national archives of australia

1966 - 1967

... the leader of the government,
the leader of the nation ...

harold holt

guide to archives of
australia's prime ministers

by Pennie Pemberton

1977
Other guides in the Archives of Australia’s Prime Ministers series

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Joseph Lyons: Guide to Archives of Australia’s Prime Ministers, by Susan Marsden, 2002

This guide includes selected sources related to the subject area but is not necessarily a complete or definitive listing of all relevant material in the National Archives of Australia or in other institutions.

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# Abbreviations

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABC</td>
<td>Australian Broadcasting Commission (later Corporation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTU</td>
<td>Australian Council of Trade Unions</td>
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<td>AHRR</td>
<td>Australian Historic Records Register</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIF</td>
<td>Australian Imperial Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALP</td>
<td>Australian Labor Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMP</td>
<td>Air Member for Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH</td>
<td>Companion of Honour</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPA</td>
<td>Commonwealth Parliamentary Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPI</td>
<td>Consumer Price Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSIR</td>
<td>Council for Scientific and Industrial Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSIRO</td>
<td>Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBE</td>
<td>Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEC</td>
<td>European Economic Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Empire Parliamentary Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOI</td>
<td>Freedom of Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCMG</td>
<td>Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCVO</td>
<td>Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBRD</td>
<td>International Bank for Reconstruction and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICEM</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDA</td>
<td>International Development Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KG</td>
<td>Knight of the Garter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KStJ</td>
<td>Knight of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LRG</td>
<td>Liberal Reform Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHR</td>
<td>Member of the House of Representatives (Commonwealth Parliament)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>Manuscript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAA</td>
<td>National Archives of Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>NLA</td>
<td>National Library of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NST</td>
<td>National Service Trainee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NZ</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Privy Councillor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAAF</td>
<td>Royal Australian Air Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAAM</td>
<td>Register of Australian Archives and Manuscripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSL</td>
<td>Returned &amp; Services League Limited (since 1990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSSAILA</td>
<td>Returned Sailors’, Soldiers’ and Airmens’ Imperial League of Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RVIA</td>
<td>Royal Victoria Institute of Architects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEATO</td>
<td>South-East Asia Treaty Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAP</td>
<td>United Australia Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIP</td>
<td>Very Important Person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA</td>
<td>Young Women’s Christian Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On 20 January 1966, Sir Robert Menzies resigned after six terms and sixteen consecutive years as Prime Minister of Australia. He was succeeded by Harold Holt, who had been Treasurer in the Liberal–Country Party Coalition for the previous seven years.

Peace and prosperity had replaced the conflict and social upheaval of the first half of the century, but turbulence was building again. Violent demonstrations against the Vietnam War and conscription of Australian soldiers were taking place, the hanging of Ronald Ryan had provoked wild scenes and passionate debate, and Indigenous Australians were agitating to be counted in the national census.

Prime Minister Harold Holt

Harold Holt was Australia’s seventeenth Prime Minister, a position he held from 26 January 1966 to 19 December 1967, when he was declared dead. The twenty-two months of his prime ministership marked the culmination of 32 years as a Member of Parliament, of which 24 were spent on government benches.

Before becoming Prime Minister, Holt held many positions in Menzies’ governments. The most senior, which he held for seven years before attaining office, were Treasurer and Leader of the House (1958–66). Holt held these positions after he had served as Minister for Labour and National Service (1940–41), Minister for Immigration (1949–56) and Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58). His early, more junior ministerial duties were in Supply and Development, Civil Aviation and Air, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), and Trade and Customs.

Holt was the third Australian prime minister to die in office. He is widely remembered for the unusual circumstances of his death while swimming off the Victorian coast in December 1967.

Dame Zara Holt

Zara Holt’s charm, energy and business and family connections gave significant impetus to the political career of her husband, Harold Holt. Her detailed records of travel sent to
friends and family yield rich insights into the social, economic and political climate and mores of the times. From the outset she was a key player in developing networks among leaders in politics and finance, and figures in the worlds of the arts and fashion, at home and abroad. She was created a Dame (DBE) in June 1968 and later that year published her memoirs, My Life and Harry: An Autobiography. Zara Holt died in 1989.

Using this research guide

Most of the records of Harold and Zara Holt are held in the National Archives of Australia. Small quantities of records relating to the Holts are held in other institutions, including the National Library of Australia, ScreenSound Australia (the National Screen and Sound Archive) and some State libraries.

This guide aims to make it easier for researchers to access those records. It is available online at www.naa.gov.au and is a companion publication of the National Archives of Australia’s Prime Ministers website at primeministers.naa.gov.au.

The guide contains:

- biographical information on both Harold and Zara Holt;
- descriptions of records created by Harold Holt, including official records, letters and diaries;
- descriptions of records created by departments during Holt’s terms as Minister;
- records about Harold and Zara Holt, including photographs, memorabilia, oral histories, films and other audiovisual materials;
- a timeline of events;
- a ‘who’s who’ list; and
- an extensive bibliography.

The guide aims at comprehensiveness. However, given that the collection of the National Archives alone comprises an estimated 250 shelf kilometres of records, clearly only a portion of the records of possible interest to researchers could be located and identified. Accordingly, the search has targeted the most likely sources of relevant material and is focused on public collections in Australia. In the guide, records held by the National Archives are listed first, followed by those held in other national collections, and then by records held elsewhere in Australia and internationally.

Record descriptions

Each entry in the guide describes a group of records that have been maintained together as a series. A series is made up of items, which are often individual files (sometimes volumes, sets of cards, photographs, etc) that were received by the National Archives (or other archives) from the agency or person who created them. Series usually consist of many items but occasionally consist of just a few or even a single item. It should be noted that descriptions of items within particular series are usually only a sample of what is held in the National Archives.

In the guide, National Archives records have been grouped under relevant headings. Within each section, descriptions of series and items are organised chronologically as far
As possible. In many instances, particular series have been found to contain relevant material on several aspects of Holt’s activities and responsibilities, and these have been included more than once, with a full description of the series given the first time it appears.

Records held in other libraries and archives are arranged by location, and then alphabetically by manuscript collection or chronologically depending on the material. A sample series entry, with an explanation of each of its elements, is provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66</th>
<th>A1728</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Recorded by: 1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27) 1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Volume 1, 1926–46</strong> A1728, 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>This volume contains clippings relating to Holt’s early public life and includes articles on his marriage to Zara Fell as well as letters from Casey, Menzies and others.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key**

1. This information gives the **series title** and the date range of the records that make up the series. The **series number** is shown on the right-hand side.

2. This shows the **persons and/or government agencies that created the series**. It also shows the date range during which the series was created or recorded. This date range does not necessarily correspond to the contents date range of the records which appears in the series title. The CA (Commonwealth agency) or CP (Commonwealth person) number is a unique identifier allocated by the Archives to each agency or person. These numbers can be used to retrieve more information about the agency or person and the records they created from the Archives’ online database, RecordSearch.

3. This shows the **total volume of records** in the series and the **location** where the series is held. If copies of records are held in other locations, this is indicated here.

4. This provides a **general description of the series**.

5. This shows the **title given to the item** by the person or agency that created it. Series generally comprise many items (including files, letters, memos, diaries, newspaper clippings, photographs etc). This guide does not necessarily list all of the items in a series. Sometimes additional information, appearing in square brackets, has been added by the Archives to clarify the meaning of the title. The dates of the earliest and latest document on the file are shown. The **item’s identifying number** appears on the right-hand side. This number must be quoted when requesting access to the record or a copy of it.

6. This **describes the main contents of an item**. Please note that it does not describe every document on the file.
Access to the records

To see original records, a researcher has to visit the archives or library where the material is held. However, much research can be done beforehand by using institutions’ websites. In a number of cases, it is now possible to view digitised copies of records on the web.

A researcher wanting to view National Archives records can search and order them online by using the National Archives’ RecordSearch database (www.naa.gov.au). National Archives is progressively making digitised copies of its records available on its website and on the Australia’s Prime Ministers website (primeministers.naa.gov.au). Other institutions are also making their records available online.

Citing the records

The correct citation of archival records in the National Archives and other collections is important both when requesting the records and when referring to them in written or published works. Using proper citations will not only help staff locate records more readily but also help other researchers to find that material.

The correct form of citation for records held by the National Archives of Australia is expressed as follows: the name National Archives of Australia followed by a colon, the series number followed by a comma, and then the item number. An example is:

National Archives of Australia: A9951, 74

The name National Archives of Australia may be abbreviated to ‘NAA’, provided the full name has been used in the first citation. National Archives Fact Sheet 7 provides further information on citing records. It is available on the National Archives website under ‘Publications’ and from all National Archives reading rooms.

For other archives and libraries, the name of the institution should be provided, followed by the reference or call number of the collection. An example is:

National Library of Australia: MS 4744

Locating additional information

Additional information on Harold Holt can be obtained by searching the National Archives’ RecordSearch database. The databases of other institutions, including the National Library of Australia’s Register of Australian Archives and Manuscripts (RAAM), may reveal relevant listings. State archives have records relating to the interaction between prime ministers and State premiers.

Additional material may also be found in the Australian Historic Records Register (AHRR), which lists records of non-government archives and manuscripts held in private ownership. It can be found online on the National Library’s website (www.nla.gov.au/ahrr).
Harold Holt – a short biography –

Many Australians remember Harold Holt most for the drama and mystery of his death. He is also remembered for his enthusiastic support for US President Lyndon Johnson’s prosecution of the Vietnam War. But in his 32 hardworking years in Parliament – 24 of them on the government benches – Holt made a solid contribution to Australia’s social and economic development as a Minister, Treasurer and Prime Minister.

Holt’s political career and twenty-two month prime ministership spanned one of the most volatile periods in Australian history. Some of the more significant changes Holt presided over during his political career are outlined below.

- Holt’s determination to develop relations with the United States and Asia began to shift Australia’s trade and foreign affairs bias away from the British Commonwealth.
- Holt’s measures to dismantle the White Australia Policy and remove constitutional discrimination against Indigenous peoples had a profound effect on Australia’s social mix and value system.
- As Treasurer, Holt’s reforms – including the changeover to decimal currency, the establishment of the Reserve Bank and the introduction of the Consumer Price Index – helped lay the foundations of Australia’s current financial systems.
- Under Holt’s parliamentary guidance, the Australian Ballet, the Child Endowment Scheme and the Commonwealth Employment Service came into being – further pointers to the breadth of his interests and influence.
- Holt’s understanding and sophisticated use of the mass media, including his employment of a speech writer (the first prime minister to do so), mark him as Australia’s first ‘modern’ prime minister.
Life to 1935
Harold Edward Holt was born in Stanmore, NSW on 5 August 1908, the elder son of schoolteachers Thomas and Olive Holt. His primary schooling began in Sydney, continued in Adelaide and ended back in Sydney before he began his secondary years at Wesley College in Melbourne in 1920.

Holt is remembered at Wesley College for his sporting and debating prowess. His political interests and destination were perhaps foreshadowed when he took part in a Wesley versus Geelong College debate, ‘That government ownership is preferable to private enterprise’, and when he won the Alex Wawn Prize for character and leadership in 1926.

Holt graduated in law from the University of Melbourne in December 1930. He had been president of the Sports and Social Club at Queen’s College, won ‘Blues’ in cricket and Australian Rules football, and won the college medal for oratory. He also served as president of the Law Students’ Society. Holt’s interest in the theatre – which saw him considering a stage career not long after graduation – confirms the emerging picture of Holt as an engaging all-rounder.

After being admitted to the Victorian Bar in 1932 at the age of 24, Holt worked mainly in the civil courts. In 1935 he became Industrial Secretary to the Cinematograph Exhibitors’ Association, which brought him a good deal of work in the Commonwealth Arbitration Court.

Holt’s political involvement began in 1933 when he was introduced to the United Australia Party (UAP) and became a member of the Prahran branch of the Young Nationalists. He quickly became one of its star debaters. In the Federal election of 15 September 1934, Holt stood unsuccessfully in the electorate of Yarra against the incumbent, James Scullin, and the Communist Ernie Thornton. Six months later, he stood, again unsuccessfully, in the State Labor stronghold of Clifton Hill.

To Canberra, 1935–40
Holt was third time lucky when he won a by-election for the seat of Fawkner on 17 August 1935. Fawkner covered the Melbourne suburbs of South Yarra, Toorak, Prahran, Armadale and Windsor. As a backbencher in the Lyons Government, he spoke frequently on a wide variety of subjects, particularly on themes that were to recur – the physical health of the nation, youth unemployment and foreign affairs.

On 23 October 1937 Holt was re-elected for Fawkner. In February 1939, with fears of war in Europe growing stronger, he enlisted voluntarily in the 4th Field Brigade Artillery, a special section for business and professional men. Soon after, domestic political upheavals put the 30-year-old Holt on the first rung of the ladder to higher office: three weeks after the death of Prime Minister Joseph Lyons on 7 April 1939, Holt’s friend Robert Menzies won the leadership of the UAP.

Menzies gave Holt the junior Cabinet position of Minister without Portfolio – assisting R G Casey (and later Sir Frederick Stewart) in the new Department of Supply and Development. Created in the months before the declaration of war, the department’s functions were to supply munitions and aircraft and to establish and/or extend defence industries.
Holt broadened his experience over the six months to March 1940 serving as Acting Minister for Civil Aviation and Air, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister with respect to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Customs.

In March 1940, Menzies reached agreement with the Country Party for a Coalition ministry that would include five Country Party members. In the consequent reorganisation Holt, as the most junior UAP minister, lost office. Two months later, on 22 May 1940, he enlisted in the 2nd Australian Imperial Force. Training as a gunner for less than five months, he never left Australian shores.

A tragic accident brought Holt back into the ministry. On 13 August 1940, three senior ministers – Sir Henry Gullett, Geoffrey Street and James Fairbairn – were killed in an air crash on the outskirts of Canberra. At the Federal election on 21 September 1940, Menzies retained office with the support of two Independents.

**Minister for Labour and National Service, 1940–41**

In Menzies’ new ministry, Holt was appointed Minister for Labour and National Service on 28 October 1940. Established under national security regulations, the department’s main purpose was to quell the likelihood of industrial dispute that could disrupt the flow of materials and services necessary for the war effort. As Holt explained it:

> Recognising the influence which the labour potential can exert the Commonwealth Government has decided to establish a central organisation that will make the most effective practical use of man-power and women-power. The marshalling of those resources in order to obtain the maximum war effort for Australia, and a maximum degree of help and cooperation for Great Britain and the sister Dominions, is the primary objective of the new Department …

His ministry also embroiled him in major negotiations with maritime unions and employers over a series of waterside disputes.

Holt introduced the widely approved Child Endowment Scheme, which provided five shillings for each child under sixteen years after the first, regardless of family income. The initiative won Holt much publicity (as ‘the only bachelor in Federal Parliament’) and picture coverage in popular magazines.

During the twelve months from October 1940, Holt also served as Minister in Charge of Scientific and Industrial Research, Acting Minister for Air and Civil Aviation and as a member of the Economic and Industrial Committee of Cabinet.

**In Opposition, 1941–49**

Dissension within the Coalition Government led to Menzies’ resignation as Prime Minister in favour of Country Party leader Arthur Fadden. Menzies also lost the UAP leadership to W M Hughes. Holt evidently agonised over his role in the ousting of his friend and mentor Menzies, but continued to serve in the Fadden Government until it lost office on 7 October 1941 after a no-confidence motion. Labor’s John Curtin was commissioned to form government.

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1 *Hansard*, 10 December 1940.
Holt briefly contemplated rejoining the forces, but returned to his legal practice in Melbourne – working once again in the arbitration courts, often for theatrical employers. He continued to speak frequently in Parliament as Opposition spokesman on industrial relations and was the principal supporter of the ‘anti-socialist’ cause.

At the election on 21 August 1943, Curtin’s Labor Government was returned. So was Holt, but the UAP was virtually annihilated. Holt called it a ‘deathblow to the diehard Tories’. A month after the election, Menzies replaced Hughes as UAP leader and set about rebuilding the anti-Labor forces. Holt seems not to have played a major role in the formation of the Liberal Party in late 1944 but supported the name ‘Liberal’ and was the first to join the Liberal Party in Prahran on 9 September 1946.

Between October 1943 and August 1946, Holt served on the Parliamentary Joint Committee on War Expenditure and between July 1946 and October 1949 on the Joint Committee on Broadcasting Parliamentary Proceedings.

At the election of 28 September 1946, the Labor Government was returned under Ben Chifley, who had become Prime Minister on the death of John Curtin in July 1945. Ten days later, on 8 October, Harold Holt married Zara Kate Fell, after a friendship of 20 years. Holt adopted Zara’s three small sons.

In August 1948 Holt sailed for London as a member of the Australian delegation to the Empire (later Commonwealth) Parliamentary Association, an organisation dedicated to promoting the advancement of parliamentary democracy. He toured the British sector of Germany, and, with delegates Senator Dorothy Tangney and John Brooke Howse, attended meetings of the United Nations in Paris.

Back home, the size of Federal Parliament was increased – the Senate from 36 to 60 members and the House from 75 to 121 members. In the following election, the Liberals and the Country Party ran a joint campaign exploiting Labor’s unpopularity for continuing wartime austerities, its plans to ‘socialise’ the banks and the health service, and worries about communist influence in the trade union movement. Holt chose to stand for the new seat of Higgins, carved out of part of his old electorate of Fawkner after the redistribution.


**Immigration and Labour and National Service, 1949–58**

In the new Menzies–Fadden Cabinet, Holt, at the age of 41, took on the senior posts of Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service.

**MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION, 1949–56**

The Chifley Government had seen a need for large-scale immigration for postwar development and defence. Calwell, as Minister, moved emphasis away from British migration to the great numbers of displaced people in central and eastern Europe. By the time Holt took over, most of the shipping and housing problems had been solved – but he did inherit occasional difficulties over non-European evacuees who had come to Australia during the war, married, and wanted to stay.

