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Declassified by ASD - 15/03/2022

DPI

NEW COMPUTER ACQUISITION - MEDIA RELEASE

Further to our discussions, attached is the public statement agreed by the Minister in respect of the proposed acquisition of a new computer for Defence. The Minister has asked that the statement be released on 1 March 1985 or as soon as possible after this date. You will recall that you agreed to save several other statements to be released at the same time.

T.W.S. James Director

18 February 1985

(NOT FOR RELEASE BEFORE 1 MARCH 1985)

PROPOSED PUBLIC STATEMENT - NEW DEFENCE COMPUTER SYSTEM

The Government has approved the acquisition of a computer system from Cray Research Incorporated (U.S.) subject to the conclusion of satisfactory contractual arrangements by the Departments of Local Government and Administrative Services, and Defence. It will replace an existing outdated computer used by Department of Defence for tasks associated with national intelligence. There will be a substantial degree of technology transfer to Australia, and its support will largely employ Australian resources. The Government's choice of the supplier, made after very careful consideration of all the issues involved, was determined by the specialized requirements.