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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANBERRA.

## FOR THE PRESS

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## EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN MR KOSYGIN AND SIR ROBERT MENZIES

The following are the texts of messages recently exchanged between the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies, and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Mr Kosygin:

## Message sent by Sir Robert Menzies to Mr Kosygin

"On behalf of the Government of Australia, I extend to you my good wishes on your assumption of the position of Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. In doing so, I express my deep conviction of the need in the present state of world affairs for continued efforts to ease international tension and strengthen peace"

## Reply from Mr Kosygin to Sir Robert Menzies

"I am grateful to you, Mr Prime Minister, for the good wishes in connection with my appointment as Chairman of the Council of Ministers. I share your opinion that further efforts in the direction of weakening international tension and strengthening peace are necessary".