



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Fraser, John Malcolm (Rt Hon.)
ACCESSION NO	107/3 (formerly NAA M1229)
CATEGORY	Community and Political, individuals
ACTIVITY	Prime Ministers; Politicians; Farmers
DATE RANGE	1956–1975
SIZE OF COLLECTION	0.53 metres (3 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	7 December 2006
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open
DESCRIPTION	<p>This series of press releases was accumulated in the office of J M (Malcolm) Fraser mainly during his time as Minister for Defence (1970–71) and as Prime Minister (1975–83). Some papers, however, relate directly to his electorate interests as Member for Wannon, his second term as Minister for Education and Science (1971–72) and the eight months he was Leader of the Opposition (1975).</p> <p>The files appear to have been a master set of press statements, speeches, speech notes, radio talks and transcripts of interviews maintained by Fraser's Press staff, including David Barnett (Press Secretary, 1975–82).</p> <p>The subject coverage in the series is broad, including defence, education policy, Vietnam, election campaigns, Loans Affair, official visits and appointments, electorate and rural matters.</p>

NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	A number of items from this series are currently held at the National Archives of Australia. UMA holds the following items: 3–6, 11–19, 20 Pts 1–3, 22 Pt 1, 23 Pts 1–2, 24, 25 Pts 1–2, 57.
NOTE ON LISTING	
LISTED BY	NAA; revised and reformatted by Caitlin Stone
DATE	3 April 2008

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Press releases (speeches, statements, radio talks and interviews)	1956–1975
	1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases (electorate) from 14 September 1970 [as Member for Wannon and Minister for Defence, includes address notes]	14 Sep 1970–6 May 1971
	2	Held at National Archives of Australia Radio talks (electorate) [as Member for Wannon and Minister for Defence, relating to Senate election campaign, Five Power defence arrangements, rural industries]	10 Mar 1970–6 May 1971
1	3	Letters on defence and foreign policy - ANU [Australian National University] staff	6 May 1971–18 May 1971
	4	Radio talks - Rural matters [includes speech on resignation as Minister for Defence]	9 Mar 1971–27 May 1971
	5	Debates and questions - International and regional matters [Hansard extracts]	22 Apr 1971–5 May 1971
	6	Address to the Police Club, Adelaide	19 Apr 1971–19 Apr 1971
	7	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Speeches [as Member for Wannon, Minister for Defence and Minister for Education and Science, includes speech to Sydney University Symposium 'Vietnam - Justified or Crucified?', 26 February 1968]	22 Feb 1956–9 Nov 1971
	8 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases [as Minister for Education and Science]	8 Mar 1972–30 May 1972
	8 Part 2	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases [as Minister for Education and Science]	1 Jun 1972–31 Jul 1972
	8 Part 3	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases [as Minister for Education and Science]	1 Aug 1972–2 Oct 1972
	9 Part 2	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press releases [as Minister for Education and Science]	1 Nov 1972–1 Dec 1972
	10 Part 2	Held at National Archives of Australia	1 Sep 1972–3 Mar 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		[also digitised on RecordSearch] Speeches [as Member for Wannon and Minister for Education and Science, includes draft chapter 'Principles, policy and manner']	
	11	Press statements [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on primary industry, labour and immigration]	7 Jan 1973–23 Dec 1973
	12	Press statements (electorate) [as Member for Wannon]	5 Jan 1973–15 Nov 1973
	13 Part 1	Speeches 1973 [as Member for Wannon, Nos. 1–21]	1 8 Mar 1973–20 Dec 1 973
	13 Part 2	Speeches 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and immigration, Nos. 1–50]	14 Jan 1974–3 May 1974
	13 Part 3	Speeches 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and immigration, Nos. 51–93]	5 May 1974–30 Jul 1974
2	14 Part 1	Speeches 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and public service matters, Nos. 94–130, includes press statements and radio talks]	31 Jul 1974–17 Nov 1974
	14 Part 2	Speeches 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and public service matters, Nos. 131–154, includes ANZAAS Congress paper 'National objectives - social, economic and political goals']	1973–22 Jan 1975
	15	Press statements (electorate) 1974 [as Member for Wannon, includes radio talks]	17 Feb 1974–23 Feb 1975
	16 Part 1	Press statements 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and immigration, includes RMIT Founders' Day speech]	14 Jan 1974–1 Jul 1974
	16 Part 2	Press statements 1974 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and public service matters]	3 Jul 1974–23 Dec 1974
	17	Press releases and special articles [as Opposition spokesman on labour and public service matters, includes news cuttings]	11 Apr 1956–10 Dec 1974
	18	Speeches and articles 1974 [includes ANZAAS Congress paper 'National objectives: social, economic and political goals']	1 Jul 1974–22 Jan 1975
	19	Press releases 1975 [as Member for Wannon and Opposition spokesman on labour and public service matters]	8 Jan 1975–20 Feb 1975

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	20 Part 1	Press releases 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition]	11 Mar 1975–30 Apr 1975
3	20 Part 2	Press releases 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition, includes speech relating to misleading of Parliament by Prime Minister E G Whitlam]	13 Feb 1975–30 May 1975
	20 Part 3	Press releases 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition, includes speeches]	2 Jun 1975–30 Jun 1975
	21	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press releases (electorate) 1975–1977	19 Sep 1975–8 Sep 1977
	22 Part 1	Electorate talks 1975 [as Member for Wannon and Leader of the Opposition]	16 Feb 1975–13 Nov 1975
	22 Part 2	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on RecordSearch] Electorate talks and election campaign speeches	16 Nov 1975–7 Dec 1975
	22 Part 3	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press statements and election campaign speeches	8 Dec 1975–31 Dec 1975
	23 Part 1	Press releases, July-August 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition, includes transcript of speech to National Press Club]	1 Jul 1975–26 Aug 1975
	23 Part 2	Press releases, September–October 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition, includes Sir Robert Menzies lecture and other addresses]	1 Sep 1975–30 Oct 1975
	23 Part 3	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press releases, November 1975 [as Leader of the Opposition and Prime Minister]	27 Aug 1975–30 Nov 1975
	24	Statements in Opposition, April–July 1975 [relating to Loans Affair etc.]	4 Apr 1975–6 Jul 1975
	25 Part 1	Statements in Opposition, July–August 1975	4 Jul 1975–19 Aug 1975
	25 Part 2	Statements in Opposition, August–September 1975	20 Aug 1975 - 29 Sep 1975
	26	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press releases, November–December 1976	1 Nov 1976–31 Dec 1976
	27 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases, January–February 1976	6 Dec 1975–29 Feb 1976
	28 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia [also digitised on NAA RecordSearch] Press releases, July 1976	4 Jul 1976–30 Jul 1976

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	29 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases, January-February 1977 [Nos. 77/1-77/44]	7 Jan 1977–28 Feb 1977
	30 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases, July 1977 [Nos. 77/141- 77/162]	1 Jul 1977–31 Jul 1977
	31 Part 1	Held at National Archives of Australia Press releases, November 1977 [Nos. 77/244-77/266A]	4 Nov 1977 - 22 Nov 1977
	32–56	Held at National Archives of Australia	
	57	Speech notes [as Minister for Defence]	c. 1970–c. 197 1

END
