

FOR PRESS



PM. No. 33/1969

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGES ON THE DEATH OF  
GENERAL EISENHOWER

The Prime Minister, Mr Gorton, this morning sent the following messages :-

To Mrs Eisenhower

" WE DEEPLY REGRET AND HAVE BEEN SADDENED BY THE NEWS OF YOUR HUSBAND'S DEATH. GENERAL EISENHOWER IN HIS LIFETIME RECEIVED THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF ALL AUSTRALIANS, AS THE WAR-TIME LEADER OF OUR ALLIED FORCES AND, LATER, AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. HIS GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS AND HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRYMEN AND TO THE WORLD ARE MARKED IN OUR HISTORY AND WILL REMAIN LONG IN OUR MEMORY.

ON BEHALF OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE, I EXTEND TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY OUR DEEP SYMPATHY. "

To President Nixon

"TODAY ALL AUSTRALIANS ARE SHARING WITH YOU AND WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A DEEP SENSE OF GRIEF AT THE DEATH OF GENERAL EISENHOWER.

WE MOURN HIM AS A LEADER OF MEN WHO SERVED HIS COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT WITH DEVOTION AND HONOUR. WE MOURN HIM AS A LEADER IN THE FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM OF NATIONS. HE LED THE CRUSADE IN EUROPE AND BORE THE AWESOME BURDEN OF SUPREME COMMANDER IN WORLD WAR II WITH COURAGE, SKILL AND THE HIGHEST QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP. HE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT VICTORY FOR THE FORCES OF ENLIGHTENMENT AND HUMAN DIGNITY IN THE WORLD.

HE RESPONDED TO HIS COUNTRY'S SUMMONS TO THE HIGHEST OFFICE IN THE LAND WHEN OTHER MEN MIGHT HAVE SAID 'I HAVE DONE ENOUGH'. AND AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, HE LED THE MOST POWERFUL OF THE FREE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD AT A CRUCIAL TIME IN WORLD HISTORY. AFTERWARDS HE CONTINUED TO DEVOTE HIS GREAT HUMAN RESOURCES TO THE ISSUES OF HIS TIME.

AUSTRALIANS, AS DO PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SALUTE HIS ACHIEVEMENTS AND MOURN HIS PASSING. "

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CANBERRA,  
29 March 1969