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LEADERS' MEETING

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Holt

Mr. McEwen rang me yesterday morning to give me his congratulations on the election result. I then suggested to him that we meet at my home in the late afternoon.

We had a long talk in which we reviewed the outcome of the election and we discussed arrangements which we could recommend to our respective parties for continuance of the Coalition Government.

We had each made it clear to our Cabinet colleagues that it was intended that the coalition would continue in the event of the Government being returned.

The first formal business will be for each to meet his party as soon as the result in all electorates is sufficiently clear to ensure a full attendance of members.

The Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Ley, has advised that final results in all House of Representative seats are unlikely to be known until towards the end of next week.

The party meeting will be held in Canberra as soon as practicable.

CANBERRA, 29th November, 1966