



BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION
CANBERRA 2600

5 February 1976

Telephone 730422

375/1

Professor H E Maude
77 Arthur Circle
FORREST ACT 2603

Dear Professor Maude,

Please refer to your letter of 30 January in which you commented on the replies I had conveyed to you from the Treasury Solicitor's office about the financial arrangements required for your visit to London. As you will know, I conveyed the contents of your letter to London, and have now received a telegraphic reply making the following points:

- (a) You may purchase what clothes you will need using the £200 as a guideline (paragraph (5) of your letter);
- (b) I have now been instructed that medical insurance cover as set out in paragraphs (9) and (10) of your letter should be obtained if possible. If it is not possible, the Treasury Solicitor will give a written guarantee to meet all such expenses (ie those which it seems might not be covered by the normal insurance against medical and hospital expenses);
- (c) An advance of £35 plus £140 accountable may be made to each traveller for the seven days' journey to London by the High Commission; perhaps you would be kind enough to let me know when you would wish to receive any such advance (page 4, first paragraph, of your letter).

The cable from London also informed me that you and Mr Macdonald would now not need to be in London until 8 March, which would allow time for sufficient briefing before being called in the second half of March. The authorities in London understand your wish to arrive there on a Sunday, and I have therefore been asked accordingly to re-arrange your itinerary so that you leave on Sunday 29 February, to arrive in London on Sunday 7 March. I will be consulting British Airways in Canberra about this.

One or two points from your letter of 30 January have so far remained unanswered and are as follows:

- (a) Paragraph (1) about the purchase of tickets: I confirm that the procedure you outlined is acceptable to British Airways, who are handling the booking of the tickets and the accommodation at the stop-overs.



- (b) Your paragraph (2) is noted.
- (c) Your paragraph (6): I can assure you that Moss Bros indeed hire out dark suits (and indeed almost any item of men's clothing for occasions ranging from formal to quite informal and sporting); I should here make a disclaimer about any connection with the firm!
- (d) In the last paragraph on page 3 of your letter you asked that British Airways be persuaded to provide your air tickets and accommodation and board reservations at stop-overs in advance. I confirm that British Airways are able to provide the tickets in advance (against payment by the High Commission); and that they can make advanced reservation for your stop-over accommodation. They are, however, unable to make on your behalf (or that of the High Commission) any advance payments which may be required by some of the hotels on your route. I understand from British Airways that, as soon as firm bookings for the accommodation have been made, the best course would be for you to telegraph to those hotels requiring it the necessary advance payment. This will usually amount to one day's accommodation cost (and is, of course, re-claimable from the British Government).

Yours sincerely,

Richard Sands

R M SANDS