

CYCLONE RELIEF - EAST PAKISTAN

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies

The Prime Minister, Mr. R.G. Menzies, announced today that the Australian Government had decided to donate the sum of £5,000. to the Pakistan Government towards the relief of distress caused by the major devastation of last week's cyclone and tidal wave in East Pakistan.

Mr. Menzies stated that the Government had been in touch with the Australian High Commissioner in Pakistan who had advised that the cyclone was one of the most severe experienced for many years. It was estimated that 5,000 people had lost their lives and the housing and livelihood of many thousands more had been affected.

The Australian Government has already conveyed to the Government of Pakistan the sympathy of the Australian people for the people of East Pakistan who suffered by the disaster.

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CANBERRA,

21st October, 1960.