



## PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 428

6 January, 1975

### TASMAN BRIDGE TRAGEDY

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The Prime Minister's Office has released the text of the message sent by the Prime Minister to the Premier of Tasmania following last night's Tasman Bridge tragedy.

"I am shocked by the news of the disaster in Tasmania. While details of the loss of life are not fully clear it is plain that Australians have suffered another grievous and unexpected tragedy. The city of Hobart has lost a vital link for transport and communications. The whole of Tasmania has been dealt a heavy blow. My deepest sympathy goes out to all families and relatives of the victims. I pledge the full and ready co-operation of the Australian Government in restoring the bridge and making good the loss and disruption suffered by the Tasmanian people. My Government stands ready, in consultation and co-operation with the State authorities, to do everything possible to alleviate this disaster and investigate its causes. E.G. Whitlam."

CANBERRA, A.C.T.