

FOR PRESS :

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Background Note

TRANSIT THROUGH SYDNEY BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

The Japan Air Lines DC8 aircraft in which the Prime Minister of Japan and Mrs. Ikeda are travelling to Japan from New Zealand, is scheduled to touch down at Sydney Airport at 11.30 p.m. on Saturday, 5th October, and to take off at 1.30 a.m. on Sunday, 6th October.

The purpose of the landing is to enable the aircraft to be refuelled for the non-stop flight to Tokyo.

Having regard to the time of the stopover, the Australian Authorities, in agreement with the Embassy of Japan, will regard Mr. Ikeda's stop at Sydney Airport as an informal occasion and it is not expected that Mr. and Mrs. Ikeda or any other passengers will alight.

The Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Mr. Saburo Ohta, and Mr. A.J. Kenney, M.V.O., of the Prime Minister's Department, Canberra, will leave Canberra on Saturday for Sydney, and will be at the airport.

The Consul-General for Japan in Sydney, Mr. K. Sato, will also be present at the Airport.

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CANBERRA,

3rd October, 1963.