



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

2 SEPTEMBER 1983

The Australian Government is absolutely appalled at the barbaric act that has been perpetrated.

I have been in contact with Bill Hayden and he is calling in the Soviet Ambassador today to register that attitude of my Government. I have sent a message of condolence and sympathy to President Chung of South Korea. I believe that all Australians will share the attitude of my Government in this matter. There are absolutely no circumstances whatsoever in which action of this type can begin to be justified.

Q: What further action do you plan to take?

PM: We have taken the immediate steps that I have alluded to. We will consider the position in the light of what comes out of those first steps.

Q: Does that mean a deterioration of relations between ...

PM: Well it certainly is not going to improve them is it.