

SUBJECT CC MASTER
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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 January 1985

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO. T 7/86

My dear Prime Minister,

As you know, firm progress is being made with our plans for participation in the Australian Bicentenary.

I fully share the sentiments in your letter of 25 September about the importance of Britain's part in the Bicentenary celebrations.

In particular, I am glad to tell you of our decision to present as Britain's official gift to Australia for the Bicentenary, a specially commissioned Sail Training Ship for the benefit of the young people of Australia. We propose that this vessel should be sailed to Australia by a combined British and Australian crew, in time for participation as Britain's entry in the Tall Ships event, before being presented to the Australian Government.

I hope that this gift will be seen by the peoples of both countries as a fitting tribute to our longstanding relationships and as our joint commitment to future generations.

Yours sincerely
Rajawadeh

The Honourable R J L Hawke, AC, MP