



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

*Malcolm Fraser*

SEPTEMBER 9, 1976

### DEATH OF MAO TSE TUNG

An outstanding figure in world history has passed from the scene with the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Chairman Mao was the architect and inspiration for the rebuilding of the world's most populous nation after the ravages of invasion and war.

Australians will understand and share the sorrow felt in China at his passing.

On behalf of the Government and the people of Australia I extend our deepest sympathy and our regret at the loss of their national leader.

Chairman Mao was in ill health when I visited China in June this year. To my great regret I was unable to meet him but the renascent China I saw is his monument.