



PRIME MINISTER

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MEETING WITH N.S.W. COUNTRY MAYORS'
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. William McMahon, CH, MP.

This afternoon the Prime Minister met a deputation from the New South Wales Country Mayors' Development Committee. The representatives were :-

Alderman R.Gillard - Mayor of Lithgow and Chairman of
the Committee
Alderman J.C.Matthews - Mayor of Bathurst
Alderman R.Brown - Mayor of Cessnock
Mr J.K.Madden - Town Clerk of Lithgow and Honorary
Secretary of the Committee.

The Minister for the Interior, the Hon. Ralph J.Hunt, M.P., and the Minister for the Environment, Aborigines and the Arts, the Hon. Peter Howson, M.P., were present at the meeting.

Alderman Gillard presented a submission on decentralisation. The Mayors said that to be effective, a decentralisation programme required Commonwealth as well as State assistance.

The N.S.W. Country Mayors proposed a decentralisation concept based on selected growth centres.

Canberra
30 August 1972