



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

18 April 1986

I shall make a short visit to the Philippines at the conclusion of my visit to Japan and China for discussions with President Aquino on 26 May.

I welcome very much this opportunity to make personal contact with Mrs Aquino and to reaffirm personally the Government's support for the new government in the Philippines. We place importance on our relations with the Philippines, a regional friend and partner.

In my discussions with Mrs Aquino I intend to explore ways in which Australia can assist in the economic development of the Philippines and also to hear from Mrs Aquino of the policies and views of the new government.

I shall depart from the Philippines to return to Australia on 26 May.