P.M. No. 47/1965

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT OVERSEAS AND

THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' MEETING

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

I shall leave Australia at the end of next week to visit the United States and to attend the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting in London commencing on June 17th. My wife will accompany me, and also my Private Secretary, Miss Craig.

The Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Hasluck also will attend the meeting in London, travelling direct to London from Australia. Mr. Hasluck will be accompanied by Mrs. Hasluck.

In Washington I am planning to have talks with the President and senior members of the United States Government. I shall also stop briefly in New York.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting in London will run from June 17th to June 25th. Government business after the meeting will occupy space of about one week following which I shall return to Australia for Cabinet's discussions on the Budget and also for the economic consultations which it is the Government's practice to arrange prior to the Cabinet Budget meetings.

The matters for discussion in Washington and London come chiefly under the headings of world political situations and economic affairs. They will include, on the economic side, reviews of the capital inflow situation. The London discussions will include consideration by Prime Ministers of the report of senior officials concerning the proposal to establish a Commonwealth Secretariat.

Sir John Bunting, Secretary, Prime Minister's Department, Sir Richard Randall, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, Mr. G.J. Yeend, Assistant Secretary, Prime Minister's Department and Mr. R. Woolcott, Senior External Affairs Officer, Department of External Affairs will accompany me. Sir Alan Jesterman, Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, who is at present overseas on Departmental business, will be available in Washington for the purposes of any trade matters which come under discussion.

CANBERRA,

28th May, 1965