



PRIME MINISTER

VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY US PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVE AUSTRALIA-AMERICA FRIENDSHIP WEEK

I warmly welcome President Clinton's announcement that Mr John H Dalton, Secretary of the Navy in the Government of the United States of America, Mrs Margaret Dalton and Ambassador Edward Perkins will be his personal representatives for Australia-America Friendship Week.

Mr and Mrs Dalton will visit Australia from 7 to 12 May. They will participate in various Friendship Week activities and attend a number of Battle of the Coral Sea commemorative events in both Canberra and Adelaide. Mr Dalton will also hold discussions on Australia-United States relations with senior members of the Government.

The Battle of the Coral Sea, fought in May 1942, was a turning point of the war in the South Pacific and laid the foundation for the Australian-American alliance. Over fifty years later, this friendship has grown deeper and stronger based on our shared democratic ideals.

3 May 1996