



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)
ACCESSION NO	106/22 (formerly NAA M1360)
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers, Politicians, Farmers
DATE RANGE	1946–1976
SIZE OF COLLECTION	0.7 metres (4 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).</p>

	<p>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 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>This series mainly comprises correspondence between J M (Malcolm) Fraser, as Leader of the Opposition (March–November 1975), and members of his Shadow Ministry. A particularly important component of the series, however, are the files relating to Shadow Cabinet meetings under both Fraser and, to some extent, his predecessor B M (Billy) Snedden. These also include the less frequent Shadow Ministry and Joint Party meetings and clearly (but not necessarily fully) document the Opposition's focus and approach in the months leading up to the dismissal of the Whitlam Labor Government. A small number of papers relate to the period of Fraser's 'caretaker' government (November–December 1975).</p> <p>The files for individual Shadow Ministers include mainly correspondence and other papers specific to their portfolios. The Shadow Cabinet files include agendas, records of meetings, briefing notes for Fraser, policy documents and some newspaper articles. Both types of file record the development of Liberal Coalition policy on various subjects, including</p>

	defence, foreign affairs, federalism, rural matters, social welfare, appointment of permanent heads to Commonwealth departments, pecuniary interests of members of Parliament, urban and regional development, environment and conservation, tourism and the Senate's power to reject Appropriation and Supply Bills. Working papers of Fraser's staff to support the activities of the Shadow Cabinet are also present in the series.
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	This series was transferred from National Archives of Australia in February 2006. Part of the series (items 9, 18, 21, 23, 27, 30, 32, 36–7, 52) is held at the NAA.
NOTE ON LISTING	Single number system imposed by National Archives of Australia; alphabetical
LISTED BY	NAA; reformatted by Caitlin Stone
DATE	8 November 2006

