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PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement No. 506  
29 May 1975

VISIT BY PRINCESS MARGARET

The following statement has been issued from Kensington Palace, London today:

"The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon has accepted with the greatest pleasure an invitation from the Australian Government to visit Australia in October to attend in Sydney on Friday 31 October, engagements connected with the forthcoming 25th anniversary of the formation of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps of which Her Royal Highness is Colonel-in-Chief."

Princess Margaret is expected to arrive in Canberra on Wednesday 22 October. In addition to undertaking engagements in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales, Her Royal Highness will also visit Victoria.

Lord Snowdon who earlier this year visited Australia privately, was regrettably unable to accept the Government's invitation to accompany Her Royal Highness.

I share with my colleague the Minister for Defence, great pleasure in knowing that Her Royal Highness is able to come to Australia to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps.

Princess Margaret, among her many interests in Australia, is President of the Girl Guides' Association, of the Doctor Barnardo's Homes, and of the Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship. Her Royal Highness is also Grand President of the St John Ambulance Association and Brigade.

Consultations will now take place with the State authorities in New South Wales and Victoria to prepare a program of engagements for the visit. Those details will be publicly announced when an approved program has been decided.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.