

**The original documents are located in Box 37, “7/27/76 - Remarks During Toast in Honor of Prime Minister Fraser of Australia at State Dinner” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT STATE DINNER FOR  
AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER FRASER

JULY 27, 1976

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PRIME MINISTER FRASER, MRS. FRASER, LADIES AND

GENTLEMEN:

IT IS A SPECIAL PLEASURE FOR ME TO WELCOME TONIGHT

THE PRIME MINISTER OF ONE OF AMERICA'S CLOSEST FRIENDS AND

ALLIES: AUSTRALIA.

AMERICANS AND AUSTRALIANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY ENJOYED A  
SPECIAL AND NATURAL RAPPORT. BUT THIS YEAR THE GOVERNMENT  
AND PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA HAVE GONE TO EXTRAORDINARY LENGTHS  
TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR FRIENDSHIP IN HELPING US CELEBRATE OUR  
BICENTENNIAL.

AMERICANS DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR MANY GESTURES OF GOOD WILL.  
THOUGH THE UNITED STATES IS TWO HUNDRED YEARS OLD THIS  
YEAR, IT IS STILL A NEW COUNTRY IN SPIRIT, IN OUTLOOK,  
IN ASPIRATIONS - AND SO IS AUSTRALIA.

BOTH AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE FRONTIER COUNTRIES

WITH VAST OPEN SPACES AND ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES.

THESE FACTORS INFLUENCED THE WAY OUR NATIONS DEVELOPED AND

MOVED IN SIMILAR DIRECTIONS.

WE ALSO SHARE IMPORTANT VALUES AND INSTITUTIONS

THE BRITISH TRADITION OF RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, OF CIVIL

LIBERTIES, AND OF THE RULE OF LAW. EACH OF US CREATED OUR

OWN GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS INFLUENCED BY THE BRITISH

PARLIAMENTARY MODEL.

THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA ARE BOTH FEDERATIONS OF STATES  
FOUNDED ORIGINALLY AS SEPARATE COLONIES. EACH RECOGNIZES  
LIMITS ON THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

SUCH CLOSE PARALLELS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TWO  
COUNTRIES HAVE MADE AMERICANS THINK OF AUSTRALIANS AS BEING  
LIKE US AND WE HOPE THAT FEELING IS RECIPROCATED.  
AMERICANS FEEL VERY MUCH AT HOME IN AUSTRALIA AND WITH  
AUSTRALIANS.

NONETHELESS MR. PRIME MINISTER, WE FULLY RECOGNIZE  
THAT AUSTRALIA HAS ITS OWN INTERESTS, ITS OWN PERCEPTIONS  
OF THE WORLD, AND ITS OWN ROLE TO PLAY. OUR RELATIONS  
WITH YOUR COUNTRY HAVE MATURED OVER THE YEARS TO A NEW  
PARTNERSHIP OF MUTUAL RESPECT.

WORLD WAR II BROUGHT US TOGETHER IN A TIME OF TRIAL.  
IN 1951 WE BOTH JOINED WITH NEW ZEALAND AND SIGNED THE  
A.N.Z.U.S. TREATY. THAT TREATY SYMBOLIZES THE FUNDAMENTAL  
INTERESTS WE SHARE.

SINCE WORLD WAR II, OUR COOPERATION IN DEFENSE AND  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS HAS BEEN UNUSUALLY CLOSE. WE HAVE  
REINFORCED EACH OTHER'S SECURITY, WE HAVE PROMOTED REGIONAL  
STABILITY, AND WE HAVE SOLIDIFIED THE STRENGTH OF THE FREE  
WORLD.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, YOUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND YOUR  
CONVERSATION WITH ME THIS MORNING MADE IT OBVIOUS THAT  
AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES ARE CLOSER TOGETHER THAN  
EVER BEFORE. WE UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT YOUR INDEPENDENT  
VOICE IN WORLD AFFAIRS.

ON THIS BASIS OUR COLLABORATION HAS EVEN GREATER MEANING  
AND VALUE. WE BOTH RECOGNIZE THAT PEACE IN THIS  
INTERDEPENDENT WORLD WILL REQUIRE EVEN GREATER COOPERATION  
ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS.

ADVANCED DEMOCRACIES SUCH AS OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE  
CRUCIAL ROLES TO PLAY IN STRENGTHENING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY  
AND CREATING HEALTHY LONG-TERM RELATIONS BETWEEN THE  
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.



WE CONSIDER AUSTRALIA AN IMPORTANT PARTNER IN ALL  
COMMON ENDEAVORS OF THE FREE WORLD.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, OUR TALKS HAVE ENHANCED THE  
NATURAL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES.  
IN THE COMING YEARS, THIS PARTNERSHIP WILL MAKE AN EVER -  
EXPANDING CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND PROGRESS.

I AM CERTAIN OUR GOVERNMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY  
TOGETHER TO MEET THE COMPLEX CHALLENGES OUR TWO NATIONS  
WILL FACE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

I RAISE MY GLASS TO THE QUEEN, TO THE HEALTH OF  
THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, AND TO THE CONTINUATION  
OF CLOSE AUSTRALIAN - AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP.

END OF TEXT