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## PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 80

1 May 1973

### ROYAL VISIT 1974

The following statement has been released from Buckingham Palace today -

"The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh have accepted invitations from the Governments of New Zealand and Australia to visit those countries in the first quarter of 1974.

The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by The Princess Anne, will arrive in New Zealand in time to open the Commonwealth Games in Christchurch on 24 January 1974.

The Queen will arrive by air in New Zealand on or about Wednesday 30 January to attend final stages of the Games and perform the closing ceremony on Saturday 2 February.

At the conclusion of the Games, Her Majesty and Their Royal Highnesses will visit some other parts of New Zealand departing in the Royal Yacht BRITANNIA on or about 8 February.

Thereafter they will visit Norfolk Island and Papua New Guinea.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will then go by air to South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

In South Australia their visit will coincide with the centenary of the University of Adelaide."

My Government and I are delighted that The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh have been able to accept an invitation to re-visit Australia in February/March next year after the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand and so soon after their visit in October for the opening of the Sydney Opera House.

We are also pleased that The Queen and The Princess Anne will make their first visit to Norfolk Island the Papua New Guinea.

(The Duke of Edinburgh has previously visited Papua New Guinea in 1956 and in 1971. He has twice visited Norfolk Island - in 1956 and again in 1968.)

I discussed the prospect of the visit to Papua New Guinea with Mr. Somare when I was in Port Moresby in February. He told me that he would be pleased if such a visit could be made.

Princess Anne however, cannot participate in the visit to the Australian mainland.

The precise amount of time to be spent in South Australia and Western Australia has not been determined though it is unlikely in either instance to exceed three days.

At Darwin The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will rejoin the Royal Yacht for their departure from Australia.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.