



PRIME MINISTER

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

ANZAC DAY

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Since that fateful April day in 1915, a spirit of duty and courage that cannot be destroyed has been symbolised by what we know as the ANZAC legend.

Wherever Australians or New Zealanders are on this day each year, they gather to pay tribute to the gallant men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country.

The qualities which have given rise to that legend continue to inspire us today.

So very few of the original ANZACs are still with us in body, but the spirit of them all survives through the activities of our service men and women on duty abroad, particularly through our participation in United Nations operations. Courage and duty are still their watchwords.

Through all the years and all the wars, wherever Australians and New Zealanders have fought since, that spirit born at Gallipoli has been a bond joining them with the ANZACs of 1915.

Many commemorations will be held today. When we pause on this day, all our reflections are the same, no matter how far we may be from home, no matter how grand or how humble our surroundings: the honour that the ANZACs did to our two countries, the honour of which we must all try to be worthy.

CANBERRA

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