Although Holt retained a preference for British settlers, he did extend non-British migration. He also inherited, and pursued with enthusiasm, the annual Citizenship Conventions, the first of which was held in January 1950.
In 1950 the department’s plan was to bring out 200 000 migrants from Britain, Holland, Malta and Ireland with the aim of a population of nine million by 1953. The emphasis shifted from family group migration to workers for major public works such as the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric scheme. In July 1954 Holt welcomed the 250 000th migrant from postwar Europe and, in November 1955, the millionth postwar migrant.

In 1955, Holt announced a cut in the immigration target as the employment situation changed, but agreed to accept 10 000 refugees fleeing the Hungarian Uprising in 1956.

**MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE, 1949–58**

After the war, Holt’s department shifted focus from the ‘war effort’ to a peacetime role. One initiative was the establishment of the Commonwealth Employment Service in 1945.

An instinctive conciliator, Holt established good rapport with Albert E Monk, ACTU President (1934–43, 1949–69) and Secretary (1933–49), and the moderate trade union leaders though he was accused, often by his own side of politics, of fraternisation and appeasement. During his time in office there were more industrial disputes but fewer working days lost.

Holt was able to mix his love of politics and sport by showing US Vice President Richard Nixon and Mrs Nixon around the Melbourne Cricket Ground, one of the sites of the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. He was the Government representative on the Coordination Committee planning the Games.

The Menzies Government went to the polls again in April 1951 after a double dissolution when the Labor-dominated Senate failed to pass banking legislation. Menzies was returned with a reduced majority in the House, but with control of the Senate, and Holt picked up his portfolio where he left off.

Holt’s almost-annual series of overseas trips began. In December 1951 he was unanimously elected Chairman of the General Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) in Colombo. In Singapore he was briefed on the ‘Communist terrorist problem’.

In July 1952, Holt and his wife set off on a nine-week overseas trip, mainly in his capacity as Minister for Immigration, but also holding discussions in London about the proposed oil refinery to be built at Kwinana, Western Australia and attending CPA meetings in Ottawa. In Castelgandolfo, Italy, his party was received by Pope Pius XII.

Ten months later, the Holts set out on the Coronation trip. As Chairman of the General Council of the CPA, Holt was main speaker at a luncheon in Westminster Hall attended by the Queen and Sir Winston Churchill. His appointment as a Privy Councillor (PC) was capped off when he and his wife attended the Coronation.

The Federal election held in May 1954 resulted in the Menzies government being returned with a reduced majority. The government had been unpopular in the lead-up to the election and many were predicting a Labor Party win. The announcement of the defection of Soviet embassy officials Vladimir and Evdokia Petrov just weeks before the election is often credited with being critical in the return of the government. After the election Holt remained in his previous portfolio and embarked on a CPA tour to Africa.

In March 1955 the Australian Labor Party (ALP) split over the role of the anti-communists (or Industrial Groupers) in the union movement. Six months later, on the pretext of synchronising Senate and House elections, Menzies secured an early dissolution of
Parliament. On 10 December 1955, the Coalition was returned with an increased majority. Holt retained his inner Cabinet position in an enlarged ministry, overcoming the setback of ten days in hospital after a car accident that killed his driver three weeks before.

Holt’s career took a major step forward on 26 September 1956 when he was appointed Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Leader of the House. He also took on duties as chair of the Vice President’s Committee. In a Menzies reshuffle, he retained his responsibilities for labour and national service in addition to his new responsibilities. As Leader of the House, Holt was generally regarded as a great success.

Geneva was the overseas destination in May–August 1957. Holt presided over the 40th Session of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). In London, he accompanied Menzies to the Prime Ministers’ Conference. In New York, he attended the opening of the Qantas Office, met UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold and lunched with bankers from Morgan Stanley (who handled Australia’s loans in the American market).

The 1958 election returned the Menzies–McEwen Coalition with a substantial majority (John McEwen having replaced Fadden as Country Party leader and Deputy Prime Minister). This campaign saw the first major use of television, including the ‘Great Debate’ – H V Evatt v. William McMahon, and Holt v. Arthur Calwell. Holt’s prowess as a polished media performer was being put to good use – he had already built a media profile through articles published in the Melbourne Herald during each of the previous four elections.

Treasurer and Leader of the House, 1958–66

In the new Ministry, Holt succeeded Fadden as Treasurer, while continuing as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Leader of the House. Holt’s interest in jobs and expansion raised the prospect of a battle with the cautious ‘Treasury line’. His period at the Treasury was notable for:

- the Richardson Committee on Parliamentary salaries, 1951–60;
- establishing the Reserve Bank (April 1959) to take over the central banking function from the Commonwealth Bank (the Commonwealth Development Bank and Commonwealth Banking Corporation began operations on 1 January 1960);
- introducing the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in 1961;
- building the Royal Australian Mint which opened on 22 February 1965; and
- introducing decimal currency on 14 February 1966.

As Treasurer, Holt’s life revolved around meetings of the Loans Council and Premiers’ Conferences and the Budget. A pattern emerged – before the Budget, a fortnight at his holiday house in Bingil Bay in North Queensland; after the Budget, an overseas trip in connection with financial matters.

The headlines dubbed Holt’s first Budget on 11 August 1959 ‘give and take’: a shilling in the pound cut in income tax and pensions up 7/6 a week, but increased tax on telephones, postage and ‘free’ medicines (that is, charges for Pharmaceutical Benefits). Two weeks later, the Holts set off to London for financial and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association meetings; to the Continent for banking talks (raising loans); to New York to talk with bankers from Morgan Stanley, to hear Nikita Krushchev at the United Nations, and to discuss communism with Averill Harriman, American businessman, diplomat and
philanthropist. In Washington Holt was elected Chairman for the annual session of the World Bank.

Despite a deteriorating economic situation, Holt’s second Budget (16 August 1960) was again moderate. Another television debate followed – this time between Holt and McMahon on the one hand and the new Labor team of Calwell and Gough Whitlam.

Holt’s departure overseas attracted criticism that he was once again escaping ‘the heat of the Budget debate’. The itinerary took in Manila, Hong Kong, Tokyo and London for financial meetings, then New York and Washington for World Bank and associated meetings.

Falling wool prices, drought and rising inflation greeted his return. The talk was of recession. In response, he delivered ‘Holt’s Jolt’ – a supplementary budget or credit squeeze – raising interest rates, tightening credit and increasing the sales tax on motor vehicles. His media skills, called on when he defended his actions on television’s ‘Meet the Press’, did not prevent a poor Coalition performance in a December by-election. Two months later Cabinet overturned the increase in car sales tax. This was seen as a snub to Holt – though he professed himself unmoved in another appearance on ‘Meet the Press’.

The headline writers could find no more colourful epithet for Holt’s third Budget than ‘no change’. Once again, a ‘Great Debate’ on television followed, this time between Holt and Calwell. And once again, conferences and financial meetings drew the Holts overseas. But this trip was overshadowed by increasing worries about the effect on Australia of the United Kingdom’s bid to join the European Economic Community (EEC).

At the election on 9 December 1961 (once again Holt wrote a series of articles for the Melbourne Herald) the Coalition scraped back in with a majority of one. Despite criticism of the credit squeeze, Menzies supported Holt’s continuation as Treasurer. Wide-ranging meetings with representatives of the banking, commercial and manufacturing industry sectors led to ‘relaxation’ measures but the August 1962 Budget was nevertheless pronounced ‘same again’. The overseas trip this time included Athens, London, New York (where the Holts met the Kennedys), the America’s Cup yacht race, and Washington for the World Bank (where Holt spoke out for global trading opportunities rather than foreign aid).

After bringing down ‘an even keel’ or ‘timid Budget’ in August 1963, the Holts left for London, Washington and New York. An early poll on 30 November 1963 gave the Government an improved majority of 21. Two months later, the Financial Times of London gave Australia an ‘Oscar’ for the best all round economic performance.

The 1964 Budget was complicated only by Holt’s mild attack of laryngitis. South-East Asia figured prominently in the following overseas trip, ahead of the by now usual European and US destinations. In April 1965, concerned at the US and UK governments’ desire to impose ‘arbitrary and unilateral’ restrictions on overseas capital, Holt spent a fortnight in the United States for economic and trade discussions.

On April 29, Menzies announced the Government’s decision to send combat forces to Vietnam (which assisted Holt’s case – it gave him almost instant access to the US Secretary for Commerce).

Holt’s last Budget in August 1965 was ‘mild’. This time the Holt’s overseas diary listed important meetings with the UK’s new Labour leaders – Harold Wilson, George Brown and James Callaghan – and with leading industrialists.
In October 1965 Holt wrote ‘Australia has never been in higher standing, but money has never been more difficult to raise’.

Prime Minister, 1966–67

On 20 January 1966 Sir Robert Menzies announced his retirement. Holt was elected to replace him. He was characteristically pleased that he had climbed over ‘no dead bodies’, as he put it. Holt’s first ministry included newcomers Malcolm Fraser and Dame Annabelle Rankin, Australia’s first woman responsible for a federal department.


Mr William McMahon (seated left), Treasurer, Mr Harold Holt (seated right), Mr Reg Swartz, Minister for Civil Aviation (standing left), Dame Annabelle Rankin, Minister for Housing (standing right).

NAA: A 1200, L53615

The changeover received a great deal of press coverage, marking in part a change in style. Holt was a great media man, less formal than his predecessor – arriving at Parliament House for example, by the front steps and coping with the doorstop interviews, whereas Menzies had let himself in privately by a side entry. Holt chaired Cabinet meetings where Menzies had presided.

Holt’s first Prime Ministerial statement made significant changes to the White Australia Policy that had kept the door to Australia shut to non-white Europeans for 65 years. In another major re-definition of Australian society, a great majority of Australians voted in a referendum in May 1967 to remove the discriminatory effect of Australia’s constitution on Indigenous people.

The Holts’ first formal engagements at home were British-based – meeting Prince Charles on his way to school in Victoria and talks with UK Defence Minister Denis Healey. But Holt’s visitors and overseas trips now began to signify that Australia’s world was
changing. US Vice President Hubert Humphrey and Thai Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn paid visits before the Queen Mother arrived in March.

The next month, Holt set out on an unprecedented Prime Ministerial tour in the context of Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War – to Singapore, Saigon (for Anzac Day), Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Malacca, Tenedak, Butterworth and Sarawak, visiting Australian troops and conferring with governments. In March, Holt had trebled the number of Australian troops in Vietnam to include 1500 National Servicemen (and he increased that number in late 1967). A significant element of the Australian public responded with loud and sometimes violent opposition.

Holt’s determination to develop relations with Australia’s Asian neighbours was underlined by a second Prime Ministerial trip in March 1967 to Singapore, Cambodia, Laos, Hong Kong, Taiwan (where he decided to locate an Australian embassy) and South Korea. And in January 1967 the controversial Marshal and Mrs Ky from South Vietnam visited Australia.

In Washington in 1966 to meet with President Lyndon Johnson, Holt picked up the Democratic electoral slogan ‘All the way with LBJ’ for which, for better or for worse, he is largely remembered. In London he had an audience with the Queen and spent the weekend at Chequers with the Wilsons, talking most urgently about the situation in Rhodesia.

After the Budget (McMahon’s first) Holt set off to London for the Prime Ministers’ Conference. President Johnson’s visit to Australia on 20–22 October, en route to the Seven Nation Conference on Vietnam in Manila, highlighted the reality of the US alliance and contributed to an additional ten-seat majority in Holt’s election win in November. Holt’s return visit to the Johnsons at Camp David in mid-1967 underlined the leaders’ personal compatibility and the strength of the strategic alliance.
On this 1967 overseas trip, Holt also visited Montreal for Expo ’67 and London, where he was invested as a Companion of Honour (CH).

In the busy months following, Holt opened Murray I power station in the Snowy Mountains and commissioned the US station at North West Cape. Visitors included President Giuseppe Saragat of Italy, Prime Minister Keith Holyoake of New Zealand, Prime Minister Eisaku Sato of Japan and Prince Souvanna Phouma of Laos.

Towards the end of the year the Government was racked by a number of issues: growing public unrest over Australia’s commitment to Vietnam; the controversy over the use of VIP aircraft; the escalating cost of acquiring the Royal Australian Air Force’s F-111 aircraft; and an increasingly nasty row between Trade Minister McEwen and Treasurer McMahon. The Government did badly at the November Senate elections, leaving the Democratic Labor Party with the balance of power in that House.

On 15 December Holt went to Melbourne and on to Portsea for a break. On the afternoon of 17 December 1967 he went for a swim off Cheviot Beach and disappeared in the heavy surf. His body was never found.

The ‘disappearance’ and its aftermath, 1967–68

At 10pm on 18 December 1967, after an extensive search, the Governor-General, Lord Casey announced he would terminate Holt’s commission as Prime Minister. The following day, John McEwen was sworn in as Prime Minister and three days later a memorial service was held in St Paul’s Cathedral, Melbourne, attended by Prince Charles, Harold Wilson, President Johnson and many of the Asian leaders whom Harold Holt had visited in the previous two years. Around the world, services were held at Australian diplomatic missions, in New York and Washington – and, early in 1968, at Westminster Abbey.

A Report by the Commonwealth and Victoria Police on the disappearance of the Prime Minister the Right Honourable Harold Holt, Cheviot Beach, Portsea, Victoria, Sunday, 17 December 1967 was published in 1968.

Among the memorials to Harold Holt are the renamed US North West Cape facility, a US Navy destroyer escort (the USS Harold E Holt), marine reserves on the southern shores of Port Phillip Bay and a metal plaque bolted to the sea floor at Cheviot Beach, reading:

In memory of Harold Holt, Prime Minister of Australia, who loved the sea and disappeared hereabouts on 17th December 1967.
Personal records in the National Archives

The series of Harold Holt’s papers located in the National Archives are listed in this chapter and are arranged as follows:

- Member of the House of Representatives, 1935–49
- Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service, 1949–58
- Treasurer, 1958–66
- Prime Minister, 1966–67
- Death and condolences, 1967–68
- Portraits, photographs and films, 1920–86

As many series run over the periods set out above, the series are repeated in each appropriate section together with the relevant items. A full series description is given for the first entry only.

Member of the House of Representatives, 1935–49

Holt became a member of the House of Representatives in August 1935, winning the federal seat of Fawkner in a by-election. In April 1939, at the age of 30, he became the youngest minister in parliament when he was allocated a junior Cabinet position under Prime Minister Robert Menzies. Holt held the seat of Fawkner until December 1949.

PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66

Recorded by: 1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)

The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister.

The press cuttings cover a wide range of subjects – decimal currency, immigration, waterfront disputes, elections, Cabinet colleagues, communism, budgets, taxation, Vietnam, overseas conferences and meetings. Most volumes also include articles on Holt’s personal life, Mrs Zara Holt’s fashion business and
some political cartoons. A few letters and ephemera (leaflets and invitations, etc) are contained in the first volume. The cuttings have been taken from the main Australian daily newspapers, although several regional newspapers are also represented in the earlier volumes and overseas newspapers in the later ones. Feature articles from some weekly journals are included occasionally.

Volume 1 covers Holt’s early public life until his marriage in 1946. Part of Volume 2 relates to his period in Opposition during the Chifley Government (to 1949). The remainder of that volume and Volumes 3 to 6 cover the period when Holt was Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58). Volumes 7 to 12 relate to his period as Treasurer (1958–65) and Volumes 13 to 15 to his succession to Menzies and first year as Prime Minister.

Volumes 1, 14 and 15 in the series are bound. The other volumes are hard cover expandable scrapbooks. They appear to have been maintained by Holt’s personal staff, with entries pasted up more or less chronologically. Some entries are duplicated.

**Volume 1, 1926–46**

This volume contains clippings relating to Holt’s early public life and includes articles on his marriage to Zara Fell as well as letters from R G Casey, R G Menzies and others.

**Volume 2, 1948–51**

This volume includes articles on the Chifley Government and Mrs Zara Holt.

**SUBJECT FILES OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT, 1939–40**

Recorded by:  
1939–40 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)  
1939 Department of Civil Aviation (CA 29)  
1939–40 Department of Supply and Development [I] (CA 33)  

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises ministerial files and papers maintained by Holt in his first portfolio, as Minister Assisting the Minister for Supply and Development, from April 1939 to March 1940. However, Holt was also Minister in Charge of Scientific and Industrial Research in this period, and acted as Minister for Civil Aviation in November–December 1939. A small number of items reflect the additional portfolio responsibilities.

The series includes correspondence, reports and reference material on air transport services, aircraft manufacture, clothing for the militia, national planning, R G Casey, R G Menzies, skilled artisans, technical training, the Supply and Development Bill 1939 and other departmental matters. There is also a file containing congratulatory messages to Holt on his entry into the ministry.

**Air Transport Services – report of Inter-Departmental Committee, Melbourne, November 1939 (Copy no. 15), 1939**
Aircraft manufacture, 1939  
B3229, 2

Civil aviation, 1939  
B3229, 3
This item includes material about air navigation, liability, departmental estimates, aerodrome security, Empire Air Service, Air Transport Services report and strategic landing grounds for the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

Clothing, 1939  
B3229, 4
This item contains material about clothing for the militia forces.

Congratulations – messages received on appointment as Assistant Minister for Supply and Development, 1939  
B3229, 5
This item contains letters and telegrams from friends, colleagues and organisations including the Limbless Soldiers’ Association, Australian Natives’ Association, Victorian Independent Exhibitors Association (see below), Boys’ Employment Movement, Australian Women’s National League and a news cutting about Dame Enid Lyons’ annuity.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, 1939–40  
B3229, 6
This item includes representations and other papers about timber supplies, flax, fruit juices, radiophysics work, aeroplane fabric, appointments, J W Tyler dynamo invention, peace officers at CSIR establishments, mastitis in dairy cattle, WA gold production, the Division of Industrial Chemistry and the Southern Queensland fishing industry.

Data for Education Council Conference at Hobart, 7–9 February 1940  
B3229, 7
This item contains data supplied by departments of Supply and Development, Defence Coordination, Prime Minister, Civil Aviation, and Health. The conference agenda and briefing papers are included.

Defence – emergency conditions, 1938–39  
B3229, 8
This item includes first and second reports ‘Effect of Cessation of Sea-Borne Trade’, Hon. G A Street speech ‘Australian defence policy’ and papers about industrial mobilisation and Commonwealth–State cooperation.
Department of Supply and Development, 1939–40
This item includes matters and correspondence relating to the department.

