## P.M. No. 31/1961

## COMMONWEALTH ASSISTANCE TOWARDS CYCLONE, FLOOD AND BUSH FIRE DAMAGE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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

The Prime Minister announced today that the Commonwealth Government has agreed to contribute up to  $\pounds 160,000$ , on a  $\pounds$  for  $\pounds$  basis with the Western Australian Government, towards the restoration of roads in the North West of the State, which suffered serious damage from floods between January and March this year.

The Commonwealth had agreed in February to join with the State in contributing on a £ for £ basis towards the cost of relieving personal hardship occasioned by bush fires, cyclones and floods at that time, and following advice from the State it has now provided an amount of up to £40,000. for this purpose.

In expressing the Government's sympathy to those who had suffered from these natural disasters, Mr. Menzies said the Commenwealth was glad to be able to give practical help in this way in accordance with its established practice.

CANBERRA, 29th June, 1961.