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**Title:**

Press release: Everard Park

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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE COMMUNITY WELFARE MINISTER, MR. KING.

5.8.72

If reports that Everard Park has been bought by McLachlan interests are correct it is a tragedy for the aboriginal residents, who are thereby deprived of the opportunity of operating the property as an aboriginal enterprise.

This is aboriginal country of a special significance, and negotiations for the purchase of the property for the aboriginal people were in an advanced stage.

The Commonwealth Government should acquire the property compulsorily to prevent control of it passing into non-aboriginal hands.

The South Australian Government will press this course on the Commonwealth and will offer every co-operation and assistance for its purchase.

If the Commonwealth is unwilling to acquire the property compulsorily, it should make funds available to the State Government so it can do so.