2nd Report – Economic Committee, July 1939
This item contains the ‘Effect of Cessation of Sea-Borne Trade’ report prepared for the Economic Committee in July 1939.

Re national development, July 1939
This item includes the fourth report of the Commonwealth Standing Committee on Liquid Fuels, July 1939.

National Fitness, 1939–40
This item includes reports of the National Coordinating Council for Physical Fitness, May 1939 and the Commonwealth Council for National Fitness, July 1939.

National Oil Pty Ltd, 1939–40
This item includes information about the Agreement Act, Glen Davis shale oil and Concrete Constructions Pty Ltd.

National Planning, 1939
This item contains material about the inaugural meeting of the Standing Committee on the Coordination of Departmental Action, Melbourne, 10 August 1939.

R G Casey – electorate and other matters, 1939–40
This item contains representations and press statements about the disposal of effluent from Imperial Chemical Industries works, Deer Park to Altona Bay.

Rt Hon. R G Menzies, 1939–40
This item contains representations about Maryborough Aerodrome and Sydney slaughtermen’s strike. It includes correspondence about the division of ministerial responsibility between Holt and the Minister for Supply and Development.

Skilled artisans, 1939–40
This item includes representations from the College of Civil Aviation (W Kingsford Smith) and ALP (WA). It also contains these news cuttings – K S Cunningham ‘Technical Education in Australia’ and C Fenner ‘From School to Workshop’.

Skilled artisans – correspondence, 1939–40
This item contains representations from members of Parliament and others about the Commonwealth training scheme.

Special departmental, 1939
This item contains reports and papers about the Advisory Accounting Panel, Principal Supply Officers Board, Commonwealth Steel Company Ltd, munitions annexes, ramie fibre industry, war-time marketing, liquid fuel and Supply and Development (Administration) Regulations.

Supply and Development Bill 1939
This item contains notes on clauses of the 1939 Supply and Development Bill.

Supply Aspects of Planning for an Emergency. Inter-Committee Conference, August 8th, business paper, 1939
Supply Bill 1) Copper, 2) Mr Blackburn’s Amendments, 1934–39

This item contains information about Supply and Development (Emergency Planning and Organisation) Regulations and industrial mobilisation.

Technical training of artisans for defence purposes, 1939–40

CORRESPONDENCE OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT, 1939–40

Recorded by: 1939–40 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1939–40 Department of Supply and Development [I] (CA 33)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Canberra)

This series primarily consists of ministerial correspondence maintained by Holt in his first portfolio, as Minister Assisting the Minister for Supply and Development, from April 1939 to March 1940. However, in the period November–December 1939 Holt was also Acting Minister for Air and Civil Aviation and, in early 1940, Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Customs. A few letters in the series are addressed to him in relation to those portfolios.

The correspondents include individuals, companies and some other organisations. Many letters relate to personal representations, often made on behalf of another person about entry into Australia, employment, service in the defence forces or with a defence establishment, and pensions. Other subjects covered relate to the war effort, customs duty, various manufacturing industries and broadcasting. Companies and organisations dealt with include Amalgamated Textiles (Australia) Ltd, Beacon Oil Refiners Pty Ltd, Stokes & Sons Pty Ltd (Brunswick), Malvern City Council, Australian Institute of Political Science, Country Women’s Association and the Shepparton Tomato Growers Association.

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by the surname of the writer or, occasionally, by subject. Related papers are pinned together, including office copies of replies. Some correspondence has Department of Supply and Development file numbers.

Correspondence (A), 6 April 1939 – 28 February 1940

This item contains correspondence regarding Amalgamated Textiles (Aust) Ltd (includes a plan of the Goulburn mill), the apple and pear acquisition scheme, Dr J R Atcherley, Australian Bank Officials’ Association, Londonderry Estate Syndicate, flax industry, personal representations about employment and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (B), 29 September 1938 – 8 March 1940

This item contains correspondence regarding H C Barnard, A Beth-Halevy, Capt F R Burton, building trade awards, aliens registration, soap export, petrol rationing, Palestinian Soccer Team, proposed Australian manufacture of DKW car prototype, personal representations about employment, service with the defence forces and entry into Australia.
Correspondence (B), 6 March 1939 – 16 January 1940
This item contains correspondence from Beacon Oil Refiners Pty Ltd about reclamation of used lubricating oils.

Correspondence (C), 4 May 1939 – 21 February 1940
This item includes correspondence about Cement Distributors Pty Ltd, Christmas cards, commercial broadcasting stations, A Czyzyk, oil shale deposits in Central Queensland, personal representations about employment, pension and estate duty.

Correspondence (D), 27 April 1939 – 7 March 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding J Dixon (canteen supplier), donations, A S Drakeford MP, R W Dunster, power alcohol, Federal Roads Aid Fund, personal representations about employment and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (E), 2 December 1938 – 11 March 1940
This item contains correspondence from Eastaugh Ltd (cotton yarn importers), W H Edgar about Sunday broadcasting and Armadale North post office, as well as Dr Ludwig Ehrmann, Max Ernst and other personal representations.

Correspondence (F), 29 April 1939 – 30 January 1940
This item contains correspondence from Karl Feller, Arthur Frater, R P Franklin and M and P Furst. Subjects include the supply of nails to New Zealand, and personal representations concerning employment and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (G), 20 April 1939 – 22 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding Sir Herbert Gepp and use of scientists in war effort, Cumberland Valley timber area, silent telephones, personal representations about employment, pension and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (H), 20 February 1935 – 27 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding Hoyts Theatres Ltd and duty on imported newsreels, weevil infestation of cereals, personal representations about employment, service with the defence forces and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (I–J), 8 Jun 1939 – 1 March 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding W A Ince and taxation on oil, jute, personal representations about employment and pension.

Correspondence (K), 29 March 1939 – 13 November 1939
This item contains correspondence regarding P Kluger, Mrs R Kufeld, duty rebate for double-deck motor bus and personal representations about entry into Australia.

Correspondence (L), 26 July 1939 – 27 February 1940
This item includes personal representations on behalf of Mrs M Lucas and others about entry into Australia.

Correspondence (M), 12 April 1939 – 26 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding Malvern City Council, Mrs G V Martin, 6809 Private A P Matthew, E Morgenstern, Motion Picture Distributors Association, supply of copper ingots and personal representations.
Correspondence (Mc), 25 October 1939 – 13 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding N S McGlashan, T D McRae, D McVey report on the organisation of the Department of Supply and Development, November 1939.

Correspondence (N–O), 22 August 1939 – 23 February 1940
This item contains correspondence about Best Overend’s application for appointment as Chief Architect and spark plug insulators.

Correspondence (P–Q), 15 May 1939 – 9 March 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding Harold Pearce, William Pfeiffer, Australian Institute of Political Science, J D Porter, Purina Grain Foods Pty Ltd, B Quist, personal representations about employment and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (R), 1 Jun 1939 – 26 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding ramie fibre industry, B A Rose and personal representations about entry into Australia.

Correspondence (S), 17 November 1938 – 29 February 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding A J Spitz, Lajos Steiner, Stokes & Sons Pty Ltd (Brunswick), Light Aircraft Pty Ltd, Country Women’s Association, personal representations about employment, service with the defence forces and entry into Australia.

Correspondence (T), 17 August 1938 – 4 March 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding Tasmanian Amalgamated Tin Mines NL, I L Thomson, V Trunoff, Shepparton Tomato Growers Association, personal representations about employment and service with the defence forces.

Correspondence (W), 20 August 1938 – 5 March 1940
This item contains correspondence regarding T Walch and R Werle (Victorian Railways’ skiing instructors), Windsor telephone exchange, personal representations about employment, service in the defence forces and entry into Australia.

Folders of speeches and articles maintained by Harold Edward Holt, 1946–65

Recorded by: 1946–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1949–56 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1949–58 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1958–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 1.26 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of folders of speeches, conference addresses, radio broadcasts and articles for newspapers, journals and other publications. The folders were maintained by Holt as Minister for Immigration (1949–56), Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58) and, particularly, as Treasurer (1958–65). A few items include papers presented by Holt in his capacity as Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and, later, the International
Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Consequently, the pre-1960 papers mainly relate to Australian immigration and employment while the later are more concerned with the economic situation and various financial issues.

The speeches and addresses were given to a range of professional bodies, business organisations, citizenship conventions, the Australian–American Association and other community groups. Holt was also approached on many occasions to contribute forewords and more substantial articles to Australian and overseas newspapers, journals and books, including The American Banker, The Good Neighbour and The Australasian Manufacturer. Individual folders often include several copies of a speech or reprint of an article and some correspondence.

This series is mainly arranged in chronological order. The folders relating to Holt’s period as Treasurer appear to have originally had their own numerical sequence.

‘Causes of Industrial Unrest’, 1946 M2607, 1
Opening lecture of winter forum of Australian Institute of Political Science, Federation Hall, Sydney, 3 July 1946.

‘The Role of Government in Maintaining Full Employment’, 29 August 1949 M2607, 2
Lecture in a series ‘Boom and Slump – the Challenge to Private Enterprise’ sponsored by the Melbourne Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Harold Holt’s discharge papers from the Army, May 1941. NAA: M P508/1, 251/858/89
Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service, 1949–58

At the age of 41, under a new ministry led by Robert Menzies and Arthur Fadden, Holt became Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service. He was Minister for Immigration from 1949 until 26 September 1956 when he was appointed Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Leader of the House. In addition to his new duties, Holt retained his position as Minister for Labour and National Service until the 1958 election when he succeeded Fadden as Treasurer.

PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66

Recorded by: 1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)

The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister. For a full series description please see page 19.

Volume 2, 1948–51
This volume includes articles on the Chifley Government and Mrs Zara Holt.

Volume 3, 1951–53
This volume includes articles on migrants, employment, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mrs Jessie Street and Mrs Zara Holt.

Volume 4, 1953–55
This volume includes articles on migration, waterfront disputes, Royal visit, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mrs Zara Holt and fashion.

Volume 5, 1955–57
This volume includes articles on Holt’s election as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party, migrants, Mrs B Porritt, waterfront disputes and the Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

Volume 6, 1957–58
This volume includes articles on unemployment, communism, equal pay, Mrs Zara Holt and Dr H V Evatt.

PERSONAL PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1941–67

Recorded by: 1949–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.50 metres (Canberra)

This series primarily covers the periods when Holt was Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58) and Prime Minister (1966–67).

Some of the earlier items in the series include correspondence relating to the International Labour Organisation Conference on Pneumoconiosis held in Sydney in 1950, press statements and articles covering 1941–57, as well as some minor publications and ephemera. The ephemera includes an official
publications and ephemera. The ephemera includes an official menu and concert programs relating to the Commonwealth Jubilee Celebrations in June 1951, and letters patent appointing Holt to the Immigration and Labour and National Service portfolios in 1956.

**Personal correspondence – International Labour Organisation Conference on Pneumoconiosis, 1948–50**

Correspondence about conference on lung diseases arising from dust, University of Sydney, 28 February – 11 March 1950.

**Articles and press statements prepared by Minister prior to 1954, 1941–54**

This item contains articles and press statements regarding migrants, Fourth Citizenship Convention, arbitration, labour resources, American production, Mrs Jessie Street, coal mining industry, employment, ‘Aorangi’ (passenger ship) and the National Service Scheme. It includes articles for *Rudge’s, Factory Management, Australian Electrical and Radio World, Production News, Australasian Manufacturer* and the transcript of proceedings of a conference about Glen Davis shale oil (14 May 1952).

**Master copy: speeches, press statements, 1955**

Speeches and press statements about employment, coal industry, P Morawetz, naval dockyards strike, management in industry, NSW flood relief, manufacturing industry, waterfront recruitment, port quotas and senior public servants pay increases. It includes an article for *Optima*.

**Master copy: press statements, speeches, 1957**

Press statements and speeches regarding Stevedoring Industry Act, Banking Bills, labelling of Japanese goods, Parliamentary sittings, overseas visit, National Service ballots and the ALP. It includes extracts from International Labour Conference 40th Session proceedings, speech notes for Eighth Citizenship Convention and article on migration.

**Publications, 1954–67**


**Ephemera, 1951–67**

This item includes Commonwealth of Australia Jubilee Celebrations official banquet menu signed ‘Harold Holt’ and two concert programs (June 1951), Fiat of Australia Pty Ltd Tractor Plant, Lidcombe (NSW) plaque inscription, Fort Nepean entrance authorisation forms signed ‘H E Holt’ and unused stationery with Prime Minister’s letterhead.

**Letters patent appointing Harold Edward Holt as Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration, 11 January 1956**

Letters signed by the Prime Minister, Robert Gordon Menzies and the Governor-General, Sir William Slim (Register of Patents no. 213, pp. 448–49).
FOLDERS OF SPEECHES AND ARTICLES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1946–65

Recorded by: 1946–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1949–56 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1949–58 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1958–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 1.26 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of various folders and articles maintained by Holt as Minister for Immigration (1949–56), Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58) and, particularly, as Treasurer (1958–65). For a full series description please see page 25.

‘Australia’s Immigration Programme’, 9 April 1950
Broadcast by Minister for Immigration.

‘The Problem of Incentives’, 22 July 1950
Paper read by the Minister for Labour and National Service, Australian Institute of Political Science Winter Forum on Incentives, Newcastle.

‘Production Trends and Social Problems’, 1952
Paper read by the Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration at 1952 Summer School of the Australian Institute of Political Science.

‘Address’, 27 November 1952
Address as Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration, American Thanksgiving Day luncheon (Australian–American Association), Victoria Palace, Melbourne.

Christmas letters, 1950–65

Foreword to book, Australia and the Migrant, 1953
Australian Institute of Political Science publication, 14 April 1953.

‘Industrial Relations Develop into Political Conflicts’, 1953
Article for magazine The Voice, 25 May 1953.

Speech, 1954
Speech by Minister for Immigration, 39th Annual Congress of RSSAILA, November 1954.

Message, 1954
Message by Minister for Immigration, Neue Welt (New World), 2 July 1954, first issue (mainly German text).

Article for Special Fair Souvenir of Industrial Victoria.

‘Management’s Contribution to Greater Production’, 1955
Speech to Australian Institute of Management, Adelaide Division, 24 June 1955.

Notes for speech, 13 November 1955
Notes for speech by the Minister for Immigration, Wesley Church Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Melbourne.
‘Advance Australia – An Adventure in Nation Building’, 1955
Article about postwar immigration and employment for Optima, December 1955.

‘Immigration Helps Our Secondary Industry’, 1956
Article for The Australasian Manufacturer, issue 15, June 1956.

Address to the Australian-American Association luncheon, 4 July 1956
Address and publications relating to the Association and the unveiling of Australia’s National Memorial to the USA, Canberra.

Speeches, 1952–54
This item contains various speeches including as Chairman of the General Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at a conference at Ottawa, Canada, 9 September 1952; at a luncheon at Westminster Hall, London, 27 May 1953; and a conference in Nairobi, Kenya, August 1954.

‘Migration’, 10 January 1957

Speech on election, 1957

‘National Teamwork for National Development’, 1957
Speech to annual dinner, South Australian Chamber of Manufactures dinner, 9 November 1957.

‘Australia Tackles the Strike Problem’, 1957
Article about industrial relations for Optima (Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa Ltd), December 1957.

‘National Team Work for Australia’s Industrial Development’, 1958

Speech, Sixth Lions International Convention, Sydney, 1958
Unedited speech and program, 14 May 1958.

‘White Australia Policy’, 1958

Speech notes, 1958
Speech notes regarding Australian–French trade relations for the formal opening of the French Fair, Royale Ballroom, Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Monday 29 September 1958.

‘The Personal Touch’, 1958
Article for All Nations Club Magazine, Sydney (first five years’ history), 14 October 1958.

Speech notes, broadcasts, statements etc, made during Federal election campaign, 1956–58
This item includes ‘The Labor Party and Socialism’, 10 October 1956; election broadcasts Nos 1 and 2; notes for
opening speech, Higgins electorate, 3 November 1958; broadcast speech over radio station 3BO, Bendigo, 5 November 1958; speech notes, Murrumbeena Public Hall, 6 November 1958.

Speech – First Citizenship Convention opening, Canberra, 23 January 1950
Speech includes migration policy statement.

Speeches – Second Jubilee Citizenship Convention opening, 22 January 1951
This item includes a report of the convention proceedings.

Speeches – Third Citizenship Convention, Canberra, 29–30 January 1952
This item includes a report of action and publications.

Speeches – Fourth Australian Citizenship Convention, Canberra, 20–21 January 1953
This item includes text of broadcast, 19 January 1953, ministerial statement and the official program.

Speeches – Fifth Australian Citizenship Convention, Canberra, 26–27 January 1954
This item includes publications.

Speeches – Sixth Australian Citizenship Convention, Canberra, 25–26 January 1955
This item includes the official program of the convention.

Speeches – Seventh Australian Citizenship Convention, Canberra, 24–25 January 1956
This item includes Building for a Better Australia publication.

Speeches – Eighth Australian Citizenship Convention, 22–25 January 1957
This item includes the convention agenda, program and other publications. The conference was officially opened by Rt Hon. Harold Holt MP on 22 January 1957.

‘Jumbuck Unlimited’, 17 December 1958
Article on wool industry for Melbourne Herald.

‘The Budget’, 1952

FOLDERS OF OVERSEAS TRAVEL DIARIES AND CORRESPONDENCE MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1952–65

Recorded by: 1952–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1952–53 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1953–57 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1959–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)

This series documents the overseas trips made by Holt, with his wife (Mrs Zara Holt), in his capacity as Minister for Immigration (1952), Chairman of the General Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (1952–54), Minister for Labour and National Service (1953 and 1957) and...
Treasurer (1959–65). In this 13-year period the Holts visited South-East Asia, Europe, London and the USA on each trip, including Africa in 1954 and 1961 and Jamaica in 1965.

