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1965 CORAL SEA CELEBRATIONS

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

General Dean C. Strother, the Commander-in-Chief of the North American Air Defence Command, is to be the Coral Sea Guest of Honour for the 1965 celebrations which begin in Sydney on Monday, the 3rd May.

General Strother replaces General Hunter Harris, Jnr., Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Airforce, who had been previously nominated to take part in this year's celebrations of the anniversary of the Coral Sea battle. Due to the current South-East Asia situation it will not be possible for General Harris to be away from his headquarters at this time.

Mrs. Strother will accompany her husband during the visit to Australia.

The band of the headquarters of the United States Pacific Airforce will take part in the celebrations in each State as previously arranged.

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CANBERRA.

15th April 1965.