



File 6
apc

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 February 1986

I enclose a copy of Mr Hawke's reply to the Prime Minister's letter of 13 January about the United Kingdom's participation in the Australian Bicentenary.

Charles Powell

Robert Culshaw Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

OA.

SUBJECT



cc: [initials]
(2)

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T31D/86.

PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

cc Master
ops.
Dear Margaret,

Prime Minister
mb
CDP 13/2

Thank you very much for your letter of 13 January with the welcome news of the 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.

This is a most generous gesture which will be appreciated by all Australians. It seems to me also to be a most appropriate way in which to mark our traditional ties while at the same time recognising our joint concern for the welfare of young people for generations to come.

We look forward to the many activities planned for 1988 and to British participation in the broad range of our celebrations. We hope that these celebrations will give pleasure to the people of both Britain and Australia, as well, of course, as underlining the importance of the continuing links between us.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

R J L Hawke

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP.
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
10 Downing Street
LONDON SE1 UNITED KINGDOM