The purpose of the earlier trips centred on meetings of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the International Labour Conference. Later trips were mainly concerned with meetings of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers (also known as the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council), the International Monetary Fund and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Other events covered in the series include the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth (1953), Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conferences (1953, 1957 and 1962), Lausanne Trade Fair (1960), the opening race of the America’s Cup Challenge (1962) and the Chase Manhattan Bank Seminar on Australia (1965).

The series of folders was maintained by successive private secretaries to Holt, and consists of his diaries and some of Mrs Holt’s letters and diaries (typed and circulated), itineraries and related correspondence. The series consequently reflects the arrangements made for each trip, and in most cases the Holts’ personal accounts of them, but does not include the formal record of the various official meetings and conferences Holt attended.

Official visit, 24 July – 2 October 1952
Travel diary as Minister for Immigration.

Official overseas visit, 18 August – 2 October 1952
Travel diary as Minister for Immigration (duplicate).

Coronation diary, 9 May – 23 July 1953
This diary includes an account of Holt’s swearing in as Privy Councillor, as well as official talks in Italy, Holland, Greece and USA.

Travel diary, South Africa, 1954, seven instalments
This diary of Holt as Chairman, the General Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, includes accounts of Indo-China, Kenya and Northern Rhodesia.

Travel diary, 1957
This diary of Holt as Minister for Labour and National Service includes accounts of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference, International Labour Conference and the Hungarian situation.

Overseas visit, 1957
This item relates to Holt’s time as Minister for Labour and National Service. It includes correspondence relating to his appointment as Chairman, 40th Session, International Labour Conference; engagements in Beirut, Rome and Germany; and letters from senior Australian diplomats E J Harrison and P Shaw.
MINUTES OF MEETINGS AND RELATED PAPERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES FOR THE XVIth OLYMPIAD, MELBOURNE, 1956

Recorded by: 1950–57 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1950–57 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Canberra)

The Organising Committee for the XVIth Olympiad was incorporated under the Companies Act 1938 on 17 September 1951. However, its formal meetings date from early in the previous year. The purpose of the Organising Committee was to plan the Olympic Games held in Melbourne in November–December 1956. Its Chairman was initially Sir Frank Beaurepaire and, following his resignation in February 1951, W S Kent Hughes. Holt, then Minister for Labour and National Service, was the representative for the Commonwealth Government on the Committee (and its Executive Committee) and attended his first meeting in that capacity on 11 March 1950. This series consists of four folders.

XVIth Olympiad, Melbourne 1956, April 1950 to June 1955
Minutes of meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees of the Olympic Organising Committee.

XVIth Olympiad, Melbourne 1956, July 1955 to November 1956
Minutes of meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees of the Olympic Organising Committee

XVIth Olympiad, Melbourne 1956, 1950–56
(1) Certificate of incorporation; (2) Memorandum of Association; (3) Paper in regard to planning; (4) Progress Reports; (5) Programmes; (6) News Bulletins; (7) Financial Statements; (8) Correspondence.

XVIth Olympiad, Melbourne 1956, 17 December 1956 to 6 March 1957
Minutes of meetings of the Finance and General Purpose Committees.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS TREASURER AND PRIME MINISTER, 1959–67

Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1959–66 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)
1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.60 metres (Canberra)

The correspondence files in this series were maintained by Holt as Treasurer (1959–66) and, subsequently, as Prime Minister (1966–67). However, some papers from his earlier political career are also included. The files contain general and some personal correspondence, personal representations, accepted and declined invitations, requests for patronage, overseas visits, the 1961, 1963 and 1966 general elections and the 1964 Senate election, miscellaneous papers, speeches and newspaper cuttings. The series also includes a few
presentation items commemorating the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II in 1954 and the Tokyo Olympic Games in 1964, with stamps from the United Nations Special Fund.

The correspondence is from a wide range of sources – political colleagues, Australian and overseas businessmen, personal friends, professional, sporting and other community organisations, constituents and members of the Australian public. The subject matter is also wide-ranging and includes the development of Northern Australia, electoral matters, Liberal Party, immigration and pension cases, taxation, health and banking legislation, religious broadcasting, Rhodesia, Vietnam, national service, visit of Lyndon B Johnson (US President), Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Holt’s 25th anniversary celebrations as a Member of Parliament and his succession as Prime Minister.

The alphabetical order of the papers in some of the files reflects the original filing by Holt’s staff.

McIntyre, Mr Grant – ‘Iwakuni Transit Camp 1947, 1964’ M2606, 10
This article appears in Stand-To, Journal of the ACT Branch of the Returned Sailors’, Soldiers’ and Airmens’ Imperial League of Australia (RSSAILA), January–February 1964.

Papers about Mr Holt’s car accident, 22 November 1955 M2606, 12

Allen Chase, 1953–58 M2606, 21
This item contains papers regarding Northern Territory rice production, Dos Pueblos Orchid Company, Esperance Plains land development project and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company bio-chemical plant.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, 1952–55 M2606, 45
This item contains correspondence, speeches and publications.

Royal Visit, 1954 M2606, 118
This item contains two commemorative medals presented to the children of Australia by the Government.

General correspondence, 1957–66 M2606, 129
This item contains correspondence regarding the US loan for Dutch migrant housing, Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), H Albinski’s research on the Australian policy towards China, Ian Potter Foundation and Rhodesian drought relief.

General correspondence (B–W), 1951–66 M2606, 132
This item contains news cuttings, photographs and correspondence regarding Sir H Beale, the bond market, estate duty, Sir A Downer, Sir W Kent Hughes, W Massy-Greene, K J Morris, Northern Australian development, J Somerville Smith, P W Stokes and national service.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1950–66 M2606, 133
This item contains correspondence regarding foreign policy, Sir E Harrison, banking legislation, New Australians and unions, Sir Robert Menzies, H Drummond Wolff and Commonwealth relations. It includes a copy of Holt’s speech ‘Australia Tackles the Strike Problem’ and other publications.
Treasurer, 1958–66

After the 1958 election returned the Menzies–McEwen Coalition, the new ministry saw Holt succeed Fadden as Treasurer, while continuing as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Leader of the House. He held the position of Treasurer until 26 January 1966 when he was elected as Prime Minister.

Meeting of Federal Cabinet Ministers in Sydney, 24 June 1965. (Clockwise from left): Billy Snedden (Attorney-General), David Fairbairn (National Development), Allen Hulme (Postmaster-General), Allan Fairhall (Supply), Charles Aderman (Primary Industry), John McEwen (Acting PM), Harold Holt (Treasurer), William McMahon (Labour and National Service), Senator Shane Paltridge (Defence), Gordon Freeth (Shipping and Transport) and Charles Barnes (Territories). NAA: A1200, L51372

PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66  A1728

Recorded by:  1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity:  1.62 metres (Canberra)

The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister. The following items refer to Holt’s time as Treasurer. For a full series description please see page 19.

Volume 7, 1958–60  A1728, 7
This volume includes articles on Holt’s first Budget as Treasurer, banking, road plans, parliamentary salaries, overseas loans and the Holt family.

Volume 8, 1960–61  A1728, 8
This volume includes articles on the 1960 Budget, decimal currency, credit squeeze, Swiss National Fair and car industry.
Volume 9, 1961
This volume includes articles on tax incentives, home loans, credit squeeze and the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures.

Volume 10, 1960–63
This volume includes articles on the Budget, taxation, banking, 1961 election, decimal currency, European Common Market, Mrs Zara Holt and political cartoons.

Volume 11, 1963–64
This volume includes articles on the Budget, decimal currency, 1963 election, defence spending and the ‘Magg’ fashion salon.

Volume 12, 1964–65
This volume includes articles on the Budget, taxation, conscription, the Royal Australian Mint opening, decimal currency, overseas investments and Menzies’ retirement.

PERSONAL PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1943–68
Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
Quantity: 0.40 metres (Canberra)
This series mainly covers the periods when Holt was Treasurer (1958–66) and Prime Minister (1966–67).
Several of these items have Prime Minister’s Department file covers. In some cases the papers are stamped ‘Special file’ indicating the status of the correspondent, for example, Sir Robert Menzies, Lord Casey (long-term political colleagues) and John Büst (Queensland environmentalist and friend). In other cases the papers are more general, and have been kept alphabetically by correspondent within a subject file, for example, articles, forewords, messages and photographs. A few files have been constructed for archival convenience to accommodate a number of assorted letters and associated papers in the series covering engagements, personal financial matters and family members. The latter includes correspondence associated with the deaths of Holt’s brother Cliff and aunt, Miss Vera Pearce. The items listed below concern the period Holt was Treasurer.

Personal correspondence – Allen Chase, 1961–67
Correspondence about Esperance Plains (Aust) Pty Ltd, iron ore deposits, Northern Territory agricultural development and American investment in Australia.

Personal correspondence – Charles W Engelhard, 1965–66
Correspondence includes Forbes magazine, 1 August 1965.

Personal correspondence – Family, 1943–67
Correspondence regarding Cliff Holt, H V Martin (Mart), H Pearce, Miss Vera Pearce and electoral expenses. Also includes notice of electoral meeting, 21 July 1943.

Personal correspondence – Financial, 1965–68
Correspondence regarding shares and Holt Newman & Holt (Solicitors). Also includes Woodside (Lakes Entrance) Oil Co. NL, Mid-Eastern Oil NL and FNCB-Waltons reports.
Correspondence about silver refining contract in connection with introduction of decimal currency and social engagements.

Correspondence includes congratulatory telegrams, Citizens’ Dinner (Melbourne) invitation, entrée card and program, Menzies’ address to the Business Council of Hot Springs (Virginia), Menzies’ articles on the Commonwealth (Sunday Telegraph, London), ‘Australia’s new nation of the next 20 years’ (London Times) and a press statement on economic policy.

Personal correspondence – Miscellaneous (A–W), 1958–67
Correspondence regarding R Allsop, S W Caffin, A E Daff, H Hopman, H Humphrey (US Vice President), iron ore companies in Western Australia, Art Linkletter, President F Marcos, Sir F Packer, A E Schwabacher. Also includes East Malvern Cricket Club annual report 1966–67, articles and newspaper cuttings.

Personal correspondence – Photographs (A–W), 1964–67
Correspondence from American Ambassador, R Woolcott, about provision of prints and cartoons, President Lyndon B Johnson’s visit and Prime Minister’s tour of Asia photographic exhibition. Also includes photographs and negatives of the Mint (Deakin, ACT), 1964.

Personal correspondence – Chase Manhattan Bank (David Rockefeller), 1964–66
Correspondence regarding representative office in Australia, Seminar on Australia and social engagements.

Personal correspondence – Treasurer’s Suite, Melbourne – Furniture, 1959–65

Reports – Compendium of Commonwealth–State Finances, 1960

FOLDERS OF SPEECHES AND ARTICLES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1946–65

Recorded by: 1946–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1949–56 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1949–58 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1958–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 1.26 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of various folders and articles maintained by Holt as Minister for Immigration (1949–56), Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58) and, particularly, as Treasurer (1958–65). For a full series description please see page 25.

‘Toast to Australia’, 1959
Speech to Australia Day Council Luncheon, Royale Ballroom, Melbourne, Friday 23 January 1959.

Article, 1959
Article by Miss E Auld for New Idea, 4 February 1959.
Speech, 1959
Royal Commonwealth Society luncheon, Melbourne, 21 May 1959. Includes program and correspondence.

Speech notes, 1959

Speech, 1959
Opening of Australian Institute of Management Marketing Convention, Canberra, 5 June 1959.

‘The place of overseas investment in the Australian economy’, 1959

Statement, 1959
Annual meeting statement for International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Monetary Fund and International Finance Corporation.

‘Economic Cooperation within the Commonwealth’, 1959
Address as Leader of the Australian Delegation, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference, Canberra, November 1959.

Address – opening of factory for Napro – National Chemical Products, Sydney, 30 November 1959

‘New US Concept of World Help’, 1959
Address to Australian–American Association luncheon, Australia Hotel, Sydney, 16 December 1959. Includes publications.

‘The Australian Economy, 1960’, 1959
Speech on radio program ‘Above the Speaker’s Chair’, 28 December 1959.

Speech, 1960
Australian Mutual Provident Society Dinner, Sydney, 8 January 1960. Includes publications.

Foreword, January 1960

‘Growth and Diversification of Manufacturing Industry in Australia’, 1960
Speech at opening of Rubbertex Factory, Melbourne, 26 February 1960. Includes background notes.

Article for Sydney Morning Herald, 7 March 1960.

‘The Liberal Case in Latrobe’, 1960
Article about the Latrobe by-election, Herald, 7 April 1960.

Speech, 1960
Article and message, 1960
Article about Australia’s economic and financial situation for Bank and Business: Journal of World News Enterprises, Hong Kong, May 1960.

Address, 6 June 1960
Address about financial developments and overseas investment to the members of the Melbourne Stock Exchange.

Address, 1960

Bendigo and Balaclava by-elections, Saturday, 16 July 1960
This item includes an article ‘The Liberal case in Bendigo and Balaclava’ for Melbourne Herald, 14 July 1960, and speech, Memorial Hall, Bendigo, 5 July 1960.

‘Export Development – the Next Ten Years’, 1960
Speech to National Export Convention, Canberra, 18 May 1960. Includes report.

Article – Wesley Collegian Chronicle – ‘Guest of Honour’ Series (first of), July 1960
‘Investment in Australia’, 1960

‘The Australian Economic and Financial Situation’, 1960
Article for American Banker, special international edition, 1 August 1960.

TV interview – ‘Meet the Press’, HSV7, 28 August 1960

‘World Finance Organisations in Economic Cold War’, 1960
Article for Sydney Morning Herald and The Age, 26 September.

‘Australia’, 1960
Seminar address, Lausanne Trade Fair, 21 September 1960.

International Monetary Fund, 26 September 1960
IBRD and International Finance Corporation Chairman’s opening address, reports and press releases.

Report of meetings of the International Monetary Fund, 1960

Speech notes, 24 October 1960
Men’s style show, Australian Wool Bureau, Sydney.


Speech, 12 November 1960
South Australian Chamber of Manufactures dinner, General Motors-Holden Ltd, Woodville. Includes menu.

Speech, 1960
Frank Chamberlain’s 3DB commentary, 10 February 1961
Commentary regarding the economic crisis (credit squeeze) and Holt’s role as Treasurer.

‘Constant Goal of Economic Policy’, 1961

‘The Credit Squeeze’, 1961
Speech notes, Victorian Chamber of Commerce meeting, Nicholas Hall, Lonsdale St, Melbourne, 22 May 1961.

Queensland Chamber of Manufactures, 1961
Questions submitted to the Treasurer and his replies regarding unemployment in Queensland and roads assistance.

Statement, 1961

‘What Sort of Australia’, 1962

Speech notes, 1962
Speech notes about the financial situation for the Associated Chambers of Commerce, Annual Conference, Wrest Point Hotel, Hobart, 2 April 1962.

‘Productivity is Vital to Our Prosperity’, 1962
Address to 2nd National Annual Conference on Productivity dinner, Australian Productivity Council, University of Sydney, 23 May 1962.

‘Positive Action for Queensland’s Development’, 1962
Address about national development to the Australian Institute of Management, Conference dinner, Brisbane, 29 May 1962. Includes conference brochure.

‘Economic Integration in Europe – an Australian View’, 1962
Original version of article for La Banque dans le Monde (Supplement, Belgian financial newspaper), 29 May 1962. English and French text.

‘Trends in Investment from Abroad’, 1962
Article for UK Financial Times, 6 June 1962.

‘Sound Economy and Bright Prospects’, 1963

‘The Economic Situation’, 22 February 1963
Notes for speech to Building Societies luncheon, Sydney.

1962 annual meetings, 17–21 September 1963
Summary proceedings – IBRD, International Development Association (IDA).

‘Progress with Stability’, 1963
Address to Institute of Chartered Accountants, Adelaide, 23 April 1963 and relevant papers about other engagements, Adelaide, 21–24 April 1963.
‘Foundations for Growth’, 1963
Notes for address to Royal Victorian Institute of Architects Meeting, Kelvin Hall, Melbourne, 19 June 1963. Dinner – Council members of RVIA, 6.15 pm, Naval and Military Club.

‘The Queen and Commonwealth’, 1963
Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Wesley Church, Melbourne, 24 February 1963.

Press statement, 1963
Statement as Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party replying to a statement by Mr Calwell ALP, 31 July 1963.

Tellex report of interview, 26 September 1963
Interview (Kenneth Kendall and J Mossman) about Commonwealth relations, Tellex Monitors Ltd, London.

‘Fate Helped to Lead Him to Success’, 1963
Feature article by Noel Hawken, Melbourne Herald, 17 August 1963.

Treasurer’s speech, 1963
Speech and publications regarding the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund, IBRD, International Finance Corporation and IDA, Washington, 1 October 1963.

Treasurer’s report, October 1963

Articles, 1963

‘The Impact of Public Authority Investment in 1963’, 1964

Address notes, 23 March 1964
Address notes about economic growth, interest equalisation and tax, Melbourne Stock Exchange, Melbourne.

Address to Wesley College Public Questions Society.

GTV9 recording, 6 February 1964
Denison by-election (Mr Adrian Gibson), by Rt Hon. Harold Holt, Treasurer, Mr Bury, Minister for Housing and Mr Billy Snedden, Attorney-General.

‘British Commonwealth is Still Hope of Millions’, 1964
Article for Sydney Morning Herald, 16 April 1964.

‘The Commonwealth Family of Nations’, 1964
Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Wesley Church, Lonsdale St, Melbourne, 3 May 1964. Commonwealth Youth Sunday. Includes material on commonwealth from External Affairs and publications.
Speech, 1964
Official opening of Australian Guarantee Corporation Head Office (AGC House), 170 Queen St, Melbourne, 4 May 1964. Includes background notes and photographs.

‘Australia’ – foreword, 1964

Speech, 1964
Official opening speech, National Packaging Australia Forum, Chevron Hotel, Sydney, 27 May 1964, published in Australian Packaging, June 1964 (highlights only).

‘Year of Growth Noted’, 1964
Article for American Banker, 8 December 1964.

Article, 10 November 1964
Adelaide Advertiser, Decimal Currency Supplement.

Speech, 1965
Opening speech, Australian Citizenship Convention, Albert Hall, Canberra, 19 January 1965. Plus program and promotional material of the National Capital Development Commission.

