



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

2 OCTOBER 1980

EXTRACT FROM AN ADDRESS AT  
THE GREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE, BRISBANE

The attitude of the Australian Labor Party to Australia's domestic and international challenges has no relevance for Australia in the 80s. The policy statement of the Leader of the Opposition last evening merely confirmed that the Labor Party has learnt nothing from their record of extravagance and waste in the 70s.

Then, deficient policies and defective economic management by the ALP cost Australia dearly. The spending promises outlined by Mr Hayden last night are just the tip of the Labor iceberg. Nothing was said about the hundreds of uncosted Labor programmes which Mr Hayden has promised to force upon the Australian electorate. And of those promises announced, the costings were deceptive.

The policy statement was significant for what it omitted to say, rather than what it said. It omitted to say that the \$300 million tax cut would cost \$900 million in a full year. It omitted to spell out the explicit commitment made many times by the Australian Labor Party to increased and higher taxation. It omitted to say which Australians would suffer from Labor's promised restructuring of the tax scales. It omitted to say who would be liable for a wealth tax under the Labor Party. It omitted to say which Australians would be struck with a capital gains tax. It omitted to say which businesses would fail and what would be the extent of private sector unemployment as a result of the Labor Party's massive and expanded entry into businesses already handled successfully by the private sector.

And, above all, it omitted to indicate the extent of its massive spending programmes on inflation. The ALP policy speech ignored the fact that Labor spending would skyrocket inflation to a level approaching 20%.

The policy speech did not remind Australians that the strategy of increased government spending, bigger government and higher deficits, has been rejected by major industrialised countries and international authorities.

Continuing his policy speech of omission, the Leader of the Opposition gave the Australian public no indication of the extent to which he is a prisoner of the Socialist Left faction of the Australian Labor Party. There was no indication that the Socialist Left now boasts control of influential sections of the Party. There was no indication that Mr Hayden himself has, by

intervention, installed the Socialist Left faction in control of the Queensland ALP. There was no mention of the fact that the Socialist Left of the ALP would compromise Australia's commitment to freedom and to its allies.

A serious choice faces all Australians on October 18. It is a choice between the sound economic management of the Fraser-Anthony Government; management which will persist with its fight against inflation; its control of Government spending; its pursuit of Australia's responsible development; and its safeguarding of Australia's security.

And between an Australian Labor Party which was confirmed last evening as having no anti-inflation strategy; as being committed to massive additional Government spending; committed to a vendetta against business profitability; and committed to control of the leadership by the Socialist Left faction within the Party.

The policy speech last evening demonstrated that the ALP is completely out of step with the attitudes and ideals of Australian men and women.

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