



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

8 SEPTEMBER 1988

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of York will make their first official visit to Australia from Wednesday 28 September to Friday 7 October. Their tour will take them to the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland.

Like the visits of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh in April/May and The Prince and Princess of Wales in January/February, their program will focus on the Bicentenary. The Duke of York, as The Queen's personal representative, will take the Salute at the spectacular International Naval Review in Sydney Harbour on Saturday 1 October. More than 17,000 sailors from 16 navies and 58 ships will take part.

Other highlights will include visits to schools and centres caring for the mentally and physically handicapped children and a day in the Western Queensland centres of Cloncurry and Mt Isa when the emphasis will be on activities associated with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and School of the Air.

In the ACT, Their Royal Highnesses will be given a ceremonial welcome at RAAF Base, Fairbairn on 28 September. They will visit the Australian War Memorial and the Australian Defence Force Academy, as well as being the principal guests at an official lunch hosted by myself and Mrs Hawke at Parliament House on 29 September.

I know all Australians will give The Duke and Duchess of York a warm and enthusiastic welcome.

Further details of the visit will be announced separately by the Premiers of New South Wales and Queensland.

Footnote: Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice of York will not accompany her parents on this visit.