



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS:

PM. No. 48/1972

VISIT BY PRINCESS MARGARET

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. William
McMahon, C.H., M.P.

The following statement has been released from Kensington Palace today:-

"The Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon and the Earl of Snowdon have accepted with very much pleasure invitations from the Australian Government and the State Government of Western Australia to visit Western Australia in October next.

Her Royal Highness has not before visited Australia and is expected to spend about a week in Western Australia following her visit to the Seychelles".

The Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon are expected to arrive in Perth in the early part of the second week of October. Consultations will now take place to prepare a programme of engagements for the visit and these details will be publicly announced when an approved programme has been decided.

The Princess Margaret has always had a high place in the affections of the Australian people and her visit with her husband will be widely and warmly welcomed. I am delighted that they are able to come.

From among her many interests in Australia, the Princess is Colonel-in-Chief of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps, President of the Girl Guides' Association, the Dr. Barnardo's Homes and the Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship, and Grand President of the St. John Association and Brigade.

There will be disappointment that the visit by Her Royal Highness and her husband will not extend beyond Western Australia. But as is well known, the pattern in recent years has been to aim for shorter and less formal Royal Visits.

CANBERRA,
14 May, 1972.