

65/017

FOR PRESS:

Visit of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess
of Gloucester

Statement by the Acting Prime Minister, The Right Hon. John McEwen, MP.

The Acting Prime Minister announced today that His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester had been pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel R.M.C. Cubis, M.V.O., and Major M.W.S. Fleming as Equerries to Their Royal Highnesses during their forthcoming visit to Australia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cubis of the Royal Australian Artillery was Australian Equerry to The Queen for her visit to Australia in February/March, 1963. Major Fleming is a member of the British Defence Liaison Staff in Canberra and is at present at Australian Army Headquarters. He is a member of the Duke's Regiment - the 10th Royal Hussars.

Mr. McEwen also announced that The Duke of Gloucester had been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. K.B. Ready, O.B.E., as Press Liaison Officer for Their Royal Highnesses' visit. Mr. Ready is News Editor of the 'Mercury', Hobart.

Mr. McEwen added that Mr. Ready and Lieutenant-Colonel Cubis would take up duty with the Commonwealth Royal Visit Organisation in the Prime Minister's Department on Tuesday, 2nd February, and that Major Fleming would take up duty when Their Royal Highnesses arrive on Saturday, 13th March.

The Commonwealth Director for the visit is Mr. J.H. Scholtens, Director of the Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch in the Prime Minister's Department.

The foregoing persons will be in attendance when Their Royal Highnesses are undertaking public engagements during their visit from 13th March to 26th April.

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Accompanying the Duke and Duchess from London will be Major Michael Hawkins, their Private Secretary, and Miss Jean Maxwell Scott and Mrs. Hawkins as Ladies-in-Waiting.

Canberra

27th January, 1965.

Canberra,

Thursday, 28th January, 1965.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Lieutenant-Colonel R.M.C. Cubis, M.V.O., R.A.A.

Graduated from the Royal Military College, Duntroon 11.12.46 as a Lieutenant in the Staff Corps; Branch - Royal Australian Artillery.

Served A.I.F. from 11.12.46 to 30.6.47; Saw active service in Korea with Commonwealth Division from 3.11.51 to 10.12.52.

Instructor at Officer's Cadet School, Portsea, Victoria from 12.2.53 to 29.9.55.

In the United Kingdom for Artillery Training from 26.9.55 to 15.12.57.

Attended Australian Staff College during 1960.

Currently serving in the Directorate of Personnel Administration, Army Headquarters, Canberra.

Appointed M.V.O. (4th Class) for services as Equerry to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second during the Royal Tour of Australia in 1963.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cubis is unmarried.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mr. K.B. Ready, O.B.E.

News Editor and Deputy Editor of "The Mercury" Hobart since 1946. Journalist for forty years.

Press Relations Officer for Royal Visits to Tasmania by Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, 1954, and in 1963; Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, 1958; and Their Majesties The King and Queen of Thailand, 1962.

Press Relations Officer to His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, 1956. Was a member of Royal Household and travelled in H.M.Y. Britannia from Malaya.

Press Liaison Officer to Tasmania's first overseas Industrial Mission to United Kingdom and Europe.

Served five years in R.A.F. and R.A.A.F. in Malaya and New Guinea.

Awarded O.B.E. in 1957.

Mr. Ready is married and has four daughters.