



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

25 JANUARY 1989

The Government has appointed Mr WGT Miller to be the next Director-General of the Office of National Assessments. The appointment will be for a five year term from 24 April 1989.

Mr Miller is currently Australian Ambassador to Japan, where he has been stationed since August 1986. He also served as Ambassador in Seoul from 1978-80 and had earlier postings in Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, New York and New Delhi. He has held senior positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra, as Deputy Secretary from 1984-86, and previously as First Assistant Secretary in charge of North and South Asia and Defence and Nuclear Divisions. Throughout 1982, Mr Miller was seconded to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as First Assistant Secretary, International Division.

Mr Miller will be the third Director-General of the Office of National Assessments. The Office was established in 1977 to upgrade and co-ordinate Australia's capacity for assessment of international matters of national importance.

The Government pays tribute to the retiring Director-General Mr MJ Cook (whose appointment as Australian Ambassador to Washington is being announced by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade). I take this opportunity to record the valuable contribution Mr Cook has made during his seven and half year term in that important Office.