

**FOR THE PRESS**

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANBERRA

PR 120

8th December, 1961.

Released only in Canberra.

**AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION AT TANGANYIKA
INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS****Statement by the Minister for External Affairs**

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr. R.G. Menzies, announced today that Australia's congratulations and good wishes will be conveyed tomorrow to independent Tanganyika by Sir Eric Harrison, Australia's representative at Tanganyika's independence celebrations. Tanganyika, which attains formal independence on December 9, will become a full member of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Menzies said that Tanganyika's independence was an event of great significance both to Africa and the Commonwealth of Nations. Australia looked forward to increasing contact with Tanganyika and to the development of relations of friendship and goodwill more especially because of the close association which it was hoped the two countries would enjoy as full and equal members of the Commonwealth.

Sir Eric Harrison is presenting the Prime Minister of Tanganyika, Mr. Julius Nyerere, with an oil painting as a gift from Australia to the Government and people of Tanganyika, together with a sand glass presented by the Commonwealth Parliament to the Tanganyikan Parliament where it will be used to time divisions. A library of Australian constitutional, historical and literary works will also be presented to Tanganyika.

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