

PRIME MINISTER

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IPSWICH COAL MINING DISASTER

Statement by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. William McMahon, C.H., M.P.

I and my colleagues were deeply distressed to hear today of the tragic loss of life which resulted from the coal mine explosions at Ipswich.

I extend my own and the Commonwealth Government's sympathy to the relatives of those who lost their lives.

I have been in touch with the Premier of Queensland and have asked him to let me know whether there is any way in which the Commonwealth Government can help.

I feel I can speak on behalf of all Australians in expressing sympathy at this time of tragedy.

CANBERRA, 31 July, 1972.