

C201652

Memorandum for the Prime Minister:

Mr. Sterling, the Australian High Commissioner, telephoned this morning in connection with a visit which is being made to Ottawa on Friday by Mr. Paul McGuire, former Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence for the Royal Australian Navy during the war. Mr. McGuire is apparently one of Australia's outstanding men of letters, having written two of the most popular books on Australia (one is entitled "Australian Journey" but Mr. Sterling did not mention the title of the other), also a volume of poems and, in addition, a number of detective stories. Mr. McGuire is at present in New York but will be arriving here about noon on Friday and will be in Ottawa until noon on Saturday.

The direct reason for Mr. Sterling's call is that Mr. Robert Menzies, leader of the opposition in Australia, has given Mr. McGuire a letter of introduction to you. Apparently it is for no purpose other than to assist him, if it meets your convenience, to pay his respects to you. Mr. Sterling stated that Mr. Menzies has a reputation for being unusually sparing in giving letters of introduction and, consequently, he attaches much weight to the fact that he has done so in this case. He said that Mr. McGuire had no desire to disturb you or to press upon you unduly but, if any time could be arranged, he would be most grateful.

R.G.R.

November 19th, 1946.

Prime Minister's notation:
"Will try to arrange some time
Friday, but very difficult"
20-xi-46

Copy for: Mr. Handy
Miss Zavitske