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**PRIME MINISTER**

PRESS RELEASE

30th July, 1976.

MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. J.M. Fraser, yesterday sent the following message of sympathy to the Chinese Premier, Mr. Hua Kuo-feng:

"I was saddened to hear of the damage and destruction in North East China caused by the disastrous earthquake on 28 July.

On behalf of the Australian Government and people, I wish to extend to your Excellency and, through you, to the Chinese people in the affected area, my deepest sympathy.

If there is any way in which you feel Australia may be able to assist in this time of national need our Ambassador would be pleased to convey your wishes directly to me."

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