



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 40

19 January 1973

AWARD OF THE QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

His Excellency the Governor-General has approved the award of a Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct to Constable Paul Glas Sandeman of the Northern Territory Police Force.

Constable Sandeman was wounded when attempting to disarm a hijacker at Alice Springs airport on 15 November 1972.

The incident arose following the landing of a commercial aircraft at Alice Springs airport. An armed man who was threatening the pilot, crew and passengers, was aboard the aircraft.

Constable Sandeman disregarded his personal safety by voluntarily placing himself in a highly dangerous position. He grappled with the hijacker, who had forced an air hostess out of the plane at gun-point. In the course of this he received four bullet wounds from the hijacker's rifle.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.