



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

2 OCTOBER 1987

I will visit Singapore on 27 and 28 November and the Soviet Union from 29 November to 2 December.

The visit to the Soviet Union follows an invitation from the Soviet Government extended by the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Shevardnadze, during his visit to Australia earlier this year.

I will be accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Hayden.

The visit comes at a time of important developments in Soviet policy and will provide a timely opportunity to explore further prospects for developing Australian-Soviet relations.

I look forward to discussing with Soviet leaders a range of international and bilateral issues, both economic and political, particularly in the light of the projected conclusion of the US and Soviet agreement on intermediate nuclear forces and the Summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev.

The USSR is an important trading partner of Australia and a group of prominent Australian businessmen will be in Moscow during the visit.

The visit will also include Leningrad.

In Singapore, I will be having discussions with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew on international and regional issues of mutual interest.

I will also deliver the 1987 Singapore Lecture, under the auspices of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, at the invitation of Mr S. Rajaratnam, Senior Minister in the Prime Minister's Office.

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