



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

13 SEPTEMBER 1987

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I will be visiting the United States, Canada, Ireland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia between 9 and 25 October.

I am looking forward to having informal talks with Secretary of State Shultz over the weekend of 10 and 11 October in San Francisco. The talks will follow up the valuable discussions held during the visit to Australia of Mr Shultz and Secretary of Defense Weinberger in June and will cover international political and economic issues, including prospects in United States-Soviet relations, and bilateral matters. I will make an address to the Australian-American Chamber of Commerce in San Diego on 9 October.

In Canada I will be attending the meeting in Vancouver of Commonwealth Heads of Government from 13 to 17 October. This biennial event brings together a wide spectrum of world leaders for detailed discussions ranging across current political and economic matters and co-operation in various functional programs. It will also provide a setting to consolidate and advance Australia's bilateral relations with other Commonwealth countries.

I very much welcome the opportunity to visit Ireland from 18 to 21 October. Ireland has made an extraordinary contribution to the Australian identity and is a country with which many Australians have close personal contacts. As we prepare to celebrate our Bicentenary, a visit is particularly appropriate. As a member of the European Community, Ireland's economic policies are of direct relevance to Australia's interests. In addition to official talks in Dublin, I hope to see something of the country and its people.

In Geneva on 22 October, I will meet the head of the US delegation to the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space arms, Ambassador Max Kampelman, and address members of the GATT on trade issues of vital importance to Australia under negotiation in the Uruguay round.

I will be visiting Yugoslavia from 22 to 25 October for discussions with Yugoslav leaders. I am looking forward very much to this visit. The Yugoslav community has made a great contribution to Australia. Yugoslavia's independent policies and its views on international political and economic issues are of considerable importance to us. I hope that my visit will lead to expanded bilateral co-operation between our countries.

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