Address notes, 27 January 1965
Address notes about economic growth for the Australian Metal Industries dinner, Australia Hotel, Melbourne.

Introductory lecture and publications, 18th International Banking Summer School, Ormond College, University of Melbourne, 8 February 1965.

Speech, 1965
Speech by the HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at the opening of the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra, 22 February 1965 and article for the Sydney Morning Herald supplement. Includes official party’s program.

Notes for opening address, 1965
RVIA – Architectural Convention, Cultural Centre, Melbourne, 29 March 1965.

‘Australian Development – the Current Scene’, 1965

Opening address, 1965
22nd Annual Convention of the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party at Surfers’ Paradise, 25 June 1965.

‘The Present State of the Australian Economy’, 1965

Notes for address, 1965
‘Drought Measures’, 1965
Press statement extract and unedited address to Victorian Division, Institute of Chartered Accountants, The Victoria, Little Collins St, 9 July 1965.

‘Economic Goals’, 1965

‘Building a Growing Economy’, 1965
Article for Master Builders’ Federation of Australia Journal, special issue to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Federation, June 1965.

‘The Australian Economy – Today and Tomorrow’, 1965
Address to the Economic Forum of the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures, Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne, 8 September 1965.

‘Some Views of International Liquidity’, 1965

Statement by the Commonwealth Treasurer – Washington, 29 September 1965
Statements of annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund, IBRD, International Finance Corporation and IDA.

‘Overseas Investment’, 10 September 1965
Address to the Liberal Club, University of Melbourne.

‘Our Involvement in Asia’s Expansion’, 1965
Booklet and address to the Far East Conference (Far East-America Council of Commerce and Industry Inc.), Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York, 4 October 1965.

Address, 1965
Opening address about economic planning, Annual General Management Conference, Australian Institute of Management, Sydney Division, Canberra, 11 November 1965.

‘The Present Economic Outlook’, 24 November 1965
Extracts from speech – luncheon of Associated Chamber of Manufactures in Australia, Hotel Canberra.

Address, 1965
Address to the 20th World Congress of Junior Chamber International, Trocadero Ballroom, Sydney, 26 November 1965. Includes background notes.

Unfiled articles and speeches, 1961–65
Miscellaneous articles and speeches on topics including delegated legislation, Commonwealth relations, Mackay Mirror, US balance of payments and Associated National House opening.
FOLDERS OF OVERSEAS TRAVEL DIARIES AND CORRESPONDENCE
MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1952–65

Recorded by: 1952–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1952–53 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1953–57 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1959–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)

This series of folders documents the overseas trips made by Holt and his wife, 1952–65. The items listed below relate to the period Holt was Treasurer. For a full series description please see page 31.

Travel diary – ‘Operation Midas’ 1959 (incomplete), from 2 September to 21 September 1959 (3 instalments) M2608, 7
Holt’s 1959 travel diary includes comments on Singapore, the Australian credit rating and several prominent persons.

Mrs Harold Holt’s diary, 1959 M2608, 8
This incomplete diary includes accounts of Singapore, Beirut, Rome, London and a boring dentist.

Travel diary, 1960 M2608, 9
Holt’s 1960 travel diary as Treasurer includes accounts of Hong Kong, Japan, the Lausanne Trade Fair and Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council meeting.

Mrs Harold Holt’s letters, 1960 M2608, 10
These letters include accounts of Hong Kong, Japan, London and the Lausanne Trade Fair.

Overseas visit, September–October 1965 M2608, 11
This item includes correspondence and invitations relating to meetings of the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council in Jamaica and International Monetary Fund in New York.

Overseas visit – 23 April to 4 May, 1965 M2608, 12
This item includes itinerary and correspondence relating to the Chase Manhattan Bank Seminar on Australia, New York.

Press clippings, including photographs, of the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council Meeting, 22–23 September 1965.

Overseas visit, 1964 M2608, 14
This item includes itinerary and correspondence about the Commonwealth Finance Ministers’ Conference in Kuala Lumpur and subsequent engagements in Tokyo, London and USA.

Overseas visit, 1963 M2608, 15
This item includes itinerary and correspondence relating to Commonwealth Finance Ministers’ Conference in London and subsequent engagements in New York and Washington.

Doremus and Company report on the sale of Commonwealth of Australia bonds on the US market, 1959 M2608, 17
‘Off to Market’, travel diary, 1962
This travel diary includes comments on the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference, European Common Market, America’s Cup, Mrs Zara Holt, social engagements in Athens, Rome, London and New York.

Mrs Harold Holt’s travel letters, 1962
These letters include accounts of overseas shopping, fashion, social engagements, Buckingham Palace Reception for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference and the America’s Cup Challenge.

Overseas letters (Japan), 1964
One instalment – Mr Holt; one letter – Mrs Holt. These letters include comments on Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Conference.

Overseas file, 1963
This item includes itinerary, correspondence and speeches relating to meetings of the International Monetary Fund and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other engagements in New York and Washington.

Overseas trip, 1964
This item includes itinerary and correspondence relating to the Commonwealth Finance Ministers’ Conference in Kuala Lumpur, and meetings of the International Monetary Fund and associated institutions in New York.

Overseas visit, 1961
This item includes correspondence relating to the Commonwealth Finance Ministers’ Conference in Accra, meetings of the International Monetary Fund in Vienna and briefing notes of Ghana and Austria.

Accra, 1961–62
This item includes cables, correspondence, briefing notes and news cuttings relating to the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council meeting, 12–14 September 1961.

London and Paris, 1961
This item includes correspondence relating to accommodation and engagements.

Itinerary, 1961
This item contains correspondence about meetings of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers in Accra and International Monetary Fund in Vienna.

Vienna (and Zurich), Common Market, London, 1961
This item contains correspondence regarding meetings and engagements. It includes a statement to the International Monetary Fund, and a letter from Field Marshall Viscount W Slim concerning the Fairbridge Society.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES AND PAPERS MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS TREASURER, 1958–66

Recorded by: 1958–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1958–66 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 4.32 metres (Canberra)

The files in this series fall into several categories:

a) Parliamentary business files – relating to accommodation, questions on notice or without notice on Treasury matters, and the Richardson report on Parliamentary salaries and allowances.

b) Ministerial correspondence files – these files account for almost half the series and are arranged chronologically in half-monthly folders. They mainly contain office copies of replies to representations made by individuals, companies and other organisations directly to the Treasurer, or through another minister or Member of Parliament. The correspondence relates to a wide range of Treasury-related matters including income tax, sales tax on various commodities, subsidies, financial assistance, pensions, superannuation, international organisations, government and non-government bodies, public works, mining, salaries earned by overseas persons working in Australian industry, European Common Market and compensation.

c) Subject files – relating to various matters, including the economy, taxation, legislation, banking, overseas investment, trade, decimal currency, drought relief, mining, King Island shipping service, Royal Australian Mint, Inter-Parliamentary Union and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.


e) Miscellaneous files – including unfiled papers and reports on various subjects.

The contents include letters (mainly office copies of outgoing correspondence), minutes, Cabinet submissions, reports, cables, press releases, speech notes, news clippings, pamphlets and other publications. Some of the documents are annotated; some are marked ‘personal’ or ‘confidential’ and a few are marked ‘secret’.

(A) Ministerial correspondence with Government members, and better cooperation from visiting ministers; (B) Procedure for dealing with Cabinet papers, 1959–61

Parliament House, 1959–60

(A) use of rooms; (B) allocating rooms; (C) access to the House; (D) broadcasts and telecasts of proceedings; (E) extensions; (F) catering, serving of table wines. During this period, Holt was Leader of the Liberal Party in the House of Representatives.
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Extracts mostly relate to the Commonwealth Bank.

Holt, as Treasurer, was Chairman of the Trust.

Papers about Committee of Inquiry into the Salaries and Allowances of Members of the Commonwealth Parliament.

Correspondence, representations, etc relating to Treasury matters, arranged in half-monthly folders by completion date.

Correspondence and representations about sales tax on UNICEF greeting cards and calendars, conferences, adoption of children from overseas countries and Launceston loan.

‘Sound Economy and Bright Prospects’.

Cuttings about Mr Whitlam’s ‘secret’ document attacking the Labor Party.

This item contains standard letter replies that have been answered from the Treasurer’s Office.

Correspondence and representations about Northern Territory constitutional reform, reward for the discovery of bauxite in the Northern Territory, Australian balance of payments and other matters.
Appropriation procedures, 1963–65
Australian economy, 1963–66
Banking, 1959–65
Decentralisation, 1963–66
Decimal currency, 1961–65
Drought relief, 1965–66
Recent Economic Committees of Cabinet, 1962
Economic discussions – Master Builders, 1962
Papers for address at Economic Forum in Melbourne, Wednesday, 8 September 1965
Cabinet Committee – European Common Market 1961–62
Material prepared in connection with visit of Fund Mission, November 1964
Gold, 1964–65
Hospitals, 1959
Import policy, c 1962
Industry talks, February 1964
This item includes papers regarding economic consultations with the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), Master Builders’ Federation, Manufacturing Industry Advisory Council, Export Development Council, Australian Woolgrowers’ and Graziers Council, Australian Primary Producers’ Union, banks, Federated Chamber of Automotive Industries, Wool and Meat Producers’ Federation, Australian Council of Retailers, National Farmers’ Union and Associated Chamber of Manufactures.
Insurance, 1965
This item includes papers concerning the opening of the Associated National Insurance Company Ltd building, Sydney, 18 October 1965.
Interest rates, 1964
Iron ore, 1965
King Island, 1963–64
Loans, 1959–65
Papers on A J McAllen, 1963–65
This item contains papers regarding a relief driver for the House of Representatives who was in a vehicle accident.
Mint opening, 1965
News clippings, 1965
Clipping about decimal currency.
Oil, 1959
Cabinet submission – ‘Encouragement of Oil Search in Australia’.
Overseas investment in Australia and balance of payments, 1963–65
Overseas investment in Australia, 1959–65  M2568, 160
Papua and New Guinea, 1959–61  M2568, 161
Parliamentary retiring allowances, 1950–65  M2568, 162
Press statements, 1964  M2568, 163
Railway standardisation, 1961–62  M2568, 164
Restrictive trade practices, 1963–64  M2568, 165
Rural finance, 1960–62  M2568, 166
Shipping, 1959–64  M2568, 167
Notes for speeches, 1961–65  M2568, 168
Sugar, 1961–62  M2568, 169
Sulphuric acid bounty, 1958–59  M2568, 170
Tobacco, 1961–62  M2568, 171
Tariff Board reports etc, 1958–62  M2568, 172
Taxation, 1959–65  M2568, 173
Trade, 1958–59  M2568, 174
Cabinet papers regarding International Wheat Agreement and trade negotiations with Canada.

Report of Inter-departmental Committee.

United States interest equalisation tax, 1963–64  M2568, 176
United States - background papers, 1963–65  M2568, 177

Miscellaneous, Parts A–C, 1958–66  M2568, 178 to 180
This item primarily contains Cabinet submissions.

Papers of the Treasurer, No 1–9, 1951–66  M2568, 181 to 189
This item primarily contains Cabinet submissions from other departments and Treasury memoranda.

PEN SKETCHES OF HOLT AND MCMAHON BY PAUL HASLUCK, 1959  A2668

Recorded by:  1959  The Rt Hon. Sir Paul Meernaa Caedwalla Hasluck KG, GCMG, GCVO, KStJ (CP 115)
1959  The Rt. Hon. Harold Edward Holt (CP 27)

Quantity:  0.18 metres (Canberra)

Pen sketches of Harold Edward Holt and William McMahon by Paul Hasluck, 1959  A2668, 1
Two blue pen sketches drawn by Paul Hasluck (later Sir Paul) on a sheet of notepaper during a Cabinet meeting about 1959. Hasluck was Minister of Territories at the time. On one side of the page is a sketch of the then Treasurer, Harold Holt, titled 'Picture of a Treasurer – promising a million' and signed 'Paul H' (see page 50). On the reverse side is a smaller sketch of William McMahon, then Minister for Labour and National Service.
Pen sketch of Harold Edward Holt by Paul Hasluck, 1959. NAA: A2668, 1

CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1959–67 M2606

Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1959–66 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)
1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.60 metres (Canberra)

The correspondence files in this series were maintained by Holt as Treasurer (1959–66) and as Prime Minister (1966–67). The following items relate to the period Holt was Treasurer. For a full series description please see page 33.

Twentys five years – celebration dinner for the Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, MP – Bamboo Room, Chevron Hotel, Melbourne, Tuesday, 14 February 1961 M2606, 1

Speech notes, correspondence, photographs, menu and guest list for Silver Anniversary as a Member of Parliament.
Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), Congressman Francis Walter and Hon. C Douglas Dillon, 1958–61 M2606, 2

Central Park Kiosk – Monday 27 March 1961 M2606, 3
Function to celebrate 25 years as Federal Member for the seat of Higgins.

Papers relating to the Federal election of 1961 M2606, 4 to 6


International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (Mr Eugene R Black, President) and International Monetary Fund (Mr Per Jacobsson, Managing Director), 1961–62 M2606, 8
Correspondence regarding publications by Committee for Economic Development of Australia and ‘Better Deal for Underdeveloped Primary Producing Countries of World’. Includes article World Food Supplies, World Development and Trade by Prof. Sir S Wadham, September 1961.

Mr William Willis – Age Unlimited, raft, 1964–65 M2606, 11

Portsea material, 1960–64 M2606, 13

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1961–66 M2606, 14
Correspondence regarding G Knox, sales tax, enforcement of South African civil judgements, North Queensland rain forest preservation, invitations, Sir R Wilson and G W Hennessey.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1964–65 M2606, 15
Correspondence about overseas visit, September 1964, Tibor Paul (conductor) and Business International Round Table.

Personal representations (A), 1958–66 M2606, 16
This item includes representations regarding Australian Paediatric Association, overseas aid, Allan and Company (music publishers), hospital benefits and Maltese migrants.

Australian national flag, 1963 M2606, 17
Commonwealth Government correspondence and speech notes for youth groups and schools in Malvern, Victoria.

Australian World Fair Project – proposed by Sir Maurice Nathan, 1963–65 M2606, 18

Personal representations (B), 1959–67 M2606, 19
This item includes representations regarding ABC Ripponlea land, Australian Chancery in Washington, pensions, special accounts provision of the National Health Act, L M Bell, television levy and G Scalzini.

Personal representations (C), 1963–66 M2606, 20
This item includes representations regarding Sir Rupert Clarke, Mrs I Clarke, ABC Ripponlea land and Australian Journalists’ Association.
Allen Chase, papers, 1953–58
This item contains papers regarding Northern Territory rice production, Dos Pueblos Orchid Company, Esperance Plains land development project and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company bio-chemical plant.

Personal representations (D), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding immigration, telephone services, National Health Bill, Australian Universities Commission and war pension case.

Personal representations (E), 1943–66
This item includes representations regarding C P S Ebert, Mrs M L Ellis’ war widows pension, Mrs A Elford, B T Evans, and communist activity in Australia.

Personal representations (F), 1955–66
This item includes representations regarding telephone concessions in country areas and the Ratteray & Walker timber yard.

Personal representations (G), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding pension eligibility, employment assistance and collection of Australian birds by British Museum.

Personal representations (H), 1958–66
This item includes representations regarding C Hand, S Hull and immigration.

Larry J Hartnett, 1953–63
Correspondence regarding General Motors Holden, Hartnett Motor Company arbitrations case, Hartnett car project and Colombo Plan appointment.

Personal representations (J), 1961–65
This item includes representations regarding ABC Ripponlea property, Glen Art Company Pty Ltd (manchester business) and pension eligibility.

Personal representations (K), 1959–64
This item includes representations regarding N Kelly’s war pension and Professor Lyou’s visit.

Personal representations (L), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding immigration cases, private property services, Canberra water fluoridation, castor oil imports, Commonwealth Military Forces and cost of drugs.

Personal representations (M), 1957–66
This item includes representations regarding Parliamentary pensions, war pension eligibility, R V Mitchell (Private Secretary to William McMahon), hospital benefits, secondary school science teaching and Malvern City Council.

Personal representations (Mc), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding B McWhinney, J L McPhee, G W Ramsden Estate (Humpty Doo) and US Naval Communications Stations in WA.
Personal representations (N), 1959–64
This item includes representations regarding A Nicolaou, National Old People’s Welfare Council of Australia and Nagel lease.

Personal representations (O), 1959–61
This item includes representations regarding entitlements of P O Sullivan and H D O’Shea.

Personal representations (P), 1955–65
This item includes representations regarding Parliament House public gallery, A S Peacock and Tibor Paul (conductor).

Dr Anthony A Pullicino, 1956–65
Correspondence regarding migration to Australia and subsequent appointment as High Commissioner from Malta.

Personal representations (R), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding educational television, immigration cases, grievances, taxation and A L Rentoul.

Personal representations (S), 1957–65
This item includes representations regarding cattle breeding in Northern Australia, H D Steward, housing, war pension eligibility, immigration cases and lifeboats.

Personal representations (T), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding pension cases, FM radio broadcasting and positions.

Personal representations (U), 1960
This item includes representations regarding telephone services for E Utassy.

United States Communications Centre – Establishment of (and ALP policy) in North-West Australia – electorate letters, March 1963
This item contains correspondence, press statements and news cuttings.

Personal representations (W), 1959–66
This item includes representations regarding Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act, telephone services, Grumman Aircraft Corporation and war widows pensions.

Personal representations (X–Z), 1956–66
This item includes representations regarding Oscar Ziegler and YMCA taxation.

