



# PRIME MINISTER

12/92

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP  
HONORARY AWARD TO GREEK PRIME MINISTER**

I wish to record my delight at the appointment of the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, as an Honorary Companion in the Order of Australia (AC) for eminent service to Australian-Greek relations.

Mr Mitsotakis has had a long and honourable career in Greek politics, first becoming a member of the Greek Parliament in 1946. He was appointed Prime Minister in April 1990. Mr Mitsotakis has demonstrated over a long period of time strong personal commitment to furthering the bonds which exist between our two countries. Such bonds are further strengthened by the family, cultural and economic links which have been developed by both the people of Greece and the many thousands of Australians of Greek background.

In taking such a personal interest in the recent commemoration of the Battle of Crete and Greece, Mr Mitsotakis has contributed to a strengthening of the special relationship between Australia and Greece which was forged in the comradeship of the Second World War.

This award serves to underline the importance and strength of these ties, which I and Mr Mitsotakis are committed to maintaining and developing further in the years ahead. I warmly congratulate Mr Mitsotakis, and look forward to working with him in the future.

6 February 1992