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003631
MDHIAN 5257

CONFIDENTIAL
FM CANBERRA
TO DESKBY 290800Z FCO
TELNO 501
OF 290645Z JUNE 88

MY TELNO 458: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

1. SYDNEY. WE HAVE GIVEN THOUGHT TO AN EVENT ON 4 AUGUST WHICH WOULD EMPHASISE BRITISH/AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE COOPERATION. I ASKED GENERAL GRATION, THE CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCE, FOR HIS VIEWS AND HE SUGGESTED A VISIT TO HMAS WATSON, THE OPERATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY SITUATED AT THE ENTRANCE TO SYDNEY HARBOUR. THE EVENT WOULD INCLUDE A DEMONSTRATION OF A FERRANTI SUBMARINE COMMAND TEAM TRAINER, A VISIT TO THE NAVY'S SPLENDIDLY SITUATED CHAPEL, WHICH CONTAINS NOTABLE ITEMS FROM BRITISH CATHEDRALS AND NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND A SHORT ENCOUNTER WITH SIX ROYAL NAVY PERSONNEL SERVING IN THE SYDNEY AREA.

2. THE MAIN ITEM OF INTEREST AT THE NEW SUBMARINE WARFARE SYSTEMS CENTRE IS FERRANTI'S HIGH-TEC PERISCOPE VISUAL SYSTEM WHICH SIMULATES SUBMARINE ATTACKS. 35 PER CENT OF THE EQUIPMENT IN THE CENTRE IS FERRANTI (THE REST IS OTHER BRITISH, AMERICAN, WEST GERMAN ETC) AND THERE ARE FERRANTI TECHNICIANS FROM THE UK WORKING ON THE PROJECT. THE NEW CENTRE WILL NOT BE COMPLETELY FINISHED BY EARLY AUGUST BUT THE PERISCOPE AND AN AMENDED VERSION OF THE VISUAL SYSTEM WILL BE IN PLACE, THUS ENABLING THE PRIME MINISTER TO TAKE PART IN A SIMULATION DEMONSTRATION.

3. THE EFFECT OF A 45 MINUTE VISIT TO HMAS WATSON ON THE SYDNEY PROGRAMME WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

1430 PRIME MINISTER DEPARTS LUNCH FOR BUSINESSMEN
1440 DEPART BY BOAT FOR WATSON'S BAY
1505 ARRIVE WATSON'S BAY
1510-
1555 VISIT HMAS WATSON
1600 DEPART WATSON'S BAY (EITHER BY BOAT OR CAR)

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1630-
1735 VISIT TO DARLING HARBOUR, INCLUDING VISIT TO VIRGIN
MEGASTORE, AND POWERHOUSE MUSEUM.

1745 ARRIVE HOTEL

IF THE LATER ARRIVAL AT THE HOTEL IS UNACCEPTABLE, WE CAN PRUNE
THE VISITS TO DARLING HARBOUR AND THE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM.

4. MELBOURNE. AS I AM NOW NOT GIVING RECEPTIONS IN CANBERRA
AND SYDNEY, I WOULD PREFER NOT TO GIVE ONE IN MELBOURNE. I PROPOSE,
THEREFORE, TO DROP THE RECEPTION AND RECOMMEND, IN ITS PLACE,
A VISIT TO THE WALTER AND ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH.

5. THE INSTITUTE HAS, I BELIEVE, DONE PARTICULARLY SUCCESSFUL
RESEARCH WORK IN VIROLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY, AND IS REGARDED AS ONE
OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS IN AUSTRALIA, IF NOT
THE MOST IMPORTANT. ITS CURRENT MAJOR PROJECTS ARE TO FIND A
VACCINE AGAINST MALARIA AND CANCER RESEARCH. IT IS PARTLY FUNDED
BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, THE REMAINING
FUNDS BEING RAISED PRIVATELY. IT IS SAID TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS
WITH OUR NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH. I PROPOSE THAT THE
PRIME MINISTER SPENDS 40 MINUTES THERE, INCLUDING A DISCUSSION WITH
THE DIRECTOR, SIR GUSTAV NOSSAL, AND SOME STAFF ON CURRENT RESEARCH.
THE EFFECT ON THE PROGRAMME WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

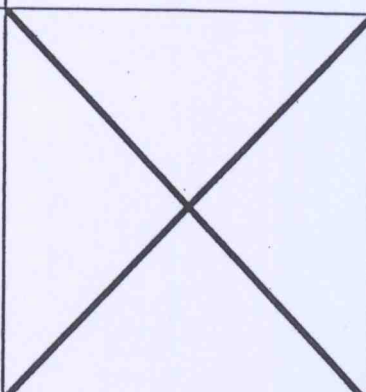
1705 END WALKABOUT
1715-1755 VISIT INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
1815 ARRIVE HILTON HOTEL.

6. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR REPLIES TO BOTH RECOMMENDATIONS
DESKBY 302230Z IF POSSIBLE, IN ORDER THAT WE CAN HAVE A REVISED
DRAFT PROGRAMME READY FOR THE RECCE VISIT NEXT WEEK.

COLES

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A The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES <i>Item 19</i> PIECE/ITEM <i>2443/1</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
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eg. 28, 1079, 84/1, 107/3

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003217
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FM CANBERRA
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 494
OF 290200Z JUNE 88

MY TELNO 490: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT: CANBERRA MEETINGS

1. THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (HOWARD) HAS NOW SAID THAT THE ARRANGEMENT IN PARA 2 OF MY T U R PRESENTS HIM WITH SOME DIFFICULTY. I THINK HIS MAIN CONCERN IS THAT IF HE CALLS ON THE PRIME MINISTER AT MY RESIDENCE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING HE WILL NOT GET THE PRESS COVERAGE HE WOULD LIKE. HE WOULD MUCH PREFER THE MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER TO TAKE PLACE AT THE NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE LATER IN THE DAY.

2. I HAVE SOME SYMPATHY WITH HIM, HE HAS, AT OUR REQUEST, GIVEN UP THE IDEA OF THE PRIME MINISTER MEETING ALL THE OPPOSITION MPS, AND IS NOW A BIT WORRIED THAT HE WILL APPEAR TO BE PLAYING ONLY A MARGINAL ROLE DURING THE VISIT.

3. HE AND THE FEDERAL PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THE FOLLOWING REVISED PROGRAMME FOR THE MORNING OF 3 AUGUST:

0840 PRIME MINISTER DEPARTS RESIDENCE

0845 CEREMONIAL WELCOME AT NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE

0900 SHORT TOUR OF NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE ESCORTED BY MR HAWKE

0920-1050 CALL ON MR HAWKE

1055-1125 CALL ON MR HOWARD AND TWO OR THREE SHADOW CABINET COLLEAGUES

1125 LEAVE FOR NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

1130-1200 PREPARE FOR SPEECH TO NATIONAL PRESS CLUB
(A PRIVATE ROOM AND WASHROOM FACILITIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE)

1200 ADDRESS NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

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