

EMBARGO: 0001 hours 26/1/72



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS:

PM No 6/1972

AUSTRALIA DAY - 1972

Message from the Prime Minister, Mr William McMahon

Australia Day is our own National Day. It is a day for reflection. A day when we should forget we live in States, cities and towns, and remember we are all citizens of one great nation, recognising no frontiers other than the seas around us.

In defying and defeating the worst - floods, fires and droughts - and winning the best - from the seas, soil, iron ore mountains and our factories - we have built a wonderful country for ourselves and our heirs.

On this day we acknowledge with pride the successes of our forebears for whom few difficulties have been too great. Their spirit, I believe, remains with us in this busy, bustling technological age where we cannot yet presume to say "We have crossed our last frontier".

As a nation where pioneering is part of the present as well as the past, we are strong, vigorous and growing. Few other countries are better equipped to face the future and exploit the ever-growing opportunities. History supports this view and the future will confirm it.

There is still much to be done. We should remember, too, that the immediate problems of the day are transitory. We must not let them dampen our enthusiasm, or destroy our confidence in the future.

Canberra
26 January 1972