



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

8 April 1987

dated 16-2-87

I enclose a copy of the letter handed over by the new Australian High Commissioner when he paid his official call this morning. Nothing of moment emerged in the brief discussion which took place.

(Charles Powell)

R. N. Culshaw, Esq., MVO,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

BM

SUBJECT
cc master
Ops



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T18A/87

PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

Dear Margaret,

16 FEB 1987

The bearer of this letter is the Honourable Douglas McClelland, whom the Australian Government has appointed as its High Commissioner in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in succession to Mr Alfred Roy Parsons.

Mr McClelland has had a distinguished career in politics and as a Minister of the Crown. Born in Wentworthville in 1926, he was educated at Parramatta Boys High School and the Metropolitan Business College, served with the 2nd AIF from 1944-47 and was a New South Wales and Commonwealth Court Reporter (1949-61). He has represented New South Wales in the Australian Senate since his election in 1961, and has been Manager of Government Business in the Senate (1974-75), Minister for the Media (1972-75), Special Minister of State (1975), Deputy Senate Opposition Leader (1977), Deputy President of the Senate and Chairman of Committees (1981-83). Prior to this appointment, Mr McClelland was President of the Senate.

I am confident that Mr McClelland's personal qualities, as well as his experience, will aid him in the most important task of maintaining and further developing the close and friendly ties which exist between our two countries.

In commending Mr McClelland to you, I would ask you to give entire credence to all that he may communicate to you in the name of the Australian Government. I am sure that you and the Government which you lead will afford him all possible help and co-operation in the fulfilment of his high mission.

Jan Sweeney
[Signature]

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON W.1