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PRIME MINISTER

112/92

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP
FORMER GERMAN CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT**

I have sent today the following condolence message to the German Chancellor on the occasion of the death of former Chancellor Willy Brandt.

I was greatly saddened to learn of the death earlier today of Willy Brandt, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Willy Brandt was one of the leading European statesmen of the post-war period. Both as Chancellor and private citizen, Willy Brandt played an important role in Germany's period of post-war adjustment and reconciliation. He was widely recognised as a courageous fighter for democracy.

His term as Chancellor marked a turning point in West Germany's relations with the former eastern bloc. His efforts were accorded recognition in 1971 when he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

His concern for the people of the developing world showed him to be a leader of great humanity and compassion.

He will be remembered as a statesman of great courage and foresight and a leader of his generation. On behalf of the Government and the people of Australia I would like to pass to you and to his family my condolences.

CANBERRA

9 October 1992