

CANBERRA

REMARKS TO PRESS ON DEPARTURE FROM
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Q. Prime Minister, have you any comment on the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy?

PM: Well, it's awfully hard to think of what to say in circumstances where a man who has had his brother assassinated has been attacked in this brutal way. All I can say is that it makes me feel sick in the stomach that this can go on. It really is horrifying.

Q. Mr Prime Minister, on this present trip, is there one thing you hope above all else you will be able to achieve?

PM: No, I wouldn't say that. I think the main object of this trip is to meet the rulers of the countries to which I will be going, and to demonstrate that just as my predecessor had a continuing interest in Asia and the people who are ruling it, so do I, his successor, as representative of Australia, have the same interest. I think it will be helpful to know the individuals and I think it will be helpful to demonstrate that there has been not the slightest variation of our interest in the region.

Q. Have you had any reaction so far of your forthcoming visit? Have you heard of any reaction in South-East Asia?

PM: Do you mean for it or against it?

Q. For it.

PM: No I haven't heard any reaction, except very pleasant messages from the people I am going to visit, saying how glad they are and how much they are looking forward to the visit.

Q. Sir, are you likely to indicate to Tunku Abdul Rahman that you might continue to keep Australian troops in Malaysia after 1971?

PM: I wouldn't dream of commenting on what I am going to talk about to the various people I am going to talk to, particularly on matters of policy.
