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ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt

This afternoon the Government began its pre-Budget series of economic consultations when Ministers met representatives of the A.C.T.U.

The A.C.T.U. representatives were Mr Albert Monk (President), Mr J.D. Kenny (Vice-President), Mr W.F. Evans (Junior Vice-President) and Mr H. J. Souter (Secretary).

Ministers present, in addition to the Prime Minister, were Mr J McEwen, Minister for Trade and Industry; Mr W. McMahon, Treasurer; Mr D. E. Fairbairn, Minister for National Development; Mr L.H.E. Bury, Minister for Labour and National Service and Mr D. Anthony, Minister for the Interior.

The A.C.T.U. representatives put forward a number of proposals and Mr Holt said that the Government also appreciated receiving the A.C.T.U's views on the economic situation prior to their consideration of the Budget.

Tomorrow Ministers will hold discussions with representatives of industry and commerce and with the Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council and the Export Development Council.

CANBERRA,
4th July, 1967.