



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)
ACCESSION NO	106/21 (formerly NAA M1359)
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers, Politicians, Farmers
DATE RANGE	1974–1975
SIZE OF COLLECTION	0.265 metres (2 boxes)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>John Malcolm Fraser was born in Toorak, Melbourne on 21 May 1930.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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–).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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</p>

	<p>Party in March 1975 and in November became caretaker Prime Minister 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	February 2006
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	<p>These folders contain copies of questions upon notice asked by the Opposition in the House of Representatives, mainly in the months prior to the dismissal of the Whitlam Labor Government when J M (Malcolm) Fraser was Leader of the Opposition (March–November 1975). It was also the final period of the first (and only) session of the 29th Parliament. This Parliament began sitting on 9 July 1974 and was dissolved on 11 November 1975.</p> <p>The folders are titled according to portfolios in the Whitlam Government’s third ministry and reflect changes made to some of them throughout 1975. Several of the questions upon notice date from 1974 although, in most cases, they were not heard in the House (and consequently do not appear in Hansard) until the following year. The questions addressed to each portfolio relate to a wide range of subjects, but particular attention is given to the Khemlani Loans Affair and other matters where Opposition criticism of the Government was primarily focused.</p>
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	This series was transferred from National Archives of Australia in February 2006.

NOTE ON LISTING	Single number system imposed by National Archives of Australia; lexicographical
LISTED BY	Initial listing by NAA; revised and reformatted by Caitlin Stone
DATE	8 November 2006

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives	1974–1975
1	1	Aboriginal Affairs [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 497-3343]	1974–4 Nov 1975
	2	Agriculture [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2282-3353]	27 Aug 1975–4 Nov 1975
	3	Attorney-General [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1065-3184]	27 May 1975–11 Nov 1975
	4	Capital Territory [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1451-3325]	21 Apr 1975–4 Nov 1975
	5	Defence [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1553-3155]	13 Nov 1974-4 Nov 1975
	6	Education [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1943-2914]	5 Jun 1975–30 Oct 1975
	7	Environment [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2327-3089]	8 Apr 1975–30 Sep 1975
	8	Foreign Affairs [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2007-3268]	15 Apr 1975–5 Nov 1975
	9	Health [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2275-3334]	21 Aug 1975–5 Nov 1975
	10	Housing and Construction [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1896-3109]	1974–circa Oct 1975
	11	Labor and Immigration [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1715-3250]	5 Dec 1974–11 Nov 1975
	12	Manufacturing Industry [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 258-3315]	1974–28 Oct 1975
	13	Media [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1855 - 3203]	22 Apr 1975–28 Oct 1975
	14	Minerals and Energy [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 215-3218]	1974–4 Nov 1975
	15	Northern Australia [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1556-2864]	1974–7 Oct 1975
	16	Overseas Trade [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2555-3208]	21 Aug 1975–5 Nov 1975
	17	Police and Customs [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2198-3011]	22 Apr 1975–circa Oct 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	18	Postmaster-General [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2561-3238]	9 Jul 1975–5 Nov 1975
	19	Prime Minister [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 2175-3405, includes questions relating to the Khemlani Loans Affair]	9 Apr 1975–4 Nov 1975
2	20	Science and Consumer Affairs [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1216-3094]	1974–2 Oct 1975
	21	Services and Property [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1294-3280]	1974–16 Oct 1975
	22	Social Security and Repatriation and Compensation [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1560-3290]	1 3 Nov 1974–30 Oct 1975
	23	Special Minister of State [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1006-3251]	19 Nov 1974–4 Nov 1975
	24	Tourism and Recreation [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1656-3107]	1974–5 Nov 1975
	25	Transport [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 1539-3278]	1974–30 Oct 1975
	26	Treasurer [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 149-3221]	1974–circa Oct 1975
	27	Urban and Regional Development [Questions upon notice in the House of Representatives, Nos 249-3318]	1974–4 Nov 1975

END
