



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| NAME OF COLLECTION | Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.) |
| ACCESSION NO | 106/25 (formerly NAA M1364) |
| CATEGORY | Community and Political, individuals |
| ACTIVITY | Prime Ministers, Politicians, Farmers |
| DATE RANGE | 1964–1973 |
| SIZE OF COLLECTION | 0.35 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 Party in March 1975 and in November became caretaker Prime Minister</p> |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| | <p>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 comprises photocopies of documents (Appendices A–C) tabled in Parliament on 27 and 28 March 1973, in connection with a statement by the Attorney General (Senator Lionel Murphy) concerning alleged Croatian terrorist activities in Australia over some years. Murphy’s statement followed his controversial visits to Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) offices in Canberra and Melbourne on 15 and 16 March respectively, and the three-day visit of the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia (Mr Dzemal Bijedic) (20–22 March). The statement was discussed in Cabinet on 20 and 27 March and was also the catalyst for the Senate Select Committee on Civil Rights for Migrants. Appointed in May 1973, after the Whitlam Government had refused a judicial enquiry, the Select Committee was debated extensively in Parliament.</p> <p>The series includes a list of the individual documents tabled on 27 and 28 March 1973. They originated mainly from the Attorney General’s Department, ASIO, the Commonwealth Police and the Department of Immigration, and were apparently compiled by K L Milte. Some of the documents are stamped ‘Publication authorised by the House of Representatives, 29 Mar 1973’; most carry their original departmental security classification. Each document is numbered with an alphabetical prefix according to the appendix in which it occurs (e.g. A.1, B.18, C.5).</p> |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | <p>This set belonged to J M (Malcolm) Fraser, a member of the Opposition at the time of the Murphy statement.</p> <p>Sources: National Archives of Australia, A5925, items 369, 384 and 496 National Archives of Australia, A12921, items SMA1 and SMA10</p> |
| NOTE ON COLLECTIONS | This series was transferred from National Archives of Australia in February 2006. |
| NOTE ON LISTING | Single number system with alphabetical prefix |
| LISTED BY | NAA; reformatted by Caitlin Stone |
| DATE | 8 November 2006 |

| Box No | Series No | Description | Date |
|---------------|------------------|--|------------------|
| | | Documents relating to alleged Croatian terrorist activities in Australia | 1964–1973 |
| 1 | 1 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix A: Documents A.1-A.20 tabled in Parliament 27–28 March 1973 [includes complete list of all documents in Appendices A-C] | 1964–1972 |
| | 2 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix B: Documents B.1-B.16 tabled in Parliament 27–28 March 1973 | 1963–1972 |
| | 3 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix B: Documents B.17–B.17A tabled in Parliament 27–28 March 1973 | 1965–1967 |
| 2 | 4 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix B: Document B.18 (incomplete) tabled in Parliament 27–28 March 1973 | 1956–1967 |
| | 5 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix B: Documents B.19–B.27 tabled in Parliament 27-28 March 1973 | 1968–1972 |
| | 6 | Croatian terrorist activities in Australia. Appendix C: Documents C.1–C.11 tabled in Parliament 27–28 March 1973 | 1969–1973 |
| END | | | |