



PRIME MINISTER

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Transfer of Antarctic Division to Kingston,
Tasmania

The Prime Minister today announced that as part of the Government's implementation of the Callaghan Report (Structure of Industry and Employment Situation in Tasmania) he has written to the Premier of Tasmania, the Honourable D.A. Lowe, M.H.A., suggesting that discussions, aimed at assisting the Tasmanian tourist industry, be held in relation to the construction of the new headquarters for the Antarctic Division of the Commonwealth Department of Science.

There is potential to develop the new headquarters into a tourist attraction by incorporating displays depicting Antarctic operations both past and present in the building complex.

The discussions will also look at the possibility of constructing a replica of Mawson's hut in a landscaped area adjacent to the main entrance. It would be complementary to the display areas and would contain artifacts from Mawson's and other Antarctic expeditions.

The Prime Minister also announced that, arising out of the Government's decisions on the Callaghan Report he is considering what options are available for accelerating the transfer of the Antarctic Division to Kingston.