

EMBARGO: Not for release before 2.00 a.m. 27/6/72



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS:

PM No 65/1972

### UNITED STATES MEAT IMPORTS

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

I have received advice that the President of the United States has decided that restrictions on imports of meat will be suspended for the remainder of 1972.

Australia welcomes this decision by the President. It has been made in the light of rising meat prices in the United States because of shortages in domestic supplies.

We are the major supplier of imported meats to the United States.

United States imports of meat were limited to 1,240 million pounds in 1972. Australia's share of this quantity was 600 million pounds valued at approximately A\$270 million.

From November 1971 to the middle of June 1972, Australian exports for arrival in the United States in 1972 were 30% above the figures for the period November 1970 to the middle of June 1971. Apart from Australia, most other suppliers were having difficulty in meeting their quotas for 1972. However, on the basis of performance to date, Australia will have no difficulty in filling its quota for 1972, and also supplying increased quantities to the United States.

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Canberra,  
26 June, 1972.

