



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE, 1980

The Prime Minister has sent the attached letter to
Mr. J. Brunt of the Australian Meat Industry
Employees Union, Portland.

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PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

Dear Mr. Brunt,

I wish to confirm that I am prepared to have arranged a meeting of all parties involved in the live sheep export industry to examine in depth the problems you have raised with me. This meeting would involve the Minister for Primary Industry and the Minister for Industrial Relations, representatives of the farmers and the exporters, the Australian Council of Trade Unions, and the Australian Meat Industry Employees' Union.

I have approached both the Ministers and can confirm that they are willing to take part in the meeting, provided the conditions laid down at our meeting are agreed to. These were:

- . there would be no picketing of vessels loading live sheep prior to the meeting;
- . any bans and limitations imposed by the AMIEU in relation to the export of live sheep are to be lifted, including those aimed at stock transport operators who were involved in the transport of sheep to vessels involved in the trade.

Provided that your members are agreeable to these conditions, Mr. Street will convene the meeting within the next four weeks.

I appreciate your concern for your members and that you wish to have the issues discussed meaningfully by those involved in the live sheep trade. The proposed meeting will certainly enable such discussions to take place. Your support and the co-operation of your union membership is essential if such a meeting is to be convened.

Yours sincerely,

(Malcolm Fraser).