



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

9 JULY 1978

AUSTRALIAN BICENTENNIAL 1988

The year 1988 will mark the 200th anniversary of the First European Settlement in Australia. The Commonwealth Government has decided to develop, in close collaboration with the States, plans for a major program of celebrations to mark the occasion.

The Government believes that the celebrations should have meaning for all Australians. As a first step towards this goal, State Governments have agreed to send officials to discuss the celebrations.

Another important task will be to secure international participation in the celebrations. With this in mind, Australia has maintained over recent years an active membership of the Bureau of International Expositions, the world body which regulates international participation in major celebrations of this kind. As part of its plans to encourage international participation, the Government has appointed Mr Harry M. Miller as Special Adviser to present Australia's case at the annual meeting of the Bureau's Administrative Council on 5 July in Paris.

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