



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT

19 December 1974

Joint Statement by the Hon. J.F. Cairns, M.P., Acting Prime Minister,
and the Hon. J. Bjelke-Petersen, Premier of Queensland

GREAT BARRIER REEF PETROLEUM DRILLING ROYAL COMMISSIONS

Dr Cairns and Mr Bjelke-Petersen announced today that the Report of the Great Barrier Reef Petroleum Drilling Royal Commissions has been released to the public.

Printing has been completed and copies will be on sale from Australian Government Publications and Inquiry Centres in all capital cities.

Both Dr Cairns and Mr Bjelke-Petersen have directed that copies be circulated to all Members of the Australian and Queensland Parliaments immediately.

They said that this action has been taken to ensure that Parliamentarians receive copies of the Report at the earliest possible time. Dr Cairns noted that it would be February next year before the Australian Parliament reassembled and formal tabling of the Report could proceed.

Both Dr Cairns and Mr Bjelke-Petersen stated that consideration of the Report had begun and that decisions on its recommendations could be expected in early 1975.