



**DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS**

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RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Whitlam, announced today that the Attorney-General, Senator Lionel Murphy, will represent the Australian Government at the Ministerial talks to be held with the French Government in Paris on 18 and 19 April.

Mr Whitlam said that Senator Murphy's visit to Paris and the discussions he would have there with French Ministers were important in the Government's continuing and strenuous efforts to prevent further nuclear tests being conducted in the South Pacific.

Because of the value it attaches to its wider relations with France, the Australian Government was determined, Mr Whitlam added, to explore all possible avenues in seeking to achieve a solution to this one, but very important, disagreement between the two countries.

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