

## FOR PRESS

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## RETIREMENT OF MR ALLEN FAIRHALL Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr John Gorton

I deeply regret that Allen Fairhall has decided to retire. We have worked together since 1949 and he will be a great loss to the Parliament and to the Cabinet. But he told me some time ago that he felt he should, in the interests of his health, not stand for Parliament again.

He has given outstanding service to Australia during twenty years in the Parliament, and has made a particularly noteworthy contribution as Minister for Defence. We shall miss his wise counsel in the Cabinet Room.

CANBERRA, 19 August 1969