

FOR PRESS

EMBARGO: Midnight, 25.1.65

AUSTRALIA DAY MESSAGE

By the Acting Prime Minister, Mr. John McEwen

Today, our 177th birthday, we look back with thankfulness and pride on the ability, energy and great vision of those who founded our country. They helped make Australia the wonderful nation we live in today. On this day we should dedicate ourselves to carry on their good work in the growth to becoming a great nation.

Our forebears were adventurous people who, by their determination, carved out the structure which is the base of our efforts for the future. In the years ahead we will certainly have problems, but we have surmounted them in the past and will overcome them in the future.

We have co-operated with our neighbours and friends, and will continue to do so. We wish to continue to work in peace and harmony with them.

On this our national birthday, I ask New Australians to share with Native-born Australians the heritage of which we are so proud. Each and every one of us should celebrate this day as a day of dedication.

Canberra,

January 25, 1965.