

FOR PRESS:

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FLOODS IN MALAYSIA

The Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton, today sent the following message to the Prime Minister of Malaysia who has declared a state of national emergency because of the damage and loss of life resulting from extensive flooding by heavy monsoonal rains : -

"I HAVE READ WITH DISTRESS AND CONCERN REPORTS COMING IN OF THE DISASTROUS FLOODS IN MALAYSIA, AND OF THE LOSS OF LIFE AND DAMAGE WHICH YOU HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED.

YOU MAY COUNT ON OUR DOING WHAT WE CAN TO HELP.

I HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR HIGH COMMISSIONER TO OFFER HELICOPTERS AND TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT BASED AT BUTTERWORTH FOR USE IN SUPPORT OF YOUR EMERGENCY RELIEF OPERATIONS IF YOU SHOULD NEED THEM. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE IN HELPING FLOOD VICTIMS."

CANBERRA
6 January 1971