



VISIT TO THE U.K. 1969

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE PRIME MINISTER,
MR. JOHN GORTON, IN LONDON AFTER THE
FIVE-POWER DEFENCE MEETING

17 JANUARY 1969

The Prime Ministers of Malaysia (Tunku Abdul Rahman), Singapore (Mr. Lee Kuan Yew), New Zealand (Mr. Keith Holyoake), and Australia (Mr. John Gorton) and the British Defence Minister (Mr. Denis Healey) held an informal meeting in London this morning. The Australian Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Paul Hasluck) also attended.

The Prime Ministers had decided to take this opportunity of their presence together in London to discuss the time and place for a Five-Power conference later in the year. Following the meeting, which was held in the Australian Prime Minister's suite at the Savoy Hotel, Mr. Gorton announced that it had been decided to hold the second Five-Power conference in Canberra on 12 May. The first such conference took place in Kuala Lumpur last June.

Mr. Gorton said that today's meeting was primarily concerned with the arrangements for the new conference. There was no substantive discussion of questions arising from Britain's withdrawal from South East Asia.
