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ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

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

The Prime Minister and a group of senior Ministers this afternoon had discussions with representatives of national organisations representing industry and commerce. After the meeting, the Prime Minister said that such meetings, which had been held regularly in recent years, did much to inform Ministers of current economic trends and prospects. Today's meeting had been most valuable from that point of view and would assist Ministers in their forthcoming Budget discussions.

Representatives who attended the meeting were :-

- Mr. H.G. Ferrier, C.M.G., President, Associated Chamber of Manufactures of Australia
- Mr. F.G. May, President, Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia
- Mr. A.F. Havard, O.B.E., President, National Farmers' Union of Australia
- Mr. T.B.C. Walker, President, Australian Woolgrowers' and Graziers' Council
- Mr. L.H. Heaslip, O.B.E., Vice-President, Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation
- Dr. A.A. Dawson, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Primary Producers' Union
- Mr. H. McE. Scambler, Chairman, Australian Bankers' Federation
- Mr. V.T. Edwards, President, Master Builders' Federation of Australia
- Mr. N.W. Lawrance, Immediate Past President, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
- Mr. G.L. McCowan, President, Australian Council of Retailers

Tomorrow morning, Ministers will have separate discussions on the economic situation with representatives of the Export Development Council and representatives of the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council. In the afternoon, Ministers will meet representatives of the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

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CANBERRA,  
14th July, 1965.