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NUCLEAR TEST AGREEMENT

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Menzies

The Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, said today:

"Without having seen the precise terms of the document, all that can be said is that it is an important step in the right direction. Great credit must go to the United Kingdom and the United States for the patient and persistent manner in which they have sought a nuclear test ban for years. Indeed, I recall that the achieving of this result was placed high in the order of priorities by the Prime Ministers' Conference some years ago. It is to be hoped that now that Mr. Khrushchev has come to this agreement, the atmosphere of negotiation will be preserved and tensions lessened."

CANBERRA,

26th July, 1963.