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PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 461

10 March 1975

OFFICIAL VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND

The Prime Minister, the Hon. E.G. Whitlam, Q.C., M.P., announced today that the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Rt. Hon. W.E. Rowling M.P., will make an official visit to Australia from Sunday 23 March to Tuesday 25 March 1975. He will be accompanied by Mrs Rowling.

It will be the first visit to Australia by Mr. Rowling since assuming office as Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and will present a welcome opportunity to have wide ranging discussions on matters of mutual interest to Australia and New Zealand.

The Prime Minister will arrive at Sydney on Sunday afternoon where he will give a short press conference before flying to Canberra by RAAF Aircraft. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Rowling will be guests of honour at dinner given by the Governor-General at Government House.

On Monday 24 March the Prime Minister will lay a wreath at the Australian War Memorial before having official talks at Prime Minister level and with Cabinet Ministers at Parliament House. It is expected that the discussions will continue in the afternoon.

Mr. Rowling has accepted an invitation to address the National Press Club at lunch on Monday. That evening Mr. and Mrs. Rowling will have dinner at The Lodge.

The Prime Minister and Mrs. Rowling will leave for Sydney on Monday evening and stay at Kirribilli House overnight. They will leave for New Zealand early the following morning.

CANBERRA, A.C.T.