

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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TO: Secretary of State

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Reference Department's 3.

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In view present charged emotional atmosphere here on Common Market and preference issues this post views proposed visit of Vice President at this time with serious misgivings. Unless he arrives with new and specific U.S. economic commitments to Australia public here likely to be first over expectant then angry and disappointed, and press highly critical. We believe trip made now would be at best unhelpful and would involve heavy risk of hostile publicity which newsmen would inevitably report to U.S.A. with embarrassment U.S. Government and undesirable repercussions U.S.-Australian relations. Later trip after passage trade bill more likely be successful and fruitful. However if trip made now post assures its fullest cooperation.

FILE

HOPKINS

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E.O. 12958, SEC. 1.5

State NLK-78-409
10/11 REASS. DATE 8-9-78

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The John F. Kennedy National Security Files.
Asia and the Pacific: National Security Files, 1961-1963