



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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MESSAGE TO MR CARTER

The following is the text of a message sent to Mr Carter, President Elect of the United States, by the Prime Minister today.

It gives me great pleasure to offer my personal congratulations and those of the Government and people of Australia, on your election as President of the United States.

Australians recognise the great responsibilities that rest upon the United States, and in particular, the responsibilities that rest upon the President. In your statements on foreign policy, you have expressed a keen appreciation of the many challenges that confront democratic nations. In meeting these challenges much will depend on the attitudes and decisions of the United States.

The Australian and American peoples have many aspirations in common. We are democratic and free nations. We have many similar values and objectives. We both recognise that we live in an unsettled and uneasy world where much remains to be done. Australians are very much aware of their own responsibilities to work towards a just and peaceful world. While pre-eminent responsibilities rest upon the United States as the most powerful of all the free countries, we believe there is much that a country such as Australia can contribute.

As I indicated when I spoke to you from New York during my visit to the United States, Australia stands ready to discuss areas where our policies are inter-related. When we spoke on that occasion, you asked Australia's position on a number of foreign policy matters. The Australian Government looks forward to further discussing our views with your Administration and in working with the United States in our common search for a world where all people can live with dignity and self-respect.

My warmest personal regards, Malcolm Fraser.