



PRIME MINISTER

4/93

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON PAUL KEATING, MP
THE RT HON SIR PAUL HASLUCK KG, KCMG, GCVO

The death of Sir Paul Hasluck is a sad moment in the life of this nation.

Few Australians this century have had more distinguished careers. Few have made more profound and permanent contributions.

As a member of the Liberal/Country Party government from 1949-1969 Sir Paul held a number of high ministerial offices, including, from 1964 to 1969, External Affairs.

As Governor-General from 1969 to 1974 he carried out his duties with integrity, dignity and complete impartiality.

While he is best remembered for the roles he played in Australian public life, his contribution to the writing of our history and our understanding of Australia's place in the world was no less considerable.

He wrote on subjects as various as international relations and the Aborigines of Western Australia. He wrote a two volume history of Australia in the Second World War and a splendid memoir called Mucking About. He wrote always with a deep respect for our institutions, our history and for the people of Australia.

Towards the end of his autobiography Sir Paul wrote that one of the guiding influences on his life had been the words of Montaigne: "I care not so much what I am in the opinion of others as what I am in my own."

He shunned praise in life, but with his passing it can be said with certainty that in the opinion of his fellow Australians he gave great service to this country and that his unique contribution will be lasting and long remembered.

On behalf of the Government I extend my deepest sympathy to Lady Hasluck and her family.

CANBERRA
11 January 1993