

FOR PRESS :

P.M. No. 71/1964

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

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

The Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, said today that he had sent to the British Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, a message assuring him of Australia's full support for the British Government's recent statement warning Southern Rhodesia of the serious consequences that would follow a unilateral declaration of independence, and for the British Government's efforts to bring the most difficult problem of Southern Rhodesia to a successful outcome.

He very much hoped that it would be possible to avoid a unilateral declaration of independence by the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, which would precipitate various undesirable consequences that Commonwealth leaders had all striven to avoid.

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CANBERRA,

30th October, 1964.