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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE FORCES

The Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton, has sent the following Christmas message to members of the Australian Armed Forces :-

"To all those serving in the armed forces of the Commonwealth I send warm greetings and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year on behalf of the Government and people of Australia.

Throughout the year you have maintained the highest standards and traditions of our fighting forces on land, sea and in the air.

Our special thanks and greetings go to all Australians in Vietnam. I hope the knowledge that you are doing an important and vital service to your country and its allies will be some compensation for the separation from your homes, your families and your friends.

We are proud of your record and of the resolute way you carry out your difficult and dangerous duties. By your courage you bring nearer the day of peace.

Good luck to our servicemen everywhere. We wish you a safe and successful New Year."

CANBERRA
23 December 1970