

FOR PRESS

P.M. 35/1964

ANZAC JUBILEE - PILGRIMAGE TO GALLIPOLI

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

The Prime Minister (Sir Robert Menzies) announced today that the Government had decided to make a grant of £20,000 to the Returned Servicemen's League to assist the League with its plans to mark the Jubilee of Anzac, which falls next year, with a pilgrimage to Gallipoli.

"This is an enterprise in which every Australian can take pride" said Sir Robert. "The Commonwealth Government is pleased to endorse the plans of the Returned Servicemen's League for a pilgrimage of the original Anzacs".

The Government believed that those taking part in the pilgrimage should be in a position to meet their own fares and other expenses. It was recognised, however, that there were some who should obviously be included in the party, but who would be unable to do so without some financial assistance. It had therefore been decided to make a grant of £20,000 to the R.S.L. so that it could assist such people.

The Prime Minister said that the Government believed that it was very appropriate for the Returned Servicemen's League to attend to the arrangements for the pilgrimage. All enquiries regarding this matter should therefore be addressed to the R.S.L.

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CANBERRA,

22nd May, 1964.