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Television script - space research

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253/9

PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT,
ADELAIDE.

TELEPHONE 28 2400

TELEVISION SCRIPT.

Station:	Duration:	Title: SPACE RESEARCH.
Date: 9.8.67.	Type:	Key No:

Audio

Video

There is continuing expansion in secondary industries in South Australia and, as I announced a few weeks ago, plans are well advanced for the development of Adelaide as the research and design centre for Australia.

To underline this pattern of modernisation I can now inform you that Adelaide will feature very prominently in space research.

Approval has just come through from the American capital of Washington for Adelaide to be the Base City for the Joint Defence Space Research Facility at Alice Springs.

Naturally, this is a highly confidential operation and it would not be in the interests of either American or Australian security to make any public announcement about the work being carried on by the Joint Defence Space Research Facility.

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What I can tell you is of interest and significance to the South Australian economy as a whole.

In the first place, there will be quite a considerable number of American families coming to Adelaide. I stress the word "families".

Highly confidential discussions have been held with two senior executives of the Housing Trust and a special booklet of plans was prepared and printed by one man in order to maintain the security.

One of the main reasons which influenced the American authority to select Adelaide as the base city was the Housing Trust's ability to supply houses under a special agreement.

Many of the men will be constantly travelling between Adelaide and Alice Springs. This will greatly restrict the time they

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have available to devote to
maintaining a home.

Each house will be equipped
with all essential appliances
such as gas or electric cooker,
hot water service, refrigerator,
washing machine, kitchen exhaust
fan and an air conditioning unit.

The garden will make no
demands on the occupants as it
will already be established and
maintained and all necessary
concrete paving will be provided.

The Americans were impressed
with the South Australian
Government's assistance in these
details which go a long way
towards smoothing the transfer-
ence of a family from one
country to another. Further-

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more, the provision of such a significant number of new homes will be a boost to the building industry, and the homes will be a permanent additional asset to the State, and the rental paid to the Housing Trust makes this agreement an economical proposition.

In addition to housing, South Australia will benefit in other ways. Already sums of money running into millions of dollars have been contracted to South Australian companies for specific facilities and supply of materials. Skilled and unskilled tradesmen will

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be required and quite a large number of men have already gone from Adelaide to carry out contract work at Alice Springs.

An important fact to bear in mind is that these families are not just here for a few weeks or even months. They are here for a number of years and will become fully absorbed into our community. This means extra money into our economy from the simple costs of day to day living alone. Furthermore it is most probable that they will attract visits from friends and relations living in America. All these people will become ambassadors for Australia, broadening international understanding and relationships.

As highly trained technicians, they will be of immense value to South Australia in many ways. During the coming years as the State advances in its research and design skills, these American friends of ours

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will be on hand to advise us and address some of the many conferences and symposiums which must be held here in the not very distant future.

Details of development over the next several months have been worked out and plans currently extend into 1969. It is expected that the first of the advance guard of American scientists and their families will arrive in Adelaide next month.

The Joint Defence Space Research Facility will play a significant part in maintaining world peace and we in South Australia are happy to play our part in providing accommodation and services to the personnel involved. Apart from the world-wide significance, this new development and the influx of new families into Adelaide will be of considerable benefit to many aspects of the South Australian economy, ~~including the~~

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The whole project will be of mutual benefit to the Americans who come here and the South Australians whose hospitality I am sure they will enjoy.

GOOD NIGHT.

Video