

## PRIME MINISTER

70/92

## STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING MP

The Prime Minister has sent the following message to H. E. Bernard Dowiyogo, MP:

On behalf of the Government and people of Australia, I would like to express my sorrow at the news of the <u>death</u> of former <u>President Hammer DeRoburt</u>. By leading <u>Nauru</u> to full independence in 1968, and remaining <u>President</u> of your country for over two decades, he secured an important place in Nauru's and the region's history.

I would like to express my condolences to you and the people of Nauru. Please convey my deepest sympathy to Mr DeRoburt's family.

**CANBERRA** 

16 July 1992