

THE SIR ROSS AND SIR KEITH SMITH WAR MEMORIAL

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Telephone XXXXXXX

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His Excellency, the Governor of South Australia,
Air Vice-Marshal Sir Robert George,
K.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.B., M.C.

President: I M S Hargrave
The Rt. Hon XXX (end):
(Lord Mayor of Adelaide)

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Box 121B, G.P.O. Adelaide. 8th May, 1958

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The Prime Minister of Australia,
Mr. R.G. Menzies,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

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My Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of my Committee, it is my desire to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to you for the magnificent contribution by your Government to the establishment of the Sir Ross and Sir Keith Smith War Memorial at Adelaide Airport.

The success of the project is in no small way due to the wonderful co-operation received from Officers of your Department, Department of Air and Department of Civil Aviation, and Officers of the National War Museum. Their friendly assistance and advice was always readily forthcoming.

We on the Committee take pride in the part we have played in the establishment of this National Memorial and the tribute to a great achievement by Australians, and we feel sure that you, Sir, as Custodian of the Vickers Vimy Aircraft, will be satisfied with the housing of that Aircraft.

It was indeed unfortunate that you were not able to be present at the Unveiling and Dedication Ceremonies on Sunday, 27th April.

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Memorial to First Flyers

ADELAIDE, Sunday.

— More than 40,000 people went to Adelaide airport today to see the opening of the £30,000 Sir Ross Smith and Sir Keith Smith

memorial.

The twin-engine Vickers Vimy bi-plane in
which the famous South
Australian brothers made
the first flight from England-Australia in 1919
will be permanently
housed in the 80-ft. by
60-ft. glass and brick
memorial.

memorial.
Guests of honor at the
Guests of honor at the
ceremony were Lieutenant W. H. Shiers, the sole
surviving member of the
crew and Lady Smith,
widow of Sir Keith Smith.

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However, at the conclusion of those Ceremonies, the Memorial Building and its contents was handed over to your Representative, The Minister for Defence, Sir Philip McBride.

Thank you once again for making it possible for my Committee to provide a suitable home for a very famous Aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

COPIES TO: Air: 33 MA Civil Aviation: copy for Dir, War Memorial: your info.

1357 R.M. Rechner Chairman

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