

OPS

filed Australia July 80  
Establishment of an Uranium  
Enrichment Plant. Etc.



T 165/80

Prime Minister

MP 29/8

PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 165/80.

*h: Andrews*

21 AUG 1980

*By Len Bayard*

*mb*

I was pleased to meet Mr Peter Blaker and to receive your letter of 25 July 1980 concerning uranium enrichment.

A group of Australian companies is undertaking a pre-feasibility study to determine the commercial viability of establishing a uranium enrichment industry in Australia. This group has been in close contact with the URENCO/CENTEC organisation along with a number of other technology holders. This study will be important in considering whether to establish an enrichment plant in Australia.

I have noted your comments relating to multi-nation participation. Our countries share a strong non-proliferation concern and the support you expressed for Australia's non-proliferation stand is welcomed. Arrangements in this regard will be a matter for careful consideration in due course.

The Australian Government welcomes your message of co-operation and support on behalf of the U.K., West German and Netherlands Governments. Naturally, we will be looking carefully at all the issues before a final decision is taken.

With kind personal regards.

*Malcolm Fraser*

(Malcolm Fraser)

The Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,  
Prime Minister of Great Britain