

MR. MENZIES TO VISIT COCOS ISLANDS

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT. HON. R.G. MENZIES

The Prime Minister (the Right Honourable R.G. Menzies) announced today that, on the return journey to Australia after his visit to Indonesia and Malaya he proposed to pay a short visit (December 12th-13th) to the Cocos Islands - an Australian external territory which he had not visited previously.

Mr. Menzies said that he was looking forward to visiting the installations there and meeting the Australian people who maintain them. He was also looking forward to meeting Mr. J.C. Clunies-Ross, who is a direct descendant of the original settlers in the Cocos Islands.

Mr. Menzies said that he and his party would be travelling in an aircraft chartered from Qantas and that he would be accompanied by a small number of representatives of the Australian press, radio and television.

CANBERRA,

30th OCTOBER, 1959.