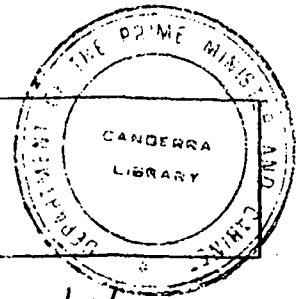




**PRIME MINISTER**



FOR MEDIA

**ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERATED  
SHIP PAINTERS AND DOCKERS UNION**

Joint Statement by the Prime Minister and the Victorian Premier

The Royal Commission into the Activities of the Federated Ship Painters and Dockers Union, established by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, will begin its inquiry on 1 October, 1980.

Mr. Francis Xavier Costigan, Q.C., will head the Royal Commission. Mr. Costigan is a former Chairman of the Victorian Bar Council and President of the Australian Bar Association.

The Royal Commission will inquire into the alleged illegal activities of the Union, and will satisfy the public demand for the facts about alleged corruption on the waterfront.

The Commission is to present an interim report not later than 31 March 1981, followed by its final report and recommendations not later than 30 September, 1981.

(Terms of reference attached)

## Terms of Reference

To inquire:

"whether the Federated Ship Painters and Dockers Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Union") or any officer or member of the Union has engaged in illegal activities in relation to Shipping engaged in trade and commerce between Australia and places outside Australia or among the States or ships operated by, or on behalf of, the Commonwealth or in relation to any naval establishment within the meaning of the Naval Defence Act 1910.

Without restricting the scope of its inquiry, the Commission is to give particular attention to the following questions:

- "(a) whether any executive, administrative or other body forming part of, or established by, the Union has been used, or is being used, for the purposes of illegal activities, other than activities involving only breaches of laws, whether of the Commonwealth, or a State, relating to trade unions;
- (b) whether the Union or any of its officials or members has been or is engaged in demanding or receiving payments (other than payments of an ordinary commercial nature or payments in accordance with an industrial award or agreement in respect of work actually performed or to be performed) from employers or other persons in relation to ships engaged in trade and commerce between Australia and places outside Australia or among the States, in relation to ships operated by, or on behalf of, the Commonwealth or in relation to any naval establishment within the meaning of the Naval Defence Act 1910 and, if any such payments have been made -
  - (i) the persons by whom and to whom any such payments have been made;
  - (ii) the reasons for, or the purpose of, any such payments;

- (iii) the subsequent or proposed use or disposal of any such payments;
- (c) whether the Union or any officers or members of the Union have engaged in illegal activities in relation to the election or appointment of officers of the Union or the conduct or purported conduct of the Union's affairs;
- (d) if the Union or any officers or members of the Union have engaged in activities of any of the kinds referred to in this or the preceding paragraphs, whether the employment conditions applying to the work of ship painters and dockers have contributed to the development of those activities."