Museum of Modern Art in Australia, Melbourne, 1959–64
Includes publication *Today and Tomorrow*.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1961
Correspondence regarding credit squeeze, import licensing, C E W Bean, tuna fishing, gold mining, J R Darling, R Helpmann, 1961 Budget, Alcoa, Meet-the-Press telecast, election campaign and airport car rentals.
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1959–61
Correspondence regarding Commonwealth of Nations commemorative publication, F Blair, W Dobell, European migrants, V L Borin, ‘Sierra Nevada’ (wreck), Decimal Currency Committee, Myer Emporium Ltd and Qld coastal shipping.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1958–66
Correspondence regarding Surf Life Saving Association of Australia, Trade Practices Bill, Kraft Holdings Ltd, Decimal Currency Committee, Qantas hotel, Commonwealth Banking Corporation Board and W D Scott.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1959–65
Correspondence regarding Sir Colin Syme, N Lamidey, Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign, foreign investment, personal representations, Commonwealth Arts Festival, Connel Airways Ltd, C Bednall, P Cerutty and Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1962–65
Correspondence regarding ‘Batavia’ (wreck), payroll tax, HMS *Endeavour* Trust, commercial bill market, and S Nolan ‘Ned Kelly’ paintings.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1952–63
Correspondence regarding Sir E Harrison, special entry to Fort Nepean area, the Australian economy, Sir A Warner, Eric Butler, D J Killen, St Paul’s Cathedral (Melbourne), Australian Trade and Industrial Mission and skindiving.

Federal election, 30 November 1963
This item contains Liberal and Country Party electoral information and posters, Sir Robert Menzies’ policy speech (booklet) and Holt’s electoral leaflet and return of expenses.

‘Herald’ articles – election issues by Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt MP, November 1963

Miscellaneous speeches (and ABC all states broadcasts) by Treasurer, Federal election, 30 November 1963

Congratulatory messages and telegrams – election, 30 November 1963

Thank you letters to Higgins electorate helpers, 30 November 1963 election

Brian Fitzpatrick – Australian Council for Civil Liberties Testimonial Dinner – Friday, 19 June 1964

Dinner for Mr and Mrs Frank A Southard Jnr, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, 1964
Dinner given by Treasurer and Mrs Zara Holt held at the Athenaeum Club, Melbourne, Saturday, 22 August 1964.

Dinner for Mr and Mrs David Rockefeller (President, Chase Manhattan Bank), 1964
Dinner given by Treasurer and Mrs Zara Holt held at the Athenaeum Club, Melbourne, Monday, 12 October 1964.
Senate election campaign, 5 December 1964
Speeches, campaign schedules and publications.

Public Service Board and Prime Minister’s Department, 1957–67
Correspondence regarding prime ministerial personal staff, permanent heads, Defence Forces Emergency Reserves, research and development, Cabinet attendants, decimal currency Changeover Day, the Press Secretary’s accommodation and national arts policy.

Departmental and Ministerial correspondences, 1961–66
Correspondence regarding the Senate, repatriation benefits, Treasury, Northern Territory, Papua and New Guinea, Presbyterian Church of Victoria’s recommendations on Vietnam, Sir G Barwick, national service, 19th World Health Assembly, American media coverage of the Vietnam War, Commonwealth State grants and C Couttoupes.

General correspondence, 1962–66
Correspondence regarding National Service, Vietnam, company taxation, overseas investment, tertiary education, Murray Valley Development League and the Australians (proposed publication).

Tokyo, 1964
Three presentation medals commemorating the XVIII Olympiad Games.

Liberal Party, 1962–66
Correspondence regarding life assurance legislation, Council meetings and Branch motions.

United Nations Special Fund, 1965
Tan leather presentation folder, includes stamps and photographs.

General correspondence, 1961–66
Correspondence regarding Federal policy, parliamentary procedures, Northern development, Vietnam, Australian Dried Fruits Control Board, car rental industry and Arts Council.

General correspondence, 1957–66
Correspondence regarding US loan for Dutch migrant housing, Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), C L S Hewitt, Sir F Richardson, H Albinski research on Australian policy towards China, Ian Potter Foundation, D Henty and Rhodesian drought relief.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1958–66
Correspondence including newspaper cuttings and photographs regarding Sir Arthur Fadden, Mrs Zara Holt, overseas visit 1959, economy and General Motors Holden.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1959–66
Correspondence regarding Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, 1961 Budget, C E Couttoupes, Sir Hudson Fysh, Australian Council of Aid to Refugees, Sir R G Casey, defence vote, congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, daylight saving, Papua and New Guinea, and Liberal Reform Group.
General correspondence (B–W), 1951–66
Correspondence including newspaper cuttings and photographs regarding Sir H Beale, bond market, Sir A Downer, Sir W Kent Hughes, estate duty, W Massy-Greene, K J Morris, Northern Australian development, J Somerville Smith, P W Stokes and national service.

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1950–66
Correspondence regarding foreign policy, Sir Eric Harrison, banking legislation, New Australians and unions, Sir Robert Menzies, H Drummond Wolff and Commonwealth relations. This item includes H E Holt speech ‘Australia Tackles the Strike Problem’ and other publications.

General correspondence, 1958–66
Correspondence regarding the Hursey affair, superannuated pensioners, Purlfleet Aussies Aboriginal Girls Marching Association, government schools funding and equal pay.

General correspondence, 1964–67
Correspondence about communism, the Liberal Party, Asian development, 4th Pan-Pacific Convention of Appraisers, Australian Referendum Movement and pilots’ strike.

Pocket diary, 1961

General correspondence (A–L), 1955–66
Correspondence regarding the Liberal Party, congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, National Servicemen in Vietnam, Mrs J Hosking, Cliff Holt, L Hartnett, Sir A Downer, Lord Casey, Canberra Anglers Association, Quakers and industrial trends.

General correspondence (M–Y), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding patronage, Wheelchair and Disabled Association of Australia, congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen’s Association of Australia, Rhodesia, Penfold’s Wines donations and Sir H Opperman.

Correspondence and newscuttings, 1958–67
Correspondence and newspaper cuttings regarding the retirement of Sir Arthur Fadden, E J Ward, overseas visit September–October 1959, decentralisation, Rhodesia, S W Nowak Churchill Fellowship, Greek Orthodox Church in Australia and Murray Valley Development League.

Correspondence, addresses and newscuttings, 1952–65
Correspondence regarding the Australian Citizenship Convention January 1957, banking legislation, wool production, parliamentary salaries, John McEwen, overseas visit September 1964 and Mrs Zara Holt.
Prime Minister, 1966–67

Harold Holt was elected as Prime Minister following Sir Robert Menzies retirement on 20 January 1966. Holt had been in parliament for 30 years by then – a record beaten only by John McEwen’s 33 years in parliament before he succeeded Holt in 1967. Holt’s first ministry added two new members to the existing Menzies ministry. He had an inner Cabinet of twelve, and an outer ministry of thirteen. The outer ministry included the two newcomers, Malcolm Fraser and Dame Annabelle Rankin, the first woman in Australia to control a federal department.

As Prime Minister, Holt was significantly less formal than his predecessor, his physical fitness and relaxed public persona making him a favourite with the media. Holt was not, however, a natural orator and he wisely chose to employ a speechwriter, the first Prime Minister ever to do so.

Holt’s term as Prime Minister was cut short by his disappearance on 17 December 1967 when he did not return from a swim in heavy surf off Cheviot Beach, Portsea. As Prime Minister his contribution to the nation had been significant, witnessing as it did a shift in the Australian ethos from a British Commonwealth emphasis to an Australasian one.

PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66

Recorded by: 1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)

The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister. The items below relate to Holt’s two-year prime ministership. For a full series description please see page 19.

Volume 13, 1965–66
This item includes articles on succession to the prime ministership, First Ministry, Liberal Party’s 21st Anniversary, tax legislation, Mrs Zara Holt and the Vietnam War 1965–66.

Volume 14, 1966
This item includes articles on the Vietnam War, National Service, overseas trips, The Lodge, Kooyong by-election, Royal visit and the Holt family 1966.

Volume 15, 1966–67
This item includes articles on the Vietnam War, Manila Conference, 1966 election, Prime Ministers’ Conference, Lyndon B Johnson’s visit to Australia and political cartoons 1966–67.

PERSONAL PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1941–67

Recorded by: 1949–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.50 metres (Canberra)

This series primarily covers the periods when Holt was Minister for Immigration and Minister for Labour and National Service (1949–58) and Prime Minister (1966–67).

Items from the period when Holt was Prime Minister include a colour satellite photograph of Carnarvon in Western Australia taken from Gemini VI and presented by US President Lyndon B Johnson, a certificate from the Institute of Meat and an original cartoon of President Johnson.

Official gift – ‘Cloud picture from Gemini VI Earth-Sky View, 16 December 1965, on the 13th revolution of the earth’, 1966
Blue leather folder with gold embossing containing colour satellite photograph of Carnarvon (WA), presented to Holt by US President Lyndon B Johnson, 29 June 1966.

‘Monkey tricks’: typescript of play by Grant McIntyre, c 1966
Dedicated to ‘Christopher Holt and other little boys’.

This item includes RSSAILA 39th annual report 1954 and an article by Holt ‘Australia tackles the strike problem’ (Optima reprint 1957), Management newsletter vol 19, no. 40.

Ephemera, 1951–67
This item includes Commonwealth of Australia Jubilee Celebrations official banquet menu signed ‘Harold Holt’ and
two concert programs (June 1951), Fiat of Australia Pty Ltd Tractor Plant, Lidcombe (NSW) plaque inscription, Fort Nepean entrance authorisation forms signed ‘H E Holt’ and unused stationery with Prime Minister’s letterhead.

Certificate for award of Honorary Fellow, The Institute of Meat, 13 September 1966

‘It was the darndest thing. He dived into the pool like this, see ...’, 1966

Original cartoon of US President Lyndon B Johnson and another, signed ‘Eyre Jr’.

PERSONAL PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1943–68

Recorded by: 1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.40 metres (Canberra)

This series mainly covers the periods when Holt was Treasurer (1958–66) and Prime Minister (1966–67). The items below relate to Holt’s two-year prime ministership. For a full series description please see page 36.


Souvenir book, includes Governor’s welcome address and Korea Fertilizer Company Ltd booklet.


Souvenir book of newspaper articles relating to the visit of President Saragat of Italy to Australia, 25 September – 1 October 1967. Limited edition no. 35 of 300.

Personal correspondence – Articles, Forewords (A-Y), 1966–67

Australian Bandsman – Young Liberal handbook.


Correspondence including newspaper cuttings about Ellison Reef mineral lease and the Australian cultured pearl industry.


Correspondence about Prime Ministers’ Conference, visit of Air Vice Marshal Ky to Australia and overseas investment.

Personal correspondence – Allen Chase, 1961–67

Correspondence about Esperance Plains (Aust) Pty Ltd, iron ore deposits, Northern Territory agricultural development and American investment in Australia.

Personal correspondence – Christmas cards, 1967

Correspondence from British Commonwealth countries, includes business cards personally signed ‘Harold Holt’ as Prime Minister and two Norfolk Island commemorative stamps (mounted presentation proofs).


Correspondence includes a White House menu signed by Lyndon B Johnson; Old Wesley Collegians Association Centenary dinner program and speech notes; Australian Council of Retailers annual dinner program; and humorous autographed place mat ‘Authentic map of Victoria’.
Personal correspondence – Charles W Engelhard, 1965–66
Correspondence includes Forbes magazine, 1 August 1965.

Personal correspondence – Family, 1943–67
Correspondence regarding Cliff Holt, H V Martin (Mart), H Pearce, Miss Vera Pearce and electoral expenses. Also includes notice of electoral meeting, 21 July 1943.

Personal correspondence – Financial, 1965–68
Correspondence regarding shares and Holt Newman & Holt (Solicitors). Also includes Woodside (Lakes Entrance) Oil Co. NL, Mid-Eastern Oil NL and FNCB-Waltons reports.

Correspondence about silver refining contract in connection with introduction of decimal currency and social engagements.

Correspondence about H Opperman, Federal Fund Appeals, Qld state election, Capricornia by-election and E G Whitlam.

Correspondence includes congratulatory telegrams, Citizens’ Dinner (Melbourne) invitation, entrée card and program, Menzies’ address to the Business Council of Hot Springs (Virginia), Menzies’ articles on the Commonwealth (Sunday Telegraph, London), ‘Australia’s new nation of the next 20 years’ (London Times) and a press statement on economic policy.

Personal correspondence – Messages (A–Y), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding Anzac Day Ceremony, New York – Young Liberal Convention, Rockhampton, Qld. Also includes papers about Australia-New Zealand relations, Coral Sea Week commemoration (Los Angeles), Jewish New Year, Mainichi Shimbun (Japan), Pacific Industrial Conference, E A Wells (Wesley College master) and Geneva World Conference on World Peace Through Law.

Personal correspondence – Miscellaneous (A–W), 1958–67
Correspondence regarding R Allsop, S W Caffin, A E Daff, H Hopman, H Humphrey (US Vice President), iron ore companies in Western Australia, Art Linkletter, President F Marcos, Sir F Packer, A E Schwabacher. Also includes East Malvern Cricket Club annual report 1966–67, articles and newspaper cuttings.

Personal correspondence – Photographs (A–W), 1964–67
Correspondence from American Ambassador, R Woolcott, about provision of prints and cartoons, President Lyndon B Johnson’s visit and Prime Minister’s tour of Asia photographic exhibition. Also includes photographs and negatives of the Mint (Deakin, ACT), 1964.

Personal correspondence – Chase Manhattan Bank (David Rockefeller), 1964–66
Correspondence regarding representative office in Australia, Seminar on Australia and social engagements.
**Press conferences and briefings, 1966–67**  
This item includes material regarding visit of H Humphrey (US Vice President), TV interviews, Holt’s visit to the US and UK, New Zealand tour, Britain’s East of Suez decision and the Senate election campaign.

**Press statements, 1966**  
This item includes a list of press statements Nos 1–128 and some unnumbered at the front of the file.

**Press statements, 1967**  
This item includes a list of press statements Nos 1–136 and some unnumbered at the front of the file.

**Reports – American Australian Association, 1967**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS TREASURER AND PRIME MINISTER, 1959–67**  
M2606

Recorded by:  
1959–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)  
1959–66 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)  
1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.60 metres (Canberra)

The correspondence files in this series were maintained by Holt as Treasurer (1959–66) and as Prime Minister (1966–67). For a full series description please see page 33.

**Rt Hon. Sir Robert Menzies, 1965–66**  
M2606, 9

News cuttings relating to reappointment as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and resignation as Prime Minister.

**Request for appointments, 1966**  
M2606, 61

Requests from Australian and overseas company executives, banking executives, Members of Parliament, ex-service organisations and lobby groups, including representations from the US Steel Corporation.

**Letters of introduction, 1966**  
M2606, 62

Letters regarding Lady Lloyd Jones and Mrs E Snider.

**Patronage and donations given (including honorary membership) and subscriptions, 1966**  
M2606, 63


**Patronage and donations refused, 1966**  
M2606, 64

**Books received, 1966**  
M2606, 65

This item includes books received from publishing houses, individuals and educational institutions and associations. It includes an invitation to the launching of HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone’s autobiography.

**Diaries and calendars received, 1966**  
M2606, 66

Diaries and calendars from embassies, companies and airlines.
Stamp, Prime Minister’s Department, 1966

Stationery orders – Prime Minister’s Department, 1966

Transport – Prime Minister’s Department, 1966–67
Official car usage statements.

Prime Minister’s Department – General – Staff – Kirribilli House, 1966
This item includes information bulletins and office circulars, and includes correspondence with E K Sinclair.

Hansard, 1966
Request from S Keon to be retained on daily distribution list.

Birthday greetings, 1966
Birthday greetings – A Calwell, E J Holloway and Mrs L Hannah.

Liberal Party, 1966
Material about the Dawson by-election and branch motions.

Interviews for TV, articles etc, 1966

Skindiving, 1966
Correspondence with Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen’s Association of Australia and others.

Gifts, 1966
Rolex watch, wine, Chinese lacquer punch bowl set, shells, Movietone film and records of Lyndon B Johnson visit.

Congratulations, criticisms etc, 1966
Schedules of correspondence received.

Biography, 1966
Requests for information.

Engagements, January to March 1966
National Library foundation stone, visit of Queen Mother, Sir Robert Menzies, Young Australia Foundation, Sir D Lindsay, HMS Endeavour Trust, Institute of Directors, Mrs Zara Holt, vice-regal and diplomatic invitations.

Engagements, April to June 1966
11th SEATO Council meeting, Federal Rural Convention, Dr M Mackay, presentation of special commemorative Bible by Gideons International, Wesley College Centenary, Australia Japan Business Cooperation Committee, Inter-Parliamentary Union, siege of Tobruk 25th Anniversary and Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

Engagements overseas (United States and Britain), June to July 1966

Engagements overseas (United States and Britain), August to September 1966
Invitations accepted from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, The Times (London), Royal Commonwealth Society and Institute of Meats.
Engagements, July to September 1966
Legacy Week, RSL 50th Anniversary, United Hungarian Organisation of NSW and Ballet Mexican Folklorico.

Engagements, 29 July 1966
Correspondence and briefing notes regarding: Townsville: 1) opening, Lavarack Barracks; 2) laying Foundation Stone, University College; and 3) lunch with aldermen.

Engagements, October to December 1966
Davis Cup, Sir F Richardson, visit of Prime Minister of Malta, Sir J McLeay, Liberal Party and diplomatic engagements.

Invitations declined, January to February 1966
Liberal Party groups, diplomatic, Australian Finance Conference and Monash University Religious Centre.

Correspondence (A), 1965–67
Correspondence regarding the Australian Gallup poll, American Australian Association, Kosciusko State Park, Anti-Apartheid Movement, Rhodesia and Spring Street (Melbourne) New Treasury Hotel site development.

Correspondence (B), 1965–66
Correspondence regarding Rhodesia, Graylands Migrant Hostel, Vietnam and by-elections. Includes letters from Viscount Stanley Melbourne Bruce and Dame Mabel Brookes.

Correspondence (C), 1966
Correspondence regarding the Canberra Cup, E J Connellan, Hon. Charles Court, J Creasey, Sun photograph, Rhodesia and the 12th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference.

Harold Holt greeting Dean Rusk at SEATO Conference, 1966. NAA: A 1200, L55672
Correspondence (D), 1966
Correspondence regarding Alfred E Daff, death of C G S Daff (Wesley College master), Sir Alexander Downer, Bob Dyer and Lyndon B Johnson’s visit.

