



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

5 JUNE 1979

VISIT BY BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

I am very pleased to announce that the newly elected Prime Minister of Great Britain, the Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP, has accepted an invitation to visit Australia and will be here on 30 June and 1 July. The visit is particularly welcome, coming as it does so soon after Mrs Thatcher's assumption of office.

Mrs Thatcher's association with Australia is a long standing one, which is appreciated by all of us. She visited Australia in 1972 and again in 1976, and her visit on this occasion as Prime Minister will serve to emphasise the close consultation that has been such a feature of relations between Australia and Britain over the years. Both Governments value their close association, which reflects the very real interests and traditional ties between our two countries.

As well as providing an opportunity for a broad review of Australia-United Kingdom relations, the visit will permit both Prime Ministers to discuss other important matters, including the results of the Tokyo Summit, the forthcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting to be held in Lusaka in August, and international developments generally.

All Australians will give Mrs Thatcher a very warm welcome during her visit.

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