



PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 170

11 January 1974

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE IN N.S.W. AND QUEENSLAND FLOODS

The Prime Minister today expressed the Australian Government's concern about the damage and the personal distress being suffered by people in New South Wales and Queensland as a result of the floods in these States.

The Prime Minister said that the defence services are co-operating with the State Civil Defence and emergency services in providing assistance and that any requests for assistance submitted by the Premiers of New South Wales and Queensland will be most sympathetically and promptly considered.

The Prime Minister has informed the Premiers that the Australian Government is prepared to join with the State Governments of New South Wales and Queensland in providing financial assistance on a dollar for dollar basis in the normal way for financing schemes for the relief of personal hardship and distress in the affected areas.

Expenditure covered by the Australian Government's offer could include the provision of emergency food, clothing and accommodation, essential repairs to houses and the repair and replacement of essential items of furniture and personal effects of those in needy circumstances as a result of the floods.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

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