Correspondence (E), 1966
Correspondence regarding Kooyong by-election, Holt family and secondary industry.

Correspondence (F), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding J A Farley (Chairman, Coca-Cola Export Corporation), B Freeman, Sir H Fysh, Dawson by-election, succession as Prime Minister and Prestige Ltd.

Correspondence (G), 1966
Correspondence regarding Rupert Gerard, Liberal Party branches and Rhodesia.

Correspondence (H), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding Hubert H Humphrey, personal representations, M Harvey, Sir E Herring, and Rt Hon. Edward Heath.

Correspondence (I), 1966
Correspondence regarding L Ivanoff and Blacktown naturalisation ceremony.

Correspondence (J), 1966
Correspondence regarding the Holt family, Lady Bird Johnson, official gifts and W M Jack.

Correspondence (K), 1961–67
Correspondence regarding S Korman, King Island Branch of the Liberal Party and Rev E Kent.

Correspondence (L), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding Dame Enid Lyons, Vietnam, Holt family, Art Linkletter, Sir Daryl Lindsay and Rhodesia.

Correspondence (M), 1965–66
Correspondence regarding Mrs Zara Holt, Rhodesia, Andrew Maxwell and Lyndon B Johnson.

Correspondence (Mc), 1966
Correspondence regarding Sir A McMullin and bereavements.

Correspondence (N), 1966
Correspondence regarding Mrs Zara Holt, media and Vietnam War.

Correspondence (O) 1966
Correspondence regarding Gunner P O’Neill, Hubert Opperman, Brisbane ‘Meet-the-Press’ interview and Vietnam.

Correspondence (P), 1966
Correspondence regarding China shipbuilding industry, Andrew Peacock, Vietnam and conscription opinion poll and the state funeral of Sir Shane Paltridge.

Correspondence (Q), 1966
Correspondence regarding Liberal Party (Qld Division), HRH the Queen Mother and Vietnam.
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<th>Correspondence (R), 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 104</th>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence regarding the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Royal Easter Show (Sydney), international commercial banks and religious broadcasting.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (S), 1963–67</th>
<th>M2606, 105</th>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence regarding the 13th Sydney Film Festival, Vietnam, Sir D Low (political cartoonist), Postgraduate Medical School (London), Sir Percy Spender, Rhodesia, Jim Short and the Sun photograph.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (T), 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 106</th>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence regarding Rhodesia, Minnie Thomas Library, Mrs Zara Holt and Sarawak visit.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (U), 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 107</th>
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<td>Correspondence regarding U Thant (UN Secretary-General), C F Urschel and modern Australian architecture.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (V), 1959–66</th>
<th>M2606, 108</th>
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<td>Correspondence regarding F Vebr, Vietnam, Ambassador of Vietnam and the Australia Party.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (W), 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 109</th>
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<td>Correspondence regarding religious broadcasting, Rhodesia, Sir E Warren, succession as Prime Minister and personal representations.</td>
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<th>Correspondence (X,Y,Z), 1966</th>
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<td>Correspondence regarding YWCA fete at The Lodge and Zimbabwe African Peoples’ Union memorandum on Southern Rhodesia.</td>
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<th>Public Service Board and Prime Minister’s Department, 1957–67</th>
<th>M2606, 111</th>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence regarding prime ministerial personal staff, permanent heads, Defence Forces Emergency Reserves, research and development, Cabinet attendants, decimal currency Changeover Day, the Press Secretary’s accommodation and national arts policy.</td>
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<th>Departmental and Ministerial correspondences, 1961–66</th>
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<td>Correspondence regarding the Senate, repatriation benefits, Treasury, Northern Territory, Papua and New Guinea, Presbyterian Church of Victoria’s recommendations on Vietnam, Sir G Barwick, national service, 19th World Health Assembly, American media coverage of the Vietnam War, Commonwealth State grants and C Couttoupes.</td>
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<th>Education, 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 113</th>
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<th>Speech, November 1966</th>
<th>M2606, 115</th>
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<td>Speech (including drafts) to Parliament about Seven Nation Summit Conference, Manila and The Philippines.</td>
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<th>Election and overseas visit – briefing papers, 1966–67</th>
<th>M2606, 116</th>
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<td>Briefing papers regarding industrial research and development, King George V Memorial, Australian service casualties, Arthur Calwell policy speech, defence expenditure and foreign aid.</td>
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</table>
Referendum proposal, 1965–66
Referendum proposal to remove the nexus between the House of Representatives and the Senate.

1966 Election policy speech drafts and messages, 1966–67
Election policy speech, drafts and messages including correspondence about the National Health Scheme.

Federal election 1966
Correspondence, press releases, speech drafts and research notes.

Agenda, minutes of meetings and related papers.

Liberal Party and general correspondence, 1966–67

General correspondence and papers, 1966–67

General and Liberal Party correspondence, 1966–67

General correspondence, 1964–67
Correspondence regarding communism, the Liberal Party, Asian development, Australian Referendum Movement, 4th Pan-Pacific Convention of Appraisers and pilots’ strike.

Memorandum about ‘David Holt’ (Higgins electorate), 1966
Legal opinion about change of surname.

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister (family), 1966
This item includes letters regarding the death of Holt’s aunt, Vera Pearce.

General correspondence (A–L), 1955–66
Correspondence regarding National Servicemen in Vietnam, the Liberal Party, Quakers, industrial trends, congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, Canberra Anglers Association, Mrs J Hosking, Cliff Holt, L Hartnett, Sir A Downer and Lord Casey.

General correspondence (M–Y), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding patronage, Wheelchair and Disabled Association of Australia, congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen’s Association of Australia, Rhodesia, Penfold’s Wines donations and Sir H Opperman.

General correspondence, 1966–67
Correspondence regarding succession as Prime Minister, Lord Casey, patronage, Australian Institute of Oceanography, Northern development symposium, foreign policy, anti-conscription, Australasian Pioneers’ Club, private members of Parliament, Australian Council for Overseas Aid and D C Hannaford.

Correspondence and newscuttings, 1958–67
Correspondence and newspaper cuttings regarding the retirement of Sir Arthur Fadden, E J Ward, overseas visit September–October 1959, decentralisation, Rhodesia, S W Nowak Churchill Fellowship, Greek Orthodox Church in Australia and Murray Valley Development League.
PRESS CUTTINGS SCRAPBOOK RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT’S
SUCCESSION AS PRIME MINISTER, JANUARY–MARCH 1966

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

The press cuttings in this volume document the succession of Holt to the position of Prime Minister in January 1966, following the retirement of Sir Robert Menzies.

The cuttings relate to Holt’s wife (Mrs Zara Holt) and family, his policies and leisure pursuits, overseas visitors, decimal currency, Vietnam, Menzies and the deputy leadership of the Liberal Party, and include an interview with John Bennetts (The Age). They are mainly from Australian newspapers, including the Sydney Morning Herald, Daily Mirror, Financial Review, Canberra Times, Sydney Sun and The Age. Most of the cuttings include photographs and some are political cartoons. A smaller number of cuttings are from overseas newspapers, including the Illustrated London News and the New York Times (Australian News and Information Bureau copies).

Press cuttings scrapbook relating to Harold Edward Holt’s succession as Prime Minister, January–March 1966

Prime Minister Harold Holt reviews a march past of WRANS to mark the raising of the new ensign, HMAS Harman, Canberra, March 1967. NAA: A1200, L60986
PRESS CUTTING SCRAPBOOKS RELATING TO THE COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS’ CONFERENCE, LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1966

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Canberra)

The two volumes of press cuttings in this series relate to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference held in London in September 1966. It was the first such conference attended by Holt as Prime Minister.

The main issue discussed at the conference was Rhodesian independence and, by implication, the role of the United Kingdom’s Prime Minister (Harold Wilson) and the future of the British Commonwealth. Other subjects covered in the volumes include Vietnam, Zambia, Kashmir, the Ghurkas and the assassination of the South African Prime Minister (Dr Verwoerd).

The cuttings are entirely from London and other United Kingdom newspapers, including The Guardian, Daily Express, Sun, Evening Standard (London), The Scotsman, Newcastle Journal, Western Mail and Yorkshire Evening Post. They have been pasted up chronologically.

Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference, London, September 1966 A1729, 1
This press cuttings scrapbook covers the period 29 August to 14 September 1966.

Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference, London, September 1966 A1729, 2
This press cuttings scrapbook covers the period 14 September to 18 September 1966.

PRESS CUTTINGS RELATING TO THE SEVEN NATION SUMMIT CONFERENCE, MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES, 24–25 OCTOBER 1966

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Canberra)

This large volume represents Filipino press coverage of the Seven Nation Summit Conference held in Manila 24–25 October 1966. The Summit was hosted by President Ferdinand E Marcos of The Philippines and aimed at trying to end the Vietnam War. Leaders of the seven countries attending were President Lyndon B Johnson (USA), Harold Holt (Australia), Keith Holyoake (NZ), Park Chung Hee (South Korea), Nguyen Cao Ky (South Vietnam), Thanom Kittikachorn (Thailand) and Marcos. Much of the media attention focused on President Johnson.

Two-thirds of the volume covers the lead up to the Summit; the remaining one-third is taken up by entertainment of the leaders’ wives, the Summit itself and its immediate aftermath. The cuttings (including cartoons) are from the main English Philippines newspapers, including The Philippine Herald,
Manila Bulletin, Manila Chronicle, Manila Times and the Evening News, and the Tagalog (Filipino national language) newspaper Taliba. The volume was compiled by the Philippine Press Clipping Bureau. It was received by Holt’s Press Secretary, Tony Eggleton, in early March 1967.


SET OF TWO FACSIMILE MANUSCRIPTS BY JOSE RIZAL PRESENTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER (RT HON. HAROLD EDWARD HOLT) BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND MRS FERDINAND E MARCOS, OCTOBER 1966 A1666

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27) 1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.43 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of a presentation set of two facsimile manuscripts of novels by Jose Rizal (1861–96), one of the leaders of the Propaganda Movement in The Philippines. The first novel, Noli Me Tangere, concerns Filipino sufferings under Spanish rule and was originally published in 1887. The second novel, El Filibusterismo, appeared in 1891 and is an attack on the religious orders. Both works are in Spanish and became central to the Filipino opposition to Spain.

The facsimiles were published by the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission in 1961. Each of the two black leather-bound volumes, titles embossed, are personally inscribed ‘October 25, 1966. To Prime Minister Harold Holt, Australia. Best wishes F E Marcos’. They were presented in a gold satin-lined wooden box, with the brass plate inscription ‘From the President of The Philippines and Mrs Ferdinand E Marcos’ at the conclusion of the Seven Nation Summit Conference in Manila on that date.

Set of two facsimile manuscripts by Jose Rizal presented by the President of The Philippines and Mrs Ferdinand E Marcos, 25 October 1966 A1666, 1

CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS PRIME MINISTER, 1966–67 M2684

Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27) 1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.06 metres (Canberra)

This series consists primarily of correspondence files maintained in the Prime Minister’s Office during Holt’s prime ministership. The files relate to declined invitations, social and official engagements, congratulations on Holt becoming Prime Minister (January 1966) and his investiture as a Companion of Honour (June 1967), overseas visits, November 1966 general election, 1967 Senate election and general representations. The correspondence covers a wide range of companies, small businesses, service associations, Liberal Party branches, lobby groups, local government, community and religious organisations, professional and sporting bodies,
student groups, diplomatic and business associates,
Government ministers and other parliamentarians, personal
friends and other individuals. A few files include letters from
Holt’s wife (Mrs Zara Holt) and his brother (Cliff Holt).

Three presentation gifts are included in the series – a gold
bible commemorating the distribution of one million bibles
by Gideons International in Australia (1966); a photograph
album documenting the visit of President Saragat of Italy
(1967); and a leather writing folder relating to Holt’s earlier
ministerial career in the Immigration and Labour and
National Service portfolios.

The alphabetical order of the papers within many of the files
reflects the original filing by Holt’s personal staff.

Declined invitations, March 1966 – December 1967
M2684, 1 to 33

M2684, 34 to 42

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister (A–Z), 1966
M2684, 43 to 56

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister – personal
ones answered by letter, 1963–67
M2684, 57

Miscellaneous congratulations on becoming Prime
Minister, 1966
M2684, 58

Senate elections, November 1967
M2684, 59

Campaign arrangements.

Election congratulations, November 1966
M2684, 60

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, 1966
Written replies, includes Mrs Zara Holt’s letters.

Election congratulations, November 1966
Acknowledged by printed card, (A–C to S–Z).
M2684, 63 to 66

Election congratulations, November 1966
Acknowledged by letter, (A–H to K–Y)
M2684, 67 and 68

Election congratulations, November 1966
M2684, 69 and 70

Congratulations on investiture as a Companion of Honour,
June 1967
Letters and telegrams from political associates and others.
M2684, 71

Overseas visit – correspondence, June/July 1966
This item includes letters from Sir Douglas Copland, the
Australian Railways Union and the Australian British Trade
Association.
M2684, 72

Overseas visit – arrangements, June/July 1966
Cables relating to appointments and engagements.
M2684, 73

Overseas visit (USA and Britain) – arrangements, August–
September 1966
Cables and correspondence relating to appointments and
social engagements.
M2684, 74

Overseas visit (Manila) – cables, 23–26 October 1966
Cables regarding the Seven Nation Summit Conference.
M2684, 75
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<td>Overseas visit (Manila) – correspondence, 23–26 October 1966</td>
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<td>This item includes papers about the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement and letters from Mrs Zara Holt.</td>
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<td>Future overseas visits, 1967</td>
<td>M2684, 76</td>
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<td>Correspondence about engagements.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (A), 1966–67</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding the shipbuilding industry,</td>
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<td>Australian Council for Overseas Aid, Australian National University colleges and Australian League of Rights.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (B), 1966–68</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding Holt’s disappearance,</td>
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<td>demonstration outside his Toorak home, Viscount Stanley Melbourne Bruce, Corio by-election, Rev. Sir Irving Benson and F A Bland.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (C), 1966–67</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association,</td>
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<td>C Cosser, E Clark (US Ambassador), Gordon Chater (actor) and D Rockefeller.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (D), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding Don Dunstan, Da Tel Inc,</td>
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<td>rehabilitation of the handicapped, Al Daff and Bob Dyer.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (E), 1966–67</td>
<td>M2684, 81</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding C Engelhard, S Emanuel and Liberal Party public relations.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (F), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding F M Forde, J Floss (Holt gardener),</td>
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<td>F Fisher, interest equalisation tax, J A Farley – address on US</td>
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<td>foreign policy and Sir Arthur Fadden.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (G), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding V Greenhalgh (sculptor) and Rupert Gerard.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (H), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding Keith Holyoake, Cliff Holt,</td>
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<td>Australian-American Association, Senate election television</td>
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<td>campaign, J Hamilton lyrics and Barry Humphries.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (I), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding the Inter-Parliamentary Union.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (J), 1966–67</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding W G Jaeger and the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (K), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding E Kent (vicar at Sorrento) and</td>
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<td>R Katter.</td>
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<td>Correspondence (L), 1967</td>
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<td>Correspondence regarding Senate election, Four Corners TV program,</td>
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<td>H Loomis, H R Lake (NZ Finance Minister) and F E Lampe.</td>
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Correspondence (M), 1967
Correspondence regarding moral rearmament, Dame Mabel Miller, Methodist Church, Conzinc Riotinto, Marymead Homes and Sir M Mawby.

Correspondence (Mc), 1967–68
Correspondence regarding J McEwen, Lyndon B Johnson’s visit, Vietnam and E Turnbull.

Correspondence (N), 1967
Correspondence regarding copper export, Kirribilli House, road safety and the Senate election.

Correspondence (O), 1967
Correspondence regarding the Liberal Party, Archbishop E O’Brien, H Opperman and the Corio by-election.

Correspondence (P), 1967
Correspondence regarding Clifton Pugh, de L’Isle portraits, HMAS Voyager and communism.

Correspondence (Q), c 1967
No papers.

Correspondence (R), 1966–68
Correspondence regarding Sir N Rydge, A Rosenblum, Morgan Gallup poll, King Island war service land settlement and J Robertson recordings.

Correspondence (S), 1967
Correspondence regarding the Young Liberals, children’s letters, R Southey, European Common Market and E H Sanders (WW I and WW II ex-serviceman).

Correspondence (T), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding ACT Dental Board, Botswana and Time-Life.

Correspondence (U), 1967
Correspondence regarding Underwater Skindivers and Fishermen’s Association of Australia and the Capricornia by-election.

Correspondence (V), 1963–67
Correspondence regarding 3rd Commonwealth Golf Tournament, H K McKenzie (cyclist), Victorian Amateur Cyclists Union and the Victoria League (Canberra).

Correspondence (W), 1966–67
Correspondence regarding Taiwan, Senate election, moral rearmament, M Willesee, Sir E Warren and the Australian Industries Development Corporation.

Correspondence (X, Y, Z), 1967
Correspondence regarding YWCA and Archbishop of York.

Requests for appointments, 1967
This item includes requests from the War Widows Guild, Thos W Ward Ltd, youth groups, Hoover (Australia) Pty Ltd, Bowater Papers Company Ltd and Hilda Abbott.
Letters of introduction, 1967
Letters regarding Antony Whitlam, Maurice Sloman, Vogue Australia, Alec Lee and J Baker.

Patronage and donations given, 1967
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ACT), sporting bodies, women’s groups and Commercial Travellers’ Club.

Patronage and donations refused, 1967
Vietnam Civil Aid Campaign, Lord Mayor’s Children’s Camp (Portsea) and Kontum Mission.

Books received, 1967
Books received from publishing houses, individuals, banks, companies, associations, Toorak Young Liberals and Kamahl; Baha’i Faith.

Diaries and calendars received, 1967
Diaries and calendars received from embassies, John Sands Pty Ltd and other companies.

Prime Minister’s Department stamp orders, 1967

Prime Minister’s Department stationery orders, 1967

Prime Minister’s Department staff circulars, 1967
Staff circulars regarding VIP flights, Holt’s personal pilot, drivers and next of kin.

