RELIEF OF VICTORIAN FORCES

Statement by the Minister for the Army, the Hon. Malcolm Fraser, M.P.

Relief of major units of the Army force in Vietnam will begin this week-end with the air movement of 100 members of 7th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment, from Puckapunyal.

Announcing this today, the Minister for the Army, Mr. Malcolm Fraser, said the relief would be carried out by air and sea in phases between now and mid June.

Some small units had already been relieved and advance parties of other units were now in their new locations.

In the changeover, the 7th Battalion, and the 2nd Battalion from Bnoggera, Queensland, would replace the 5th and 6th Battalions.

On their return to Australia the 5th Battalion would be based at Holsworthy and the 6th Battalion at Bnoggera.

Other units being relieved would return to the areas in which they were formerly located.

The returning soldiers would begin leave as soon as possible after their arrival.

Lists A, B, C

Further Information
Maj. Allan. S. Hinds
(35-4061) (49-5030)

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