THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	**Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)**
ACCESSION NO	**105/34**
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers, Politicians, Farmers
DATE RANGE	1983–1997
SIZE OF COLLECTION	0.5 m (1 carton)
HISTORICAL NOTE	John Malcolm Fraser was born in Toorak, Melbourne on 21 May 1930. His grandfather, Sir Simon Fraser (1832–1919), had emigrated from Canada in 1853, initially to work as a prospector, but later moving into business, farming and politics. He was elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly in 1874 and later served as a delegate to the Australasian Federal Convention (1897–1898) and a senator representing the Free Trade Party (1901–1913). Malcolm's father, John Neville Fraser (1890–1962), studied law at the University of Oxford, but on his return to Australia concerned himself largely with his work as a pastoralist. In 1926, he married Una Woolf. Neville and Una had two children: Lorraine (1926–) and (John) Malcolm (1930–). The Fraser family lived at Balpool-Nyang near Moulamein in New South Wales before moving to 'Nareen', a station in western Victoria, in 1943. During this period Malcolm attended Tudor House School in New South Wales (1940–1943) and Melbourne Grammar (1944–1948). In 1949, he was admitted to the University of Oxford to study 'Modern Greats' (Politics, Philosophy and Economics). After graduating, Malcolm Fraser returned to Victoria and decided to embark on a political career. He succeeded in being elected as Liberal member for the seat of Wannon in western Victoria at his second attempt in 1955. A backbencher under Menzies for ten years, Fraser gained his first cabinet post as Minister for the Army under Prime Minister Harold Holt in 1966. He went on to become Minister for Education and Science (1968–1969 and 1971–1972) and Minister for Defence (1969–1971).

Following the Labor government's election win in 1972, he served as Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations. He became leader of the Liberal Party in March 1975 and in November became caretaker Prime Minster after the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr, dismissed the Whitlam government. He was returned to office through election victories in 1975, 1977 and 1980, before losing to Bob Hawke at the 1983 election. He resigned from politics in March 1983.

Following his formal political career, Malcolm Fraser has continued a presence on the world stage, as Chair of the United Nations Panel of Eminent Persons on the Role of Transnational Corporations in South Africa (1985); as Co-Chair of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons campaigning for an end to apartheid in South Africa (1985–1986); and Chair of the UN Secretary-General's Expert Group on African Commodity Issues (1989–1990). In 1987 he founded CARE Australia, the country's largest non-political and non-religious overseas aid organisation and was president of CARE International from 1990 to 1995. In 1997, he led a Commonwealth Observer Mission to Pakistan to monitor the national elections.

Malcolm Fraser remains actively interested in issues associated with human rights, multiculturalism and reconciliation with indigenous Australians. He has been highly critical of the Howard government's involvement in the war in Iraq, as well as of its treatment of asylum seekers.

DATE OF TRANSFER	March 2005
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	These photograph albums document overseas visits undertaken by Mr Fraser subsequent to his Prime Ministerial career. They include photographs of his work with the United Nations and Commonwealth Eminent Persons' Group.
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	This series was transferred from Malcolm Fraser's office, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne.
NOTE ON LISTING	Listed subsequent to transfer to University of Melbourne Archives; numbers appended at this time.
LISTED BY	Peter Bode; Caitlin Stone
DATE	24 June 2005, 8 November 2006

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	1	**Photographs of Post-Prime Ministerial Visits**	**1983–1997**
	PA/191	The visit of the Right Hon. J. Malcolm Fraser to the Weizmann Institute of Science. [Israel] Album, 29 x 26 x 2 cm 23 black and white photographs Photographer: Weizmann Institute of Science	14 Jun 1983
	PA/192	South Africa (1) Album, 28 x 29 x 7 cm 206 colour photographs Photographer: John Malcolm Fraser	1985
	PA/193	South Africa (2) Album, 28 x 29 x 7 cm 157 colour photographs [Decanted to Albox archival album] Photographer: John Malcolm Fraser	1985
	PA/194	[Ceremony for the unveiling of the Fraser portrait] [Includes report of the ceremony in Japanese] Album, 28 x 32 x 1 cm 27 colour photographs Photographer: International Exchange Organisation	1991
	PA/195	[Ceremony for the unveiling of the Fraser portrait] Album, 28 x 32 x 1 cm 31 colour photographs Photographer: Unknown	1991
	PA/196	[Malcolm Fraser's visit to the former Yugoslavia] Album, 42 x 31 x 3 cm 84 colour photographs Photographer: Unknown	c. 1999

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