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EMBARGO: 6:00 P.M.

## PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

17 SEPTEMBER, 1978

### VISIT OF PRESIDENT SCHEEL

The Prime Minister announced today that the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Walter Scheel, will make a State Visit to Australia from 23-27 October at the invitation of the Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowen. The President will be accompanied by his wife Dr. Mildred Scheel.

The Prime Minister said that he was looking forward to welcoming President Scheel as the first German Head of State to visit Australia and discussing a broad range of issues with him.

The Prime Minister added that the President would be accompanied by a high level delegation representing the FRG Government, industry, the trade unions and farmers. The level of the delegation shows the importance which the Federal Republic of Germany is placing on the potential for the further development of closer relations with Australia, the Prime Minister said.

As well as visiting Canberra, the President will visit New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia including the Pilbara Region.