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Correspondence between J M (Malcolm) Fraser as Leader of the Opposition and members of his Shadow Ministry	1946–1976
1	1	A E Adermann, [Opposition Spokesman on] Customs and Excise [includes comments on censorship]	16 Aug 1975–6 Oct 1975
	2	Rt Hon J D Anthony, Leader of the Australian Country Party, [Opposition Spokesman on] Trade, Resources and Decentralised Development [includes views on crude oil pricing, address to Japan-Australia Society]	19 Feb 1975–8 Oct 1975
	3	Opposition portfolio: Overseas Trade Spokesman: Rt Hon J D Anthony	1975
	4	Opposition portfolio: Resources Spokesman: Rt Hon J D Anthony [includes Australian Country Party policy document 'Resources']	15 Nov 1974–30 Dec 1975
	5	Opposition portfolio: Decentralised Development Spokesman: Rt Hon J D Anthony [includes Australian Country Party policy document 'National development']	15 Nov 1974–15 Nov 1974
	6	J W Bouchier, Chief Opposition Whip	8 Apr 1975–3 Sep 1975
	7	D M Cameron, Deputy Opposition Whip [includes letters relating to honours and awards for long serving public servants]	26 Mar 1975-4 Nov 1975
	8	Senator J L Carrick, [Opposition Spokesman on] Federalism and inter-government relations [includes papers relating to community development, Senate election, 1975-76 Budget and supply]	22 Oct 1974-4 Nov 1975
	9	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Hon D L Chipp, [Opposition Spokesman on] Social Security and Welfare [includes papers relating to Medibank, release of inter-departmental reports]	26 Mar 1975–12 Dec 1975
	10	Senator the Hon R C Cotton, [Opposition Spokesman on] Manufacturing Industry and Industrial Development [includes papers relating to monetary impact of the Budget]	18 Apr 1975–9 Oct 1975
	11	Senator the Hon Drake-Brockman, Leader of the Country Party in the Senate, [Opposition Spokesman on] Repatriation and Compensation	23 Aug 1973–28 Oct 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	12	Dr H R Edwards, [Opposition Spokesman on] Tariff and Industries Assistance Commission	1 Apr 1975–15 Nov 1975
	13	R J Ellicott, [Opposition Spokesman on] Aboriginal Affairs [includes representations from Australian Newsprint Mills Ltd relating to Bass Strait freight rates, copies of six articles by J J Maloney 'Inside Russia today' (1946)]	14 Apr 1946–18 Sep 1975
	14	Federal Campaign Committee, 23 October 1975 [includes policy documents on foreign investment, science and technology, Aboriginal affairs, consumer affairs and trade practices, transcript of news interview with T Khemlani]	Mar 1975–23 Oct 1975
	15	Federalism policy and meeting, 24 September 1975 [includes policy papers, notes for news conference, correspondence with state political leaders, newspaper articles]	29 Jul 1975–28 Oct 1975
	16	Draft article by the Hon Malcolm Fraser ['Principles, policies and manner']	7 Dec 1973–1975
2	17	Hon R V Garland, [Opposition Spokesman on the] Public Service, ACT, Shadow Minister assisting the Leader of the Opposition [includes papers relating to Taxation Sub-committee, ACT Poker Machine Control Ordinance, Commonwealth superannuation, proposed National Police Bill, election leaflets]	25 Nov 1974–18 Nov 1975
	18	Held at National Archives of Australia Senator the Hon I Greenwood, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, [Shadow] Attorney-General [includes papers relating to Racial Discrimination Bill, government borrowing, Constitutional Convention, legal opinions on Senate power to reject supply, report of Working Party on ACT Criminal Law, article 'The Senate and Supply' (June 1974)]	Jun 1974–24 Nov 1975
	19	Senator Margaret Guilfoyle, [Opposition Spokesman on] Education	11 Apr 1975–22 Oct 1975
	20	J Howard, [Opposition Spokesman on] Consumer Affairs and Commerce	11 Sep 1975–11 Sep 1975
	21	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Hon R J D Hunt, [Opposition Spokesman on] Environment and Conservation	12 Nov 1973–19 Nov 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		[includes address by A Renouf 'Foreign policy and community support' (April 1975), address by E G Whitlam 'Australian public administration under a Labor Government' (Nov 1973), papers relating to Barrier Reef Marine Park, Fraser Island etc.]	
	22	Hon R C Katter, [Opposition Spokesman on] Northern Development, Northern Territory [includes submission relating to Urannah Dam, report on visit to Northern Territory]	16 May 1975–9 Jan 1976
	23	Held at National Archives of Australia Hon D J Killen, [Opposition Spokesman on] Defence [includes paper 'The Senate and supply']	14 May 1975–19 Nov 1975
	24	Legal aid [relates to proposed legislation]	15 Jul 1975–29 Aug 1975
	25	Liberal Party committees [includes report of Opposition Committee on Questions in the House of Representatives]	7 Apr 1975–26 May 1975
	26	B Lloyd, [Opposition Spokesman on] Health	24 Mar 1975–22 Sep 1975
	27	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Hon P R Lynch, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, [Opposition Spokesman on the] Treasury [includes submission from Carlton and United Breweries Ltd]	4 Apr 1975–2 Dec 1975
	28	M J R MacKellar, [Opposition Spokesman on] Immigration	21 Apr 1975–31 Oct 1975
	29	Hon J E McLeay, [Opposition Spokesman on] Housing and Construction	23 May 1975–9 Oct 1975
	30	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Hon P J Nixon, [Opposition Spokesman on] Transport [includes paper relating to constitutional right of Commonwealth Government to take over state railways]	7 Apr 1975–19 Nov 1975
	31	Party meeting minutes	12 Aug 1975–9 Sep 1975
	32	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Hon A S Peacock, [Opposition Spokesman on] Foreign Affairs, External Territories [includes paper 'Power relationships in the United Nations', despatch relating to US-Soviet detente by P Shaw (Australian Ambassador to United States)]	24 Mar 1975–8 Dec 1975
	33	Policies [papers relating to health,	7 Dec 1972–7 Oct 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		international development assistance, manufacturing and industrial development, appointment of permanent heads to Commonwealth departments, rural policy, social	
	34	Policies [papers relating to defence, foreign policy, pecuniary interests of members of Parliament, urban and regional development]	15 Jun 1974–14 May 1975
	35	Policies [papers relating to defence, rural policy, international development assistance, education, individual rights and responsibilities, tariffs, transport, tourism, postal and telecommunications]	25 Jun 1975–29 Sep 1975
	36	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Senator P E Rae, [Opposition Spokesman on] Community Development, Toursim, particular responsibility for Tasmania [includes papers relating to community development policy]	22 Oct 1974–20 Nov 1975
	37	Held at National Archives of Australia Research and extension services [includes papers relating to agricultural research and rural industries]	1 May 1961–16 Sep 1975
	38	E L Robinson, [Opposition Spokesman on] Science and Technology, Shadow Minister assisting the Shadow Treasurer [includes comments on solar energy and uranium policy]	3 Apr 1975–1 Jul 1975
	39	I Robinson, [Opposition Spokesman on] Decentralised Development	10 Mar 1975–23 Oct 1975
	40	Snedden Shadow Cabinet - Meetings, July–October 1974 [agenda, papers relating to economic conditions, Statute Law Revision Act, joint sittings, National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Bill 1974, Tasmanian industries, Opposition Parliamentary committees]	13 Dec 1973–29 Oct 1974
3	41	Snedden Shadow Cabinet - Meetings, February–March 1975 [agenda, papers relating to unemployment, environment and conservation, pecuniary interests of members of Parliament]	28 Nov 1973–Mar 1975
	42	Shadow Cabinet - Meetings Nos. 1–10, March–May 1975 [agenda, record of meetings, decisions Nos. 1–8 (March–April 1975), includes Shadow Ministry meetings	5 May 1974 –9 Jan 1976

