



**DEPARTMENT OF  
FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS**

**NO**

**DATE**

M/123

25 August 1973

FRENCH NUCLEAR TEST

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, said today that the Government had reason to believe that the French Government had exploded today another nuclear device in the Pacific - the fourth in the present series.

Mr Whitlam said that radioactive fallout from earlier French tests in this year's series had now been detected in Australia, indicating a clear breach of the International Court's order to France to desist. Australia would continue its efforts to halt these tests by every appropriate means.