



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

29 January 1986

The Prime Minister has sent the following message to President Reagan:

"I am shocked and greatly saddened by the tragic accident that has resulted in the destruction of the space Shuttle Challenger and the loss of its crew. We in Australia have long admired the expertise, dedication and courage that have characterised the many pioneering American achievements in space over recent decades. I am sure all Australians join me in extending through you to the American people and especially to the families of the Challenger crew our deep sympathy and understanding."