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MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Statement by the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Menzies

Today the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, announced acting arrangements for Ministers during the absence overseas of the Minister for Trade and the Minister for External Affairs.

Sir Garfield Barwick, the Minister for External Affairs and Attorney-General, has left Australia to lead the Australian delegation to a meeting of the SEATO Council in Paris. During his absence, Sir Robert Menzies is acting as Minister for External Affairs and Mr. Gordon Freeth, M.P., the Minister for the Interior and the Minister for Works, is acting as Attorney-General.

The Minister for Trade, Mr. McEwen, will leave Australia on 7th April to attend important trade conferences overseas. Mr. McEwen will be away for some weeks and during his absence Senator Henty, the Minister for Customs and Excise, will act as Minister for Trade.

CANBERRA,

2nd April, 1963.