

FOR PRESS :

P.M. No. 5/1963

COMMONWEALTH CONTRIBUTION FOR CLEANING OF
ST. PAUL'S, LONDON

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

The Prime Minister said today that the Commonwealth Government had decided to contribute £5,000 to the appeal for £150,000 sterling to complete the cleaning of the outside of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. A request had been made by the Lord Mayor of London through Sir Eric Harrison, Australian High Commissioner in the United Kingdom.

The West Front of the Cathedral, including the famous Bell and Clock Towers, had already been cleaned thanks to the generosity of the Ionian Bank of London. As the Lord Mayor said in his request to Sir Eric - "This good work has not only revealed beauties in Sir Christopher Wren's design and in the craftsmanship of his stonemasons which had been concealed for generations by incrustations of grime, but has brought to light such hidden features as the Marble surround to the great West Doors, the Frieze of the main Cornice over the Portico, and many other details of absorbing interest."

The Prime Minister emphasised that St. Paul's housed in its crypt the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire and thus had a special significance for the whole Commonwealth of Nations.

CANBERRA,

28th January, 1964.