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PAPERS

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VISIT OF KING AND QUEEN OF THAILAND

Their Majesties King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit of Thailand will pass through Sydney early on Saturday morning on their way to New Zealand to begin a State visit.

They will return on August 26th for their State visit to Australia.

Their Majesties will leave Bangkok at 11.30 a.m. tomorrow (Friday) in a Qantas aircraft, chartered by the Government of Thailand, and after refuelling at Singapore, are expected in Darwin at midnight. The Royal couple will alight at Darwin where they will be met by the Minister for Territories, Mr. Hasluck, and the Administrator of the Northern Territory and Mrs. Roger Nott.

The aircraft's arrival time of 7 a.m. in Sydney is the equivalent of 4 a.m. Bangkok time, and with a ceremonial arrival in New Zealand and an exacting programme in prospect, Their Majesties have expressed a wish to remain aboard the aircraft during its brief stopover in Sydney in order to obtain as much rest as possible.

While the aircraft is on the ground in Sydney, arrangements have been made to set accommodation aside for any other members of the party who may wish to alight.

The Minister for External Affairs, Sir Garfield Barwick, will be at the airport to greet the Foreign Minister of Thailand, Mr. Thanat Khoman who will be accompanying Their Majesties in both New Zealand and Australia.

CANBERRA,

16th August, 1962.