

FOR RELEASE 6.30 P.M. JULY 5

ROYAL TOUR

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies

The Commonwealth Government has appointed Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Dowling, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., to take charge of the planning of the visit to Australia next year of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

Sir Roy Dowling will be Her Majesty's Australian Secretary for the occasion and will be a member of the Royal Household throughout the visit.

Arrangements have been made for him to visit London in about two weeks' time to confer with the Queen and Prince Philip. His discussions at Buckingham Palace will take place over a period of about three weeks. He will be accompanied to London by Lady Dowling.

Before leaving for England, Sir Roy Dowling will, in accordance with arrangements made between the Prime Minister and Premiers last week in Canberra, meet State Directors, and will thus be able to take with him programme suggestions for discussion with Her Majesty.

The States have been asked to indicate what events of special significance will be taking place during the period of Her Majesty's visit and the final arrangement of the itinerary will depend, in some measure, on the proposals forthcoming.

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CANBERRA,

5th July, 1962.