



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS:

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NURDA APPOINTMENTS

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

The appointment of Sir John Overall, C.B.E., as Commissioner, and Mr Robert Broughton Lansdown, as Deputy Commissioner of the National Urban and Regional Development Authority, was welcomed today by the Prime Minister, Mr McMahon.

Mr McMahon said Sir John had been appointed Commissioner until 14 July 1973, and Mr Lansdown had been appointed Deputy Commissioner for a period of 7 years.

Sir John was the founding Commissioner of Canberra's planning and development authority, the National Capital Development Commission and in this role had guided the city's growth for nearly 15 years.

Mr McMahon said Sir John had previously announced his intention to retire next July on his 65th birthday but had offered his services as a consultant to the Commonwealth should they be required.

Mr Lansdown had been an Associate Commissioner of the N.C.D.C. since 1965 and had an intimate knowledge of land development and urban economics.

Mr McMahon said the Government believed it was most fortunate in having two men of the calibre of Sir John and Mr. Lansdown to head the new Authority.

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He said that Sir John had been appointed Commissioner of the N.C.D.C. in 1958 to carry out the task of getting a new Authority launched to plan and develop Canberra and only those who knew Canberra prior to 1958, could realise just how successful he had been.

CANBERRA,

5 November 1972