



MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER KEVIN RUDD

RESERVE FORCES DAY

Throughout our history as a nation, Australia's proud military tradition has been underpinned by a willingness to serve.

On this Reserve Forces Day, we recognise and commemorate those who epitomize that aspect of our Australian national character.

Australia's reserve service men and women voluntarily divide their time between civilian life and military service. Their sacrifice is not without cost – and many have paid the ultimate price.

From the conflicts of the past to those in the present, Australian reservists have continued to serve alongside our full time service personnel. This selfless devotion to duty and courage has helped the Australian Defence Force to maintain a reputation as one of the finest in the world.

Today, on behalf of a grateful nation, I recognise our reservists for their contribution to Australia – they are an integral part of our Defence Force and our community. In doing so, I also acknowledge their families and employers who make sacrifices in support of this service.

The Honourable Kevin Rudd Prime Minister of Australia