



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NO

DATE

M/7

14 December 1972

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT EXPORTS TO RHODESIA ENDED

The export of wheat from Australia to Rhodesia will no longer be permitted.

This was announced today by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, after reviewing the circumstances under which wheat exports had been permitted since the United Nations sanctions were imposed on Rhodesia in 1968.

"The Government is satisfied that humanitarian considerations no longer justify our wheat exports to Rhodesia," Mr Whitlam said.

The United Nations Security Council's resolution which imposed sanctions on Rhodesia exempted the export of foodstuffs to that country in special humanitarian circumstances. Up to now wheat exports to Rhodesia have been allowed on these grounds.

Mr Whitlam also said that the Secretary-General of the United Nations was being informed today of the Government's decision.

"The Australian Government strongly supports the United Nations' efforts to bring to an end the illegal minority regime in Rhodesia, and accordingly will strictly enforce sanctions imposed on it" Mr Whitlam added.