

FOR PRESS:



P. M. No. 85/1968

CAPTAIN COOK BI-CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton

Rear Admiral G. C. Oldham, C. B. E., D. S. C., has been appointed Commonwealth Director of the Captain Cook Bi-centenary Celebrations.

A wide range of proposals to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Captain Cook's discovery and exploration of the eastern coast of Australia has been received and the Government proposes to mark the historic occasion in a fitting manner.

The Government is pleased to have obtained the services of Rear Admiral Oldham who will supervise the planning and development of all Commonwealth activities and also co-operate as necessary with the authorities or committees appointed by the States to organise celebrations.

Rear Admiral Oldham retired from the Navy in 1962 after a long and distinguished career. He served in many ships of the Royal Australian Navy and was Captain of H. M. A. ships "Swan", "Warramunga", "Australia" and "Sydney". At the time of his retirement he was Flag Officer in Charge, East Australia Area.

CANBERRA
17 October 1968