



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

The following message from the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, was today delivered to the Prince of Wales before the royal couple departed from Melbourne:

"Your Royal Highness,

Your visit to Australia in company with the Princess of Wales and Prince William has delighted the people of Australia. I hope you and your wife have felt this yourselves from the enthusiasm of the people who have greeted you as you travelled through the country.

As you leave Australia, I should like you to know that we have greatly appreciated the time you spent with us. We have particularly appreciated that you have chosen Australia for this first major visit with your family.

Please convey to Her Majesty and Prince Philip, whom I am looking forward to seeing in London in June, my personal regards.

Best wishes for the successful and enjoyable completion of your overseas tour.

Robert Hawke
Prime Minister"

The following message was received by the Prime Minister from the royal couple in response:

"Dear Mr. Prime Minister

Thank you very much for your extremely kind message. We have been overwhelmed by the warmth of the welcome we have received all over Australia. We were thrilled to be able to bring our son on his first visit overseas, and we will never forget these last very happy four weeks spent in the States and Territories of Australia. We will of course pass on your message to The Queen and Prince Philip, and much look forward to seeing you in London.

Charles and Diana"