

**PRIME MINISTER**FOR PRESS

21 January 1976

HONOURS, MUSICAL SALUTES AND THE TITLE 'COMMONWEALTH'

The practice of recommending Australian citizens for awards under the British honours system is to be resumed when the necessary machinery is established.

The British honours will not affect or replace awards under the Order of Australia which will continue to be made.

The Government has also decided to resume the use, for internal purposes, of the titles 'Commonwealth of Australia' and 'Commonwealth Government'. The titles 'Australia' and 'Australian Government' will continue to be used abroad and in relations with foreign countries.

The Governor General has agreed that 'God Save the Queen' should be reinstated as the Salute for all vice-regal occasions.

In conformity with this general arrangement Defence Force bands are being directed to play 'God Save the Queen' on these as well as on royal occasions.

On other occasions involving Defence Force bands organisers can exercise a choice between the following musical salutes:

God Save the Queen
Advance Australia Fair
Waltzing Matilda
Song of Australia

Ultimately, after some form of popular consultation, one of these compositions will be selected as the appropriate National Anthem for ceremonial occasions, such as at the Olympic Games.

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