



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

10 September 1976

CONDOLENCE MESSAGES FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THE
DEATH OF MAO TSE-TUNG

Her Excellency Soong Ching-Ling
Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National
People's Congress,
Peking

I wish to express my own deep sympathy and that of the Australian people to the Chinese people for the great loss which they have suffered in the passing of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. I know that each member of the Chinese nation feels today as a family feels on the loss of its eldest and most respected member a sense of irreparable personal loss.

John R. Kerr,
Governor-General

His Excellency Hua Kuo-Feng,
Premier of the State Council,
Peking.

On the sad occasion of the death of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung I wish to convey my own deep sympathy and that of the Australian Government and people to your Excellency and to the Government and people of China. The pageant of his long life and career provides a record of unique achievement in many fields. Above all, he was a great patriot under whose guidance and inspiration China regained its national respect and international influence. His was the guiding hand as in recent years China emerged to play a major role in world affairs. The renascent China is his enduring memorial. Please also convey my condolences to his widow.

Malcolm Fraser,
Prime Minister

His Excellency Chiao Kuan-Hua,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Peking.

I wish to express the deep sympathy which the Australian people and I, personally, feel for the Chinese people in the loss of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. He was a towering figure in the world of action and in the world of thought. With China and the world we mourn his passing. Please also convey my condolences to Madame Chiang Ch'ing.

Andrew Peacock
Foreign Minister

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