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PROPOSED ROAD CONNECTION BETWEEN  
CANBERRA AND TUMUT

The Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, and the New South Wales Chief Secretary, Mr. Willis, today announced that the Commonwealth and New South Wales Governments have agreed that the future direct road connection between Canberra and Tumut should follow a route via Wee Jasper.

The two Governments are in agreement that although there will be an ultimate need for a better road connection between Canberra and Tumut, the present need does not justify its construction at the expense of many works of greater urgency.

Both Governments have accepted the recommendations contained in a report prepared jointly by the National Capital Development Commission and the Department of Main Roads, New South Wales. These authorities carried out a technical evaluation of alternative routes between Canberra and Tumut and the benefits likely to accrue to road users of those routes.

The Commission undertook an assessment of the economic, land use and development, tourist and recreational aspects of the proposed routes while the Department prepared an assessment of the engineering aspects. The findings of these authorities were contained in a joint detailed report submitted to the Commonwealth and State Governments.

The investigation followed representations by Parliamentarians, Local Government Authorities and other interested bodies for an improved and more direct road connection between Canberra and Tumut. Two possible routes were investigated, one via Wee Jasper and the other via Brindabella.

The Governments have supplied copies of the report to Commonwealth and State Parliamentary representatives of the area and to Local Government bodies directly concerned with the proposal for a direct road link between Canberra and Tumut.

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CANBERRA  
11 July 1969