



expo67

UNIVERSAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION MONTREAL

AUSTRALIAN EXHIBIT ORGANIZATION, P.O. BOX 702, CANBERRA CITY, A.C.T.

# press release

Background Bulletin No. 1 (Revised February 3, 1966)

## The Exhibition

The Universal and International Exhibition of 1967 will be held from April 28 to October 27, 1967, in Montreal, Canada. Australia is one of 70 nations who have accepted invitations to participate. The year 1967 is the centenary of Canadian Confederation. The short title of the exhibition is "Expo 67". In sharp contrast to the international trade fairs of the past, Expo 67 will be an educational, scientific and cultural exhibition designed to portray the accomplishments of mankind. It takes as its theme "Man and his World". Australia plans to give expression to this theme by accenting adventure, and exhibits in the Australian pavilion will tell how adventure still beckons and impels Australians today -- in the arts, in sport, in science, in industry and in other fields. The Bureau of International Exhibitions has granted Expo 67 first category rating. The only other exhibitions to have rated so highly were the Paris Exhibition of 1937 and the Brussels World Fair of 1958. The Montreal Exhibition will be twice as big as the Brussels Fair, which had 42 participating countries.

## Site

The exhibition site occupies about 1000 acres. It spills from the riverside of the St. Lawrence River on to two large islands -- Ile Sainte Helene, which has been enlarged, and Ile Notre-Dame, which has been built on a shoal in the river from millions of tons of rock fill. The Australian site is well placed and covers 64,967 square feet. It is open on three sides and has the West German pavilion as a neighbour to the south-west. Ceylon, Barbados and the European Economic Community have pavilions across the main road to the north-west. An intra-exhibition mono-rail system passes in front of the Australian site and a mass transit elevated rail system runs close to the south-eastern boundary.

### Visitors

About 30,000,000 visitors are expected, most of them from Eastern Canada and the north-eastern United States, particularly the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Michigan. The Australian exhibit is expected to receive up to 15,000 people a day.

In addition to building pavilions depicting their national heritage, participating nations will provide cultural and sporting presentations and other special entertainments. Plans for Australian participation in these activities have not been finalised, but the major effort will concentrate around June 6, the "Special Day" set aside for Australia.

### Staff

The Australian Commissioner-General for the Exhibition is Air Marshal Sir Valston Hancock, K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C., 58, who until his recent retirement was Chief of Air Staff. The Executive Manager of the Australian Exhibit Organisation is Mr. William Worth, 53, a senior officer of the Prime Minister's Department and former Deputy Secretary-General of S.E.A.T.O. The leader of the four-man team appointed to plan the Australian pavilion is James C. McCormick, 39, a Principal Architect of the Department of Works, Canberra. The other architects on the team are Messrs. George Saldais, 27; Theo Hirsch, 23; and Hans Seitz, 47. All are from the Department of Works. Responsibility for the displays to be housed in the pavilion has been assumed by Melbourne architect Robin Boyd, F.R.A.I.A.

### Direction

Policy decisions on Australian participation are the responsibility of a cabinet committee. Senior officials from Commonwealth Departments comprise an Advisory Group which discusses with the Commissioner-General and the Executive Manager matters having policy aspects.

A third body, an Advisory Committee, which is broadly representative of the Australian community, was formed to advise on the content of the pavilion. It consists of Sir Frederick White, K.B.E., chairman, who is also chairman of C.S.I.R.O., Canberra; Mr. R.R. Campbell, O.B.E., Director, National Gallery, Adelaide; Judge Adrian H. Curlewis, C.B.E., District Court, Sydney; Mr. Warwick O. Fairfax, Chairman, John Fairfax Limited, Sydney; Sir William Hudson, K.B.E., Commissioner, Snowy Mountains

Hydro-Electric Authority, Cooma; Professor J.A. La Nauze, Professor of History, University of Melbourne; Sir Maurice Mawby, C.B.E., Conzinc Riotinto of Aust. Ltd., Melbourne; Mr. J.W. Overall, C.B.E., M.C., Commissioner, National Capital Development Commission, Canberra; Mr. I.H. Seppelt, O.B.E., B. Seppelt & Sons, Adelaide; Mr. A.M. Simpson, Simpson Pope Holdings Ltd., Adelaide; Mr. K. Slessor, O.B.E., Daily Telegraph, Sydney; and Mr. H.J. Souter, A.C.T.U.

#### Participating Countries

Countries participating in the exhibition are (in order of commitment): Canada, Britain, Belgium, France, Morocco, Netherlands, Austria, Federal Republic of Germany, Venezuela, Israel, Iran, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Malaysia, United States of America, Ceylon, Republic of China, Jamaica, Monaco, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Czechoslovakia, Japan, Tunisia, Switzerland, Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Niger, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Ireland, Colombia, Cameroun, Barbados, Thailand, Guatemala, U.S.S.R., Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), India, Argentina, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Uruguay, Dahomey, Korea, Haiti, Costa Rica, Yugoslavia, Congo (Leopoldville), Cuba, Guyana (British Guiana), Australia, Tanzania, Mauritius, Gabon, Central African Republic, Algeria, Senegal, Mexico, Togo, Libya, Kuwait, United Arab Republic, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Brazil, Kenya.

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