

FOR PRESS :

VISIT BY MR LESTER PEARSON

The Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, currently Chairman of the World Bank Commission on International Development and former Prime Minister of Canada, will visit Australia in April following discussions in a number of countries on matters concerning economic development and aid.

Mr Pearson will arrive in Australia on Monday 14 April and leave on Monday 21 April.

In Canberra he will be received by the Governor-General and will call on the Prime Minister. He will also have discussions with the Inter-Departmental Committee on Aid. On Wednesday 16 April, Mr Pearson will attend a Cabinet Luncheon .

Additional Background

Mr Pearson will be coming primarily in connection with the work of the Commission and, while in Canberra from 14 to 17 April, will be the guest of the Australian National University where he will hold conversations with the Vice-Chancellor, members of the staff of the University and other persons on problems related to the Commission's enquiry into international development. Mr Pearson has also agreed to give a public lecture at the University and to meet Press, radio and television representatives at a press conference on Wednesday 16 April.

Mr Pearson will leave Canberra on Friday 18 April for Melbourne, where he will call on Sir Robert Menzies and later be the guest of the Australian Institute of International Affairs at luncheon.

Mr Pearson will spend the weekend privately and will leave Sydney for Tokyo on Monday 21 April.

(A copy of a press release issued by the International Development Commission in Ottawa and Washington at noon on Tuesday 4 March 1969 is attached for background information on the membership and work of the Commission)

Press Secretary,
Prime Minister's Office,
Canberra, A. C. T.

7 March 1969