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TELECAST BEFORE 6.30 PM (EST) 4/2/65

P.M. No. 13/1965

AIRLINES

Statement by the Acting Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. J. McEwen

The Acting Prime Minister, Mr. J. McEwen, said today that the judgments handed down by the High Court had established that both a Commonwealth licence and a State licence were necessary for the operation of intrastate air services. The judgments had also established that Commonwealth permits were required for the use of Commonwealth aerodromes and controlled air space. This meant that the allocation of air services within New South Wales was a matter for agreement between the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments.

Mr. McEwen said, "I have informed the Premier of New South Wales that the Commonwealth is prepared to co-operate with the New South Wales Government in a reallocation of air services which would be fair and equitable to both airlines operating within New South Wales, would provide the best standard of service to the travelling public and would also result in the most economical pattern of services involving the least amount of Commonwealth subsidy." Mr. McEwen said he had suggested to Mr. Renshaw that representatives of both Governments confer as soon as practicable in order to give effect to these objectives.

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CANBERRA,  
4th February, 1965.

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