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BOMBING OF HANOI AND HAIPHONG.

STATEMENT BY THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER, THE RIGHT
HON. J. McEWEN, M.P.

The Acting Prime Minister said this morning that the Australian Government fully supports American policy on South Viet Nam. As the Prime Minister has indicated in Washington, the action to bomb oil installations on the outskirts of Hanoi and Haiphong arose from a military assessment, which the Australian Government accepted, of the needs of the situation, since these supplies contributed importantly to the capacity of the enemy, including their capacity to operate destructively against Australian and allied forces.

The Australian Government was aware of the decision to strike the oil installations. The nature of discussions on such operational matters are, of course, confidential between the Governments concerned.

CANBERRA,
30th June, 1966.