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FOR PUBLICATION MORNING PAPERS MONDAY, 23RD JULY

VISIT OF KING AND QUEEN OF THAILAND

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

The Prime Minister, Mr. R.G. Menzies, today announced the itinerary for the visit to Australia next month of Their Majesties The King and Queen of Thailand. This had been settled following discussions in Bangkok recently by Mr. J.H. Scholtens of the Prime Minister's Department, who is the Director of the visit.

Mr. Menzies said that Their Majesties would arrive in Canberra by air from New Zealand on Sunday, August 26, and would leave Perth for Bangkok on Wednesday, September 12. They would visit all State capitals, the dates being as follows: Canberra - August 26-29; Sydney - August 29-31; Brisbane - August 31-September 2; Melbourne - September 2-5; Hobart - September 5-7; Adelaide (including visit to Woomera by His Majesty The King) - September 7-10; Perth - September 10-12.

Throughout their 18-day visit, Their Majesties would be Government guests and would stay at Government Houses. The Official Suite would consist of 13 persons. Their Majesties would also have a personal staff with them. The King of Thailand would be the first reigning monarch of a foreign country to visit Australia. Their Majesties had been looking forward to this visit for some time and would like to meet as many Australians as possible at functions and at work.

Mr. Menzies also announced details of the Canberra programme for the visit (see attachment).

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CANBERRA,

20th July, 1962.