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CABINET REVIEW

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

At the conclusion of today's Cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, said that he and his colleagues had undertaken a general review of political developments in South East Asia and of Communist activity in the area. The Cabinet also closely examined aspects of Australian security in relation to the developing situation, and has called for further reports on the progress of security and defence measures. As soon as this further information is to hand it will be promptly considered by the Government.

The Cabinet took advantage of the presence in Canberra of Lord Selkirk, British Commissioner-General in South-East Asia, to invite him to attend part of its meeting in order that Ministers might hear his views on the proposal for the establishment of a Federation of Malaysia.

Mr. Menzies said that he was very grateful to Lord Selkirk for the information given to the Cabinet.

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CANBERRA,

5th March, 1963.