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**PRIME MINISTER**

FOR MEDIA

24 MAY 1979

The Prime Minister will visit Nigeria on 28-30 July 1979 at the invitation of the Nigerian Head of State, General Obasanjo. He will then proceed to Lusaka, Zambia for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting to be held on 1-8 August 1979.

While in Nigeria the Prime Minister expects to exchange views with General Obasanjo on major current issues, including Southern African matters, and to continue discussions on international economic issues which were initiated in Jamaica in December 1978. The Prime Minister will also be discussing aspects of the bilateral relationship between Australia and Nigeria.

The visit reflects the importance Australia attaches to its relations with black Africa and our desire to maintain contact with important black African countries on Southern African issues.

The Prime Minister has said that he warmly welcomes this opportunity to visit Nigeria, a significant African State and an influential fellow member of the Commonwealth.

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