PRESS STATEMENT:

June 27th, 1964

MALCOLM FRASER’S REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

In this last week the Prime Minister has been in Washington meeting with the President and other principal Leaders of the United States Administration. I was fortunate enough to be asked to the lunch in the White House that the President gave for our Prime Minister. Later in the day I again met the Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, and the Under-Secretary, Governor Harriman. I had met both these people early in my visit to Washington.

I have been very fortunate that I have been able to meet all the people I have wanted to meet in the State Department or in the Department of Agriculture or in other places of the United States Government. These have included the two people I have just mentioned and many of their specialists, particularly in the fields of foreign policy and again particularly those concerned with our own part of the world.

In general I have been immensely impressed with the quality and calibre of the people in the Administration. A great number of them are not career public servants, as they would have to be under the Australian system. They are people who have come from the Universities, from the professions, from law, to serve for some years in the Administration. The American system makes this possible and it seems to work very well in this country.

I have also been fortunate to twice meet the President, once with Governor Battle - former Governor of Virginia and Father of the United States Ambassador to Australia, during the dedication of the Library to General George Marshall, about which I have already written. The second time was during the lunch given by the President at the White House for our own Prime Minister. He immediately impresses the people he meets with an immense capability, shrewdness and a dedication of purpose appropriate to his high office.