

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT MASCOT
AIRPORT ON ARRIVAL HOME AFTER HOME MINISTERS'
CONFERENCE IN LONDON

18TH JULY, 1964

Q. Good morning, Sir. You are looking very well, if I may say so, Sir.

A. Oh, I'm not too bad for an old man. Tomorrow, of course, tomorrow afternoon, I will have a Press Conference and TV interview at Canberra. I will have had a day in bed and recruited my mental energy. All I want to say this morning is that I think that this conference was a great success and I suppose for some people, a surprising success. There were no bitter disputes. There were arguments, of course. That's what we are for. But the communique that ultimately came out represented a remarkable degree of agreed opinion.

From my point of view, the matters that I will try to say something about in more detail tomorrow are first of all the references to Malaysia, a problem to which I, myself, devoted a very great deal of time in this conference. Second, the statements made about Southern Rhodesia which I think may need some clarification. I don't know. I haven't read the papers here, of course. I don't know what has come out of one or two clarifying statements that I tried to make in London. And in the third place, I will take the opportunity tomorrow of saying something about what I believe to be the effect on the future of the Commonwealth of this meeting. On each of these things, I think that good things can be said and I myself came away from this conference with a degree of satisfaction in the result that, quite frankly, I didn't expect to have when I arrived there.

Q. How did you find President Johnson, Sir?

A. He is a very interesting chap.

Q. Did he promise any further

A. Now, wait a minute. I thought it was arranged this is not a press interview. I'm not answering questions. I will tell you about him tomorrow, if you want to know.

Q. Thank you very much, Sir.
