



# PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23 1982

## VISIT TO CHINA

I shall be visiting China from 4-6 August, in response to an invitation from the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang. I previously visited China in 1976.

This visit will provide me with an opportunity to meet Premier Zhao and other Chinese leaders for the first time and to discuss international issues of mutual interest as well as the further development of bilateral relations. 1982 marks the tenth anniversary of Australia's relations with China. In that short period Australia and China have developed a close and valued relationship with exchanges taking place in many fields. China plays a major political and strategic role in the Asia/Pacific region, and is of economic importance to Australia.

The Australian Government places a high priority on its relations with China and welcomes this opportunity for direct discussions with China's leaders.

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