



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

23 DECEMBER 1990

I have sent the following message to our forces serving in the Gulf:

"To all Australians serving in the Multinational Task Force in the Gulf.

On behalf of the Australian Government and the people of Australia, I want to pass to you best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

As we prepare for the Christmas celebrations, I know that all Australians share with me the appreciation that duty and service to our Nation prevent you from enjoying this special time with your loved ones in Australia.

We are very conscious and rightly proud of the outstanding role played in the Gulf by Australian Service personnel in ensuring that the United Nations Security Council Resolutions are enforced.

At a time when peace and goodwill are uppermost in our thoughts, it is my profound hope that a genuine and principled peace is found in the resolution of the Gulf crisis. Your contribution towards that end is crucial. Your role is not without its hazards but I know you will discharge your duties in the truly Australian way we have come to expect from our armed forces.

All the best

Bob Hawke"