

CIA/CR 183-10203

(b)(3)

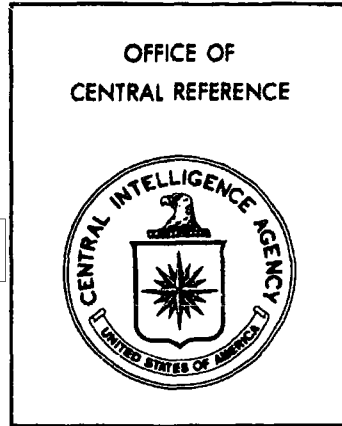
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

(John) Malcolm FRASER

AUSTRALIA

Prime Minister (since December 1975)

Addressed as:
Mr. Prime Minister



[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser's government will retain power in federal elections that must be held no later than November 1983, but the results will be close. Since 1980, when Fraser led a coalition of his Liberal Party and the National Country Party to a comfortable victory, his government has lost support. We believe this happened mainly because of the serious deterioration in the Australian economic situation. Revelations about poor management and malfeasance in several government departments contributed to his loss of support.

[Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Fraser has maintained exceptionally harmonious relations with the United States and has supported this country on important international issues even when it was unpopular in Australia to do so. [Redacted] he fully shares US views on the seriousness of the Soviet threat and the importance of a strong Western defense posture. He has encouraged the strengthening of ANZUS military capabilities in the Indian Ocean, offering home port facilities for a US carrier battle group and encouraging US ship visits to his country. Fraser made an official visit to Washington in May 1982 and returned home via Ottawa, Tokyo, and Seoul. [Redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

(b)(3)

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25 January 1983

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

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