

## Is Contradicted on Length of Embassy Visit Gorton

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SYDNEY, Australia, Saturday, March 22—Prime Minister John G. Gorton came under new political fire yesterday after a 19-year-old woman reporter contradicted details in Mr. Gorton's account of their visit late at night to the home of the American Ambassador, William H. Crook.

The reporter, Miss Geraldine Willesee of Perth, is the daughter of Senator R. D. Willesee, a member of the opposition Labor party.

In her statement, she disagreed with Mr. Gorton about the circumstances and length of their visit. Throughout the episode, she said, they were in the company of the 57-year-old Prime Minister's press secretary and others.

The statement resulted in a new attack on Mr. Gorton's sense of propriety and his credibility. A prominent member of the House of Representatives from Mr. Gorton's Liberal party, Edward St. John, demanded



United Press International  
Geraldine Willesee speaking to newsmen in Perth.

that the Prime Minister resign. Mr. Gorton received the sup-

port of his party at meetings in Canberra and Sydney after the House blocked a move Wednesday to investigate allegations about his personal life.

These allegations involved a magazine article supposed to have been written by Liza Minnelli, the American singer, who performed at a Sydney nightclub last year. Miss Minnelli, who is the daughter of Judy Garland, has denied that any impropriety occurred between her and Mr. Gorton.

Replying to attacks upon him in Parliament, Mr. Gorton said that he had offered Miss Willesee "a lift home" after a dinner at a Canberra motel given by the parliamentary press gallery.

### Conflict on Time

Miss Willesee said that it was at Mr. Gorton's suggestion that she left in his car, sitting in the rear seat with his press secretary, Anthony Eggleston, while Mr. Gorton sat in front with the chauffeur.

"Just before we got into the car, Mr. Eggleston told the

Prime Minister that the American Ambassador had just telephoned the motel and asked Mr. Gorton to go to the embassy on the way home for a night cap," she said in her statement, given in Perth under oath.

Mr. Gorton said in Parliament that Miss Willesee and Mr. Eggleston had arrived at the Ambassador's residence about midnight, had a drink and left about half an hour later. Miss Willesee said that they had had three drinks and had left at "approximately 3 A.M."

Senator Willesee said in a statement to newsmen, "I wish my daughter could be escorted home in the same circumstances from any function."

Learning of Miss Willesee's statement, Mr. Gorton contended that her account of the time of the visit had been erroneous.

A statement by the American Embassy yesterday confirmed Mr. Gorton's statement that he had arrived around midnight last Nov. 1 and had "departed about half an hour later."