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PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

24 FEBRUARY 1977

FOR RELEASE AT 10.00 P.M. A.E.S.T.

VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND

The Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, announced today that the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr R.D. Muldoon, M.P., would visit Australia for discussions in Canberra on 17 and 18 March.

The visit will enable the two Prime Ministers to exchange views on international questions, particularly relating to the forthcoming meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government. There will also be discussions on bilateral matters.

Mr Fraser said: "This is Mr Muldoon's first visit to Australia in his capacity as Prime Minister of New Zealand. Mr Muldoon's visit is a very welcome one and emphasises the close cooperation which Australia and New Zealand see as a primary ingredient of their respective foreign policies."

Other Pacific leaders invited for a similar round of discussions are the Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, The Prime Minister of Western Samoa, Tutuola Efi, and the Prime Minister of Tonga, Prince Tuipelehake.

Dates for these visits have not been confirmed, but planning is under way.

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