

EMBARGO : NOT TO BE RELEASED BEFORE 10 PM (EST) 26/11/65

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NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR QUEEN MOTHER'S DEPARTURE

Statement by the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, is to leave Australia by air instead of in the Royal Yacht "Britannia" at the end of her visit in March/April next year.

It had been intended that Her Majesty should embark in "Britannia" in Melbourne to sail to New Zealand. Now that plans for the tour have been advanced, it has become apparent that it will not be practicable for "Britannia" to go to Melbourne.

Consequently, the Queen Mother will leave Canberra on board a Qantas Boeing 707 on the 7th April. She will fly to Nandi in Fiji where she will join the Royal Yacht. After a brief visit to Suva, Her Majesty will sail for New Zealand in "Britannia".

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CANBERRA,  
26th November, 1965.