



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/1061
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:

Press statement: Mr Virgo going abroad

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/1061

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER OF ROADS & TRANSPORT (MR. VIRGO)

1/4/71.

A major 7 week fact-finding tour covering major North American and European centres of research into public transportation development was announced today by the Minister of Roads & Transport (Mr. Virgo). Mr. Virgo said that he intended to leave Australia on April 18th and return on 6th June.

His trip will cover the major transport research centres in North America, the United Kingdom, West Germany and France.

Mr. Virgo will be accompanied by the Secretary of his Department, Mr. Max Johnson, and a senior traffic planning engineer with the S.A. Railways, Mr. R.T. Carmichael.

In the United States the party will visit the 9 major transport development areas which include San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Detroit, New York, Washington and Boston.

"Intensive planning, briefing and research has been continuing for five months into the project," Mr. Virgo said.

He said that in addition to the United States he would visit Canada for three days, road traffic research areas in Great Britain for 10 days, transportation planning centres in West Germany for four days, innovative systems sites in Southern France for three days.

Mr. Virgo said that the amount of new research and the investment in new forms of public transport in major world technology centres was fantastic.

He said that it was high time that at least one Australian State took advantage of the techniques that were being developed elsewhere, and which learned from the mistakes that have been made here and elsewhere in public transport engineering.

Mr. Virgo said that in the United Kingdom he intended in addition to holding talks with senior transport planning engineers at top Government levels, to interview candidates for the vital new S.A. post of Director-General of Transportation.

He said: "The tour is part of a wide-ranging and intensive research programme we have instigated and which is designed to help Adelaide step smoothly, rather than stumble, into the new transport planning concepts that are already becoming commonplace in comparable cities."