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Nos. 1-2]	
	43	Shadow Cabinet - Meetings Nos. 11–20, June–September 1975 [agenda, record of meetings, briefing notes, news clippings]	9 Apr 1975–18 Sep 1975
	44	Shadow Cabinet - Meeting No. 21, 29 September 1975 [agenda, record of meeting, briefing notes, papers relating to foreign investment, international development assistance, ACT Poker Machine Control Ordinance, federalism]	22 Sep 1975–29 Sep 1975
	45	Shadow Ministry - Meeting No. 3, 29 September 1975 [agenda, briefing notes, second reading speeches for Bills relating to wool marketing, Commonwealth Teaching Service, states grants, book bounty, Cities Commission and electoral redistribution]	26 Aug 1975–29 Sep 1975
	46	Joint Party Meeting, 30 September 1975 [agenda, briefing notes, second reading speeches for Bills relating to wool marketing, Commonwealth Teaching Service, states grants, book bounty, Cities Commission and electoral redistribution]	15 Sep 1975–30 Sep 1975
	47	Shadow Cabinet - Meetings Nos. 22–23, 1–6 October 1975 [agenda, briefing notes, papers relating to family law, foreign policy, international development assistance, social welfare, includes two legal opinions on Senate power to reject Appropriation and Supply Bills]	25 Jul 1975–6 Oct 1975
	48	Shadow Cabinet - Meeting No. 24, 13 October 1975 [agenda, record of meeting, briefing notes, papers relating to rejection of Appropriation Bills, Commonwealth superannuation, Hypurna Station (SA), Interstate Commission, includes record of Shadow Ministry meeting No. 4]	24 Sep 1 974–20 Oct 1 975
	49	Shadow Cabinet - Meetings Nos. 25–27, 19–21 October 1975 [agenda, record of meetings, briefing notes, second reading speeches for Bills relating to trade practices, Consumer Protection Authority, Constitution alteration (inter-change of powers), travel agents]	4 Oct 1975–23 Oct 1975
4	50	Shadow Cabinet - Meetings Nos. 28–30, 23–27 October 1975 [agenda, record of meetings, briefing notes, papers relating to science and technology, foreign policy, defence, education, tourism]	Mar 1975–30 Oct 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	51	Shadow Cabinet - Meeting No. 31, 3 November 1975 [agenda, record of meeting, briefing notes, papers relating to appropriation, New Parliament House, Aboriginal Land (Northern Territory) Bill 1975, economic policy, includes press statement, notes from Joint Party meeting, 4 November 1975]	Mar 1970–4 Nov 1975
	52	Held at National Archives of Australia Shadow Ministry meetings, 9–10 November 1975; Shadow Cabinet meeting No. 32, 10 November 1975 [agenda, record of meeting, briefing notes, includes notes from Joint Party meetings (11–12 November 1975)] and government instructions on the use of security markings	1970–12 Dec 1975
	53	Shadow Cabinet - Working papers [relating to rejection of supply, urban affairs, science and technology, federalism, repatriation, tourism, policy development]	14 Oct 1947–6 Nov 1975
	54	Shadow Cabinet - Working papers [relating to permanent heads of Commonwealth departments, social welfare, education, foreign policy, Aboriginal affairs, legislation]	Mar 1970–27 Oct 1975
	55	Shadow Cabinet - Principal Private Secretary's file [includes papers relating to meetings, legislation affecting private sector, Bass, by-election, New Parliament House, foreign policy]	16 May 1973–7 Oct 1975
	56	Hon I Sinclair, Deputy Leader of the Australian Country Party, [Opposition Spokesman on] Primary Industry, Opposition Leader of the House [includes economic research report 'The long term outlook for Australian beef producers']	6 Mar 1975 –12 May 1975
	57	Hon B M Snedden [includes report relating to Townsville building industry, paper by R G Withers on the Opposition]	Sep 1973–25 Oct 1974
	58	Hon A A Street, [Opposition Spokesman on] Labour [includes papers relating to meat industry, proposed Trade Union College in Albury-Wodonga, Commonwealth superannuation]	Oct 1974–Mar 1976
	59	I B C Wilson, [Opposition Spokesman on] Urban Affairs [includes draft policy paper]	4 Apr 1975–1 Oct 1975
	60	Senator R G Withers, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, [Opposition	4 Apr 1975–22 Oct 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Spokesman on] Services and Property [includes papers relating to House of Representatives and Senate, Senate election, two speeches]	
	61	Senator H Young, [Opposition Spokesman on the] Media	14 Apr 1975–20 May 1975

END
