

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

Australia

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Action

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Control: 22630
Rec'd: June 28, 1962
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FROM: Canberra

SS
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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 756, June 28, 4 p.m.

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 756, INFORMATION WELLINGTON 74, OTTAWA,
LONDON, BRUSSELS UNNUMBERED

BRUSSELS FOR USEC

USIA

Reference: Embassy telegram 747

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Content joint communique, which Menzies strongly supporting,
plus his post tour statements and press treatment accorded
to them, have greatly improved atmosphere previously charged
at times by McEwen criticisms US trade policies.

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In press conference and subsequent television appearance,
Menzies has taken conciliatory approach toward US epitomized
in stress on mutuality of interests involved ~~Common Market~~ trade policy,
praise for President's knowledge of and appreciation importance
Commonwealth and President's desire not have Commonwealth pay
too high price for UK entry. Prime Minister's statement Six
not likely be "too hard" in dealing Commonwealth trading
problems consistent same conciliatory theme. Prime Minister
also has reiterated doubt UK would enter Common Market if admission
required ending preferences 1970 with consequent precipice
situation for important sectors Australian economy. Prime
Minister acknowledged to television audience enlarged Common Market
might bring Australia economic gains as well as losses.
However, said canned fruit and other industries dependent on
preferences would not be abandoned by government if 1970 cut
off adopted. Declared great need this event would be
alternative markets including by obvious implication Communist
countries.

Conspicuous exception generally favorable press treatment is

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E.O. 11652, SEC. 2(E), 5(D), 5(E) AND 7E

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CON [REDACTED]

-2- 756, June 28, 4 p.m., from Canberra

"Australian financial review" headline "Menzies repudiates Australia's fighting stand". Seeks contrast McEwen as fighter for Australian interests versus Prime Minister taken in by Americans.

Although current atmosphere favorable, official and some press attitude appears one of waiting see practical consequences Washington commodity discussions. Attention also likely be focused Six-UK negotiations agricultural preferences which GOA has made subject primary concern.

Although Prime Minister's stand likely exert restraining influence McEwen lest government appear divided Common Market policy, unsatisfactory conclusion commodity discussions could strengthen McEwen's hand. Early resumption wool discussions also would be greatly helpful this connection.

BELTON

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