

FOR PRESS :

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ORD RIVER DAM

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

The Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, accompanied by Dame Pattie Menzies, will fly from Canberra to the Kimberleys tomorrow to open the diversion dam at Kununurra on the Ord River.

The Kununurra Dam is the first stage of the Ord River Irrigation project - a scheme which is aimed eventually to develop large tracts of land in the far north of Western Australia.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. McEwen, and three other Federal Ministers, Sir William Spooner, Minister for National Development, Mr. P. Hasluck, Minister for Territories and Senator S. D. Paltridge, Minister for Civil Aviation - will also fly with the Prime Minister from Canberra tomorrow, to Kununurra, where they will be met by the Minister for Mines and Northern Development in the Government of Western Australia, Mr. Charles W. M. Court.

On Saturday morning, the Prime Minister and the other members of his Cabinet will visit farms established on the irrigation area and will see the Kimberley Research Station. In the afternoon, Sir Robert will unveil a plaque to mark the official opening of the diversion dam.

The Prime Minister, Dame Pattie and others in the official party will fly back to Canberra on Sunday.

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CANBERRA,

18th July, 1963.

