

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

The Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, said
today :-

"I have arranged with Mr. Bury that the text of his speech should be sent to me. I will study it carefully.

Meanwhile, so that there may be no misunderstanding either at home or abroad, I want to make it quite clear that Mr. McEwen's work overseas and my own later visit both to the United Kingdom and to the United States were clearly based upon our conviction - a conviction shared by the Cabinet - that the economic problems which would be presented to Australia by any entry of Great Britain into the Common Market on terms which did not reasonably protect our export trade would be of very serious moment. The whole purpose of the current activities of Australia in relation to the Common Market negotiations is to minimise economic injury. I want to repeat that the views which have been expressed by Mr. McEwen and myself in relation to these matters are the views of the Cabinet.

I myself have stated our position not only in Parliament but publicly in London and America and in Australia since my return. There is nothing to subtract from these statements."

CANBERRA,

26th July, 1962.