

FOR PRESS :



P.M. No. 6/1968

MR LEE'S EAST OF SUEZ MISSION

Statement by the Prime Minister, Senator John Gorton

The Australian Government fully supports the Prime Minister of Singapore in his attempt to persuade the British Government not to speed up withdrawal of British forces from Singapore and Malaysia.

However, we do not feel the actual physical presence of a senior Australian Minister, who could only arrive in London a few hours before the talks were due to begin, would add much force to the support already expressed.

Mr Lee will, however, be provided by the Australian Government with a statement setting out Australian support of his objectives.

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CANBERRA,  
11th January, 1968.