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## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

18 November 1983

The Prime Minister announced today that he had been invited by the Government of the Republic of Korea to visit Seoul and he proposed to do so early in 1984 as part of a planned visit to countries in the North Asian region. Dates for the visit to the Republic of Korea had not yet been finally agreed.

The Australian Government had been looking forward to President Chun's planned visit to Australia in October, which had been prevented by the tragic bombing in Rangoon. The Prime Minister said that the Australian Government looked forward to President Chun visiting Australia at some mutually convenient time in the future.

Meanwhile the Prime Minister welcomed the opportunity afforded by his visit to North Asia to have discussions with President Chun in Seoul.

The discussions would centre on bilateral and regional matters of mutual interest, such as Australia/ROK political and economic relations, and the situation in the Korean peninsula.