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**PRIME MINISTER**

12/93

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP
NAURU : TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE**

The Republic of Nauru will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its independence from 31 January to 3 February. The Hon Stephen Martin, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, will represent me at the celebrations in Nauru on this important and historic occasion.

I have written to the President of Nauru, the Hon Bernard Dowiyogo, conveying my congratulations on behalf of all Australians on Nauru's achievement of twenty-five years as an independent state maintaining constitutional rule and parliamentary democracy.

To mark the occasion, the Australian Government is offering to Nauru a collection of important documents relating to key aspects of Nauru's history, together with appropriate storage, access and display facilities. The Australian Government has also offered to establish a sponsored scholarship program to enable selected young Nauruans to undertake studies in Australia each year in fields relevant to Nauru's national development.

CANBERRA

29 January 1993