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PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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CHOU EN-LAI

It was with deep regret that I learned today of the death of the Premier of The People's Republic of China, Chou En-Lai. Premier Chou was one of the outstanding men of his generation.

As Premier of China, Chou En-Lai stood willing to discuss with candor his country's position with visiting Government leaders, and other dignitaries. These explanations of China's role made a significant contribution to world understanding.

History will remember Chou En-Lai as a statesman and as a major figure of this era who served his country with sacrifice and dedication over a span of years that has few parallels.

On behalf of the Australian Government and people I express our sincere sympathy and condolence at the loss sustained by the people of China.

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