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T14/80

Subject copy filed on Australia (Jan 80) 'Visit of Fraser Feb 80'

Text of a Letter from the Prime Minister of Australia, The Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser, to the Rt Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T14/80

My dear Prime Minister,

I am most grateful to you for the arrangements you so quickly put in hand for our meeting in London. I am looking forward very much to having an opportunity to talk with you on a range of international issues, of which the foremost will be the implications of recent Soviet action in Afghanistan and the means available to us to ensure circumstances that will make the cost of any continuation, extension or repetition of that intervention too costly for the Soviet Union.

Peter Carrington will have told you about the communications I have had from Julius Nyerere and Kenneth Kaunda. They clearly feel a sense of urgency in finding a better solution in some aspects of the Rhodesian arrangements, which they see threatening the success of the Lancaster House Agreement: in particular they have drawn attention to use of South African defence personnel in Rhodesia. As support of the Front Line States will be important in any outcome on Rhodesia, I have asked Andrew Peacock to write fully to Peter Carrington to pass on what has been said to us.

I am very much looking forward to our meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Fraser

21 January 1980