



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

TUESDAY , JUNE 30 1981

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER
AND THE PREMIERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, VICTORIA
AND QUEENSLAND

The Commonwealth, New South Wales, Victorian and Queensland Governments have established a judicial inquiry into the possible drug trafficking and related activities of Terrence John Clark and other persons associated with him. It will be headed by His Honour, Mr Justice Donald Gerard Stewart of New South Wales Supreme Court, who has been requested to report no later than 30 June 1982. It is envisaged that the judicial inquiry may be given supplementary terms of reference referring to the activities of other drug trafficking groups should the occasion arise.

The Victorian Coroner's Report on the deaths of D.R. and I.M. Wilson found that a criminal group involving Terrence John Clark (also known as Alexander James Sinclair) existed in Australia. The Coroner stated that a huge drug empire had grown within Australia under the leadership of Clark involving many other persons.

The judicial inquiry will be supported by a Commonwealth/State multi-discipline task group comprising specially seconded Federal and State police officers. The task group will be assisted by lawyers from the Commonwealth and States experienced in the conduct of prosecutions and as required by persons experienced in accounting and banking.

It is considered that the means adopted are the best ones of ensuring that major drug offenders are identified and prosecuted and exposing their techniques and methods, which can then be countered by the authorities.

The Commonwealth's terms of reference are attached. The New South Wales, Queensland and Victorian Governments have issued complementary terms of reference.

JUDICIAL INQUIRY INTO THE POSSIBLE
DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED
ACTIVITIES OF TERRENCE JOHN CLARK
AND OTHER PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH HIM

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To make inquiry into the following matters so far as they are matters connected with the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth and are relevant to the exercise and performance of the powers and functions of the Parliament and Government of the Commonwealth, namely -

- (a) whether Terrence John Clark, a person mentioned in the Finding made on 29 August

1980 in the Coroner's Court at Melbourne in respect of the deaths of Douglas Robert Wilson and Isabel Martha Wilson, engaged in activities involving contravention of laws of the Commonwealth, in particular laws relating to the importation, exportation or possession of drugs, and, if so -

- (i) the extent and nature of such activities of Terrence John Clark and persons associated with him;
 - (ii) the identity and involvement of persons associated with Terrence John Clark;
 - (iii) the methods of operation of Terrence John Clark and persons associated with him; and
 - (iv) the use made by Terrence John Clark and persons associated with him of banking, financial and other institutions in connection with those activities;
- (b) whether, in the course of, or in connection with, activities of a kind referred to in paragraph (a), Terrence John Clark or any person associated with him directly or indirectly made or offered any payment or

inducement for, or in connection with, or endeavoured by means of a threat to procure, the disclosure by any Commonwealth or State officer, or any person who was formerly a Commonwealth or State officer, of information relating to the activities of Douglas Robert Wilson, Isabel Martha Wilson or any other person;

- (c) whether, in connection with activities of a kind referred to in paragraph (a), Terrence John Clark or any person associated with him procured or received, directly or indirectly, from a Commonwealth or State officer, or any person who was formerly a Commonwealth or State officer, any information (including information relating to any statement made by Douglas Robert Wilson or Isabel Martha Wilson concerning the activities of Terrence John Clark or any person associated with him);
- (d) whether Terrence John Clark or any person associated with him or acting on his behalf in any way unlawfully interfered with or unlawfully attempted to interfere with the course of justice in relation to offences against laws of the Commonwealth.