17 October and departure on Sunday 21 October.

The opening of the Sydney Opera House will be a great national and international occasion, and it is fitting that Her Majesty will be here to perform the ceremony.

I share with the Premier of New South Wales great pleasure that Her Majesty and The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Australia for this purpose. I am sure they will be most warmly welcomed.
