

FOR PRESS

VISIT BY THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE DUKE AND
DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR ROBERT MENZIES, K.T., C.H.,
Q.C., M.P.

The Prime Minister announced today that on medical advice, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester have postponed their arrival in Australia by one week and will not arrive until Saturday, March 20th.

Their Royal Highnesses have informed the Prime Minister how sorry they are for any inconvenience which may be caused by this decision.

The Duke and Duchess are both looking forward to their visit although disappointed that it must now necessarily be abbreviated.

The Prime Minister said that the resultant changes would not affect the latter part of the programme and Their Royal Highnesses will leave Australia as planned on Monday, April 26th. He added that the changes for the early part of the visit could be announced as soon as possible.

The Prime Minister expressed his deep sympathy for Their Royal Highnesses in their recent motor accident and his great regret that the Duchess should have sustained a broken arm. He said that Their Royal Highnesses had been assured of the Government's full co-operation in any rearrangement which will bring about an enjoyable visit and retain opportunities for the Duke and Duchess to spend some time privately revisiting friends.

Canberra,

Tuesday, 16th February, 1965.