



PRIME MINISTER

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Today is the thirty-eighth anniversary of the dropping of an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima. This event added a new and terrible dimension to the scourge of war. On behalf of the Government, I wish to mark the occasion by reaffirming our dedication to the pursuit of world peace and our commitment to policies designed to halt and reverse the arms race.

The appalling sacrifice made by the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 is a permanent reminder to us that the spectre of nuclear holocaust looms over the world and presents a fundamental challenge to all governments. Australia, under the Labor Government, is paying special attention to the field of arms control and disarmament. In the short period since we came to office, the Government has announced a number of initiatives in this field. We have appointed Australia's first Ambassador for Disarmament and are strengthening our capacity to handle disarmament questions.

Notwithstanding the complexity and divisiveness of many of these issues, we will do what we can to ensure that the tragedy of Hiroshima is not repeated.
