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New Year Message to Australia from the Prime Minister the Rt. Hon.
John McEwen

On this first day of the new year I send greetings and my warm good wishes to all Australians.

For the year ahead we have a clear programme of national endeavour. To Mr Harold Holt must go the credit for the constructive programme which lies before us.

We enter 1968 with our economic base secure and strong. There are problems - serious for some of our rural industries - which we must face up to in the coming year. But today there is, as never before, a nation-wide sense of pride and progress. At every level the nation is seen to be moving ahead.

It is my hope and my prayer, and shall be my endeavour, that 1968 will see peace in Vietnam. Our fighting forces are acquitting themselves with great distinction. To those who have paid the supreme sacrifice, we pay a nation's homage. We approach 1968 with a firm resolution to see this honourable task through to the end. We will work to ensure that the freedom for which they are fighting will be made secure.

Australia is strong and confident. As a people, we are united. We are free. These are our greatest blessings. What we enjoy we want others also to have. We must always be conscious that what we have today others worked for, and fought for. Our greatest duty is to see that we hand on to the coming generation a free, united, and even greater country.

Canberra
31/12/67