

FOR PRESS :

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COMMISSIONER-GENERAL FOR CANADIAN EXPOSITION

Statement by the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies

Air Marshal Sir Valston Hancock, K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C., will succeed the late Vice Admiral Sir Hastings Harrington as Australian Commissioner-General for the Canadian International Exposition (Expo 67).

Sir Valston, who retired as Chief of the Air Staff in May of last year, will be in charge of the special arrangements for Australia's participation in the exhibition, to be held in Montreal in 1967.

Sir Hastings Harrington had been Commissioner-General for only three months when he died suddenly last month.

CANBERRA,
11th January, 1966.

BACKGROUND

Extract from Who's Who in Australia, 1965

HANCOCK, Air Marshal Sir Valston Eldridge, K.B.E., cr. 1962, C.B. 1958, C.B.E. 1953, D.F.C., Chief of Air Staff, R.A.A.F., 1961-65 (retd.), A.O.C. Operational Command, R.A.A.F. 1959-61, A.O.C. Malaya 1957-59; Head Australian Joint Services Staff, London, 1955-57; son of R.J. Hancock, Perth, W.A.; born May 31, 1907; Perth: Educated Hale School, Perth, R.M.C. Duntroon; transferred from Army to R.A.A.F. 1929; Imperial Defence College 1950; Director, Works and Buildings, R.A.A.F. Headquarters 1937-39; Commanding Officer, No. 1 Bombing and Gunnery School 1939-41; Director, Postings 1944; Commanding Officer 71 (Beaufort) Wing, New Guinea 1945; Director Air Staff Plans and Policy 1946-47; Commandant, R.A.A.F. College 1947-49; Deputy Chief Air Staff 1951-52; Air Member for Personnel Air Board 1953-54.
