



FOR PRESS :

PM. No. 60/1970

HAROLD HOLT PORTRAIT FOR KING'S HALL

The Prime Minister, as Chairman of the Historic Memorials Committee, announced today that, on the advice of the Commonwealth Art Advisory Board, the Committee had accepted a portrait of the former Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt.

The portrait will hang in King's Hall at Parliament House, Canberra. It was the work of the Sydney artist, Mr W. E. Pidgeon, who had to do the painting from photographs and films of the late Prime Minister. Mr Holt had not sat for his official portrait at the time of his death in 1967.

CANBERRA,
22 May 1970

Background Notes

The Historic Memorials Committee comprises :

Mr J. G. Gorton, Prime Minister (Chairman)
Sir Alister McMullin, President of the Senate
Sir William Aston, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Mr A. S. Hulme, Vice-President of the Executive Council
Mr E. G. Whitlam, Leader of the Opposition
Senator Lionel Murphy, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate

The Art Advisory Board comprises:

Mr W. A. Dargie (Chairman)
Sir Daryl Lindsay
Mr Robert Campbell
Mr Douglas Pratt
Sir Russell Drysdale.

Biographical Notes about the artist

Mr Pidgeon won the Archibald Prize in 1958 and 1961 and has painted portraits of a number of prominent people including Sir William Aston, Speaker of the House of Representatives.