Prime Minister’s Department transport, 1967
Car usage statements.

Personal and Christmas gifts, 1966–67
This item includes letters about a photograph album and film of official visit to Korea and silver beakers for The Lodge.

Birthday greetings, August 1967
Birthday greetings from friends and political associates.

Official visit of Prime Minister Ky, 1967

Liberal Party, 1967
This item includes papers about Young Liberals, Senate election, Hornsby State Electorate Conference and J R Willoughby.


Brother’s death: sympathy letters, 1967
Cliff Holt died in Sydney in March 1967.

Overseas visit – New Zealand, 2–8 February 1967
This item includes cables, briefing notes, itinerary and letters from NZ Prime Minister, Keith Holyoake.

Overseas visit – Asia, March–April 1967
This item includes cables, briefing notes, itinerary and correspondence.

**Overseas visit – USA, Cambodia, Britain, 28 May – 22 June 1967** M2684, 120
This item includes cables, programs, correspondence and letters from Mrs Zara Holt.

**Personal letters – family, 1929–68** M2684, 121
This item includes extracts of birth, passport photographs and letters from Cliff Holt and Sam Holt.

**Personal letters, 1965–67** M2684, 122
This item contains letters from Harold Wilson, Jim Short, Dean Rusk, David Rockefeller, J Forace, Sir Robert Menzies, Lyndon B Johnson, Averill Harriman, J Farley, Ed Clark, Sir E Bastyan and Sir Charles Court. It also includes cartoons, photographs and other papers.

**Briefing material, 1967** M2684, 123
This item contains briefing material regarding sterling devaluation, wool prices, Hon. J D Anthony and Associated Chamber of Manufactures of Australia.

**Briefing material, 1967** M2684, 124
This item includes representations, cables and press statements regarding sterling devaluation and tariffs.

**Miscellaneous handwritten notes, 1961–67** M2684, 125
This item contains notes regarding elections, the Liberal Party and Asia and includes a 1964 diary.

**Overseas visit, May 1966 – South-East Asia (Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia) – correspondence, 1966** M2684, 126

**Correspondence with Mr Peter H Bailey, 1967–69** M2684, 127
Letters about company taxation, Parliamentarians’ facilities, conscription, bombing of North Vietnam and Dr J F Cairns.
J H Büsst, 1966–67
Correspondence regarding North Queensland tropical rain forest preservation and Ellison Reef mining application.

Correspondence with Ministers, 1966–67

Correspondence with Ministers, 1966–67
Paul Hasluck, Denham Henty, Peter Howson, A S Hulme and C R Kelly.

Correspondence with Ministers, 1966–67
John McEwen and G C McKellar.

Correspondence with Ministers, 1966–67
William McMahon.

Correspondence with Ministers, 1966–67
Hubert Opperman, Annabelle Rankin, Billy Snedden and R Swartz.

Correspondence with Members of Parliament (A–J), 1965–67
Jefferson Bate, A Buchanan, K Cairns, A Calwell, R Cleaver, M Cormack, N Drury, D Erwin and A Jones.

Correspondence with Members of Parliament (K–W), 1959–67

Engagements, April 1967
This item includes correspondence about Anzac Day, Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia and Seoul National University honorary doctorate.

Engagements, May 1967
This item includes correspondence about Los Angeles World Affairs Council, RSL presentation of chairs to Parliament, opening of E R Squibb & Sons plant and the 3rd International Congress on Human Relations.

Engagements, June 1967
This item includes correspondence about American Australian Association Far East–America Council, Expo 67, White House.

Holy Bible, 12 May 1966
Presented to commemorate the distribution of one million volumes of the Holy Scripture by Gideons International in Australia.

Visit of President Giuseppe Saragat of Italy, 25 September – 1 October 1967
Green photograph album in black slipcase.

Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration, 19 December 1949 – 11 May 1951
Blue leather-bound presentation writing folder.
**APPOINTMENT DIARIES MAINTAINED BY THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (HAROLD EDWARD HOLT) 1966–1967**

Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

**Quantity:** 0.09 metres (Canberra)

These small brown appointment diaries were kept in the Private Secretary’s Office, in the Prime Ministerial suite at Parliament House, during Holt’s term as Prime Minister (see also series A2588, page 77).

Entries in the diaries cover VIP visitors, including the Queen Mother, Lyndon B Johnson (US President) and the prime ministers of Thailand, New Zealand, Japan, South Vietnam and Laos, meetings with ministers, diplomats and others, Holt’s VIP travel, Cabinet and Party meetings, House of Representatives sittings, press briefings, Premiers’ Conferences, official and social engagements.

**Appointment diary maintained by the Private Secretary (F W Jennings), 1966**

**Appointment diary maintained by the Private Secretary (F W Jennings), 1967**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES OF THE PRIME MINISTER (HAROLD EDWARD HOLT) RELATING TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS, 1966–67**

Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

**Quantity:** 0.18 metres (Canberra)

This series mainly consists of correspondence between Holt as Prime Minister, and several foreign heads of government. The files relate particularly to the Vietnam War, British withdrawal east of Suez and regional security in South-East Asia. Other subjects include Rhodesia, British Guiana, food relief to India and Africa, official visits, Arthur Calwell’s visit to Malta, the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution of October 1917, the Greymouth mine disaster in New Zealand, and the July 1967 by-election for the seat of Corio (Vic).

The file numbering and titling system was imposed by the Prime Minister’s Department.

**Correspondence between the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and the US President, 1966–67**

This item includes personal letters signed by Holt and Lyndon B Johnson.

**Correspondence between Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and British Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson, 1966–67**

**Correspondence concerning British withdrawal east of Suez, 1966–67**

Correspondence regarding the British withdrawal east of Suez between Australian Prime Minister Mr Holt, and the Prime Ministers of New Zealand (Mr Holyoake), Malaysia (Tunku Abdul Rahman) and Singapore (Lee Kuan Yew).
Correspondence between Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr Holyoake, 1966–67 A7854, 4
Correspondence to Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, from Prime Minister of Vietnam, Air Vice Marshall Ky, 1966–67 A7854, 5
Miscellaneous correspondence between the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and Washington, 1966 A7854, 6
Correspondence between the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Dudley Senanayake, June–August 1967 A7854, 7
Correspondence between the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and the Australian High Commissioner to Malta, Mr Hubert Opperman, June–October 1967 A7854, 8
This item includes personal letters signed ‘Oppy’.
Correspondence between the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, and the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Ghandi, July 1967 A7854, 9
Correspondence to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, from the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Sato, October 1967 A7854, 10
Message to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Holt, from Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Mr Kosygin, 8 December 1967 A7854, 11

APPOINTMENT DIARY MAINTAINED BY THE ASSISTANT PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (HAROLD EDWARD HOLT), 1967 A2588

Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27) 1966–67 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)
This small blue appointment diary was kept in the Assistant Private Secretary’s office, in the Prime Ministerial suite at Parliament House, during Harold Holt’s second year as Prime Minister (see also series A2587, page 76).
Entries in the diary cover VIP visitors, meetings with Ministers, diplomats and others, Holt’s VIP travel, Cabinet meetings, House of Representatives sittings, the Premiers’ Conference, official and social engagements.

PRESS REPORTS ON THE VISIT OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA, TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN), 4–6 APRIL 1967 A1665

Recorded by: 1967 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27) 1967 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 0.45 metres (Canberra)
This volume of press cuttings includes reports on the visit of Holt and his wife (Mrs Zara Holt) to the Republic of China (Taiwan) from 4–6 April 1967. The visit, the first by an Australian Prime Minister, aimed to promote Sino-Australian relations and reflected the increasing role of Australia in...
Asian affairs. Subjects covered in the discussions with
President Chiang Kai-shek and other senior officials during
the visit included communist aggression, the Vietnam War,
Australia’s immigration policy and recognition of Outer
Mongolia.

Most of the cuttings are in Mandarin although the volume
does include some cuttings from the English-language
newspapers China News and China Post.

Press reports on the visit of Mr Harold Edward Holt to the
Republic of China (Taiwan), 4–6 April 1967 A1665, 1

SPEECHES AND RELATED PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS PRIME
MINISTER, 1967 M4249

Recorded by: 1967 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of two items, including speeches given by
Holt in the second year of his prime ministership. Although
mostly undated, the speeches appear to have been given in
the period September–October 1967.

Copies of speeches and speech, 1967 M4249, 1

Material relating to motor vehicle production, tariff policy,
mapping, developments in Queensland and Western Australia.

Comments by J Malcolm Fraser, 26 October 1967 M4249, 2

Fraser’s comments on Creighton Burns’ article in The Age
relating to Australia’s commitment to Vietnam.
Death and condolences, 1967–68

On the afternoon of 17 December 1967, Prime Minister Harold Holt went for a swim off Cheviot Beach, Portsea. He disappeared in the heavy surf and his body was never found. After an extensive search failed to find him, at 10pm on 18 December 1967, Holt’s long time friend and colleague, the then Governor-General Lord Casey, announced the termination of Holt’s commission as Prime Minister. Memorial services were scheduled as condolences poured in from around the world. Holt was the third Australian Prime Minister to die in office and his mysterious disappearance was the subject of much controversy. The circumstances of his death were the subject of an official inquiry and intensive media coverage.

BRIEFCASE, WALLETs AND RELATED PERSONAL PAPERS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1924-67

Recorded by: 1965–67  The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity:  0.80 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of personal items belonging to Holt mainly covering the period when he was Prime Minister (1966–67). The most significant item is the briefcase Holt took to Portsea in Victoria the weekend he disappeared while swimming at nearby Cheviot Beach. Official documents in the briefcase at that time were removed and passed to the Prime Minister’s Department by Holt’s Private Secretary. They were subsequently placed in archival custody by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in 1987 (M1945).

Briefcase, 1967

Brown leather briefcase with metal clasp and metal initials HEH on closing flap. The front pocket of the briefcase includes bank deposit books, tax returns, papers about power of attorney, shares, Egerton defamation case, Bingil Bay (Qld) property, Holt, Newman & Holt (solicitors) and Holt, Graham & Newman (Solicitors). The middle pocket includes official papers (photocopies) and other papers about salary payment, bank statements, cheque butts and a Victoria Amateur Turf Club Member’s Car Pass. The zip pocket contains personal effects including coins, combs, cigars and a fountain pen.

Documents wallet, 1965–67

Navy blue leather, gold embossing ‘Very Important Papers’. Contains: Harold Edward Holt’s driver’s licence and US Ambassador E Clark’s business card; statement of income and taxation deductions 1966–67; correspondence with M G Sloman about shares and statements of assets and liabilities at 30 June 1967; letter from W McMahon and other papers about Maxwell Newton; papers about Itoh incident and Maxwell Newton; and newspaper cuttings from The Australian Financial Review and Daily Mirror.

Wallets, c 1966

Four red leather wallets with Victoria Amateur Turf Club crest and stamped ‘Rt Hon. Harold Holt’; one black leather wallet from W (Bill) Morrell and stamped ‘HH’.
Luggage labels, c 1965
Four brown leather labels, three with printed insert ‘Rt Hon. Harold Holt, MP, Treasurer, Commonwealth of Australia’ and one with printed insert ‘Mrs Harold Holt’.

Israeli coin, c 1966
5-shekel silver coin in a small brown wooden presentation case.

The contents of the briefcase Harold Holt took to Portsea on the day he disappeared. Photograph by Alex Bellis

PAPERS CONTAINED IN THE BRIEFCASE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (HAROLD EDWARD HOLT) AT THE TIME OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE ON 17 DECEMBER 1967

Recorded by: 1967 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1967 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises the ‘official’ papers found in Holt’s briefcase at the time of his disappearance from Cheviot Beach, near Portsea in Victoria, on Sunday, 17 December 1967. The
value of the papers lies primarily in the fact that they happened to be in the briefcase at that particular time. Some of the papers relate to the political matters current between Holt and other persons. They include correspondence concerning the relationship between William McMahon and John McEwen, Morris West and the Liberal Reform Group, the Australian Bankers Development Refinance Corporation, C R Chapman and the Basic Industries Group.

One letter from the Governor-General, Lord Casey (dated 9 December 1967) to Holt, was returned to the Governor-General’s Office at the time and is now in the Casey Papers (held by the National Library of Australia). It was published in extenso in W J Hudson, Casey, (Melbourne, Oxford University Press, 1986) pp. 306–308.

The briefcase itself and other personal items found in it were returned to the Holt family. They were then deposited with the National Archives of Australia in 2002.

**Official papers contained in Harold Edward Holt’s briefcase at the time of his disappearance on 17 December 1967**

Apart from the memo from the Governor-General (as described above), the papers in Holt’s briefcase include:

1. part of a letter on House of Representatives letterhead, unsigned, recommending the appointment of P C Spender as a Privy Councillor. It became common knowledge early in 1998 that this note had been written by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Whitlam;

2. carbon of a letter from J L Carrick (General Secretary of the Liberal Party, NSW) to William McMahon about the Basic Industries Group, minuted to the Prime Minister by William McMahon, 29 June 1967;

3. memo, unsigned, addressed to the Prime Minister and headed ‘Connections between Mr Morris West and the Liberal Reform Groups’ with attachments:
   - teletyped copy of cable no. 155 from London, marked ‘referred to Mr Eggleton’
   - copy of paper headed ‘Confidential instructions to personnel on polling day’, signed ‘H R Wessley, Candidate for Bruce, LRG’
   - copy of paper headed ‘Liberal Reform Group’ and ‘Instructions for handing out how to vote cards’
   - copies of how-to-vote ‘Liberal Reform’ cards for the electorates of Yarra, Flinders, Bendigo and Balaclava
   - minutes by T E Eggleton to Prime Minister ‘AAP’s viewpoint on Morris West’s interview’
   - cutting from Sydney Morning Herald, 3 March 1967 ‘Labor splinter party report wrong’;
4. personal and confidential aide memoire, 11 December 1967, William McMahon to the Prime Minister, with copy of Page 1 of Inside Canberra, 26 October 1967; and

5. personal and confidential letter, 7 April 1967, John McEwen to Prime Minister about Development Corporation and Bankers Refinancing Corporation.

CONDOLENCE BOOKS, LETTERS, CARDS AND TELEGRAMS RECEIVED ON THE DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON. HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1967–68

Recorded by: 1967–68 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
1967–68 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 5.58 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of 77 condolence books and over 80 files of letters, cards and telegrams received following the disappearance of Harold Edward Holt on 17 December 1967, towards the end of his second year as Prime Minister.

Condolences books were opened on 20 December in each Australian State and Territory (Northern Territory, ACT and Norfolk Island), where they were made available in a suitable public place for those who wished to sign them. Other condolences books were opened in Australian Embassies, Consulates and Trade Commissions overseas and at special Memorial Services. In most cases, the books were closed after three days, although several of the overseas ones remained open until the end of the month and a small number into the first week of January 1968.

These books were generally signed by senior members of the foreign government (but not necessarily the Head of State) where they were opened, by diplomatic representatives of other countries, Australian and other embassy and consular staff, representatives of international organisations and companies, and by Australians living overseas or visiting the country at the time. Most of the books are leather-bound although, overall, the size and quality varies considerably. Those from London, Washington and Madrid are particularly fine. A few were originally intended for use as a visitors’ book or consist of loose sheets subsequently bound. The overseas condolences books were returned to Australia through diplomatic channels and were made available to Holt’s widow, Mrs Zara Holt.

Most of the letters, cards and telegrams (which number over 3000) are addressed to Mrs Holt personally, including those sent through the Department of External Affairs or a Member of Parliament. They include expressions of sympathy from Heads of State and royalty, local government, community organisations, branches of political parties, professional bodies, churches, personal friends and associates, and a large number from individual members of the Australian public (men, women and young people). Many of the individual letters refer to the experience of personal loss in the writer’s family, the circumstances of meeting Holt, hearing of his disappearance or attending one of the numerous Memorial
Services held for him. Others include religious literature or a poem. A few files also include letters of congratulation to Mrs Holt on being created a Dame (June 1968).

The process of acknowledging such a large number of letters, telegrams and cards (some of which were attached to floral tributes) was enormous. Copies of the replies are not generally in the files, although there are some originals whose mailing out was apparently overlooked. Responses to Heads of State and other prominent persons appear to have been completed by February 1968, but acknowledgment of the remainder was done over a five-week period in May–June.

The series provides insight into the diversity of sympathy (official and private, Australian and overseas), Australian social and political sentiment at the time, and individual comments on Holt as a person, his ministerial career, as Prime Minister and his international standing.


Condolences Book Suva – the late Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, CH, 1967–68

Condolence Book on the death of Harold Edward Holt – Hong Kong, 1967–68


Australian Government Trade Commission, Calcutta
Condolences Book on the death of Harold Edward Holt, 1967

Report by the Commonwealth and Victoria Police, 1968

Condolence Book – Opened at the Australian Embassy, Vientiane, Laos, 1967

Livre de Condoleances, Ambassade d’Australie, Phnom-Penh, 1967

In Remembrance of – Condolences Book – Australian Consulate, Copenhagen, 1967

A Book of Condolence. Opened in Saigon at the Residence of the Australian Ambassador includes Memorial Service tribute and order of service, 22 December 1967

The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, PC, LLB, 1908–67
Condolences Book – Northern Territory, 1967

Australian Embassy, Manila. Condolences received, 1967

Condolences – Stockholm, 1967
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tr>
<td>Australian High Commission, London</td>
<td>1967–68</td>
<td>M2655, 15</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Tasmania, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 16</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Western Australia, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 17</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Bombay, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 18</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – South Australia, 1967–68</td>
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<td>M2655, 19</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – New York, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Condolences Book – Australian Consulate, Hamburg</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>M2655, 21</td>
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<td>Australian Embassy, Mexico – Condolences Book, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 22</td>
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<td>Extract from Condolence Book – Australian Permanent Mission and Consulate-General, Geneva, Switzerland, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 23</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Seoul, Korea, includes photograph, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 24</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – NSW, 1967</td>
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<td>Embassy of Australia, Taipei Condolences Book, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Japanese officials, Japan (Japanese script), 1967</td>
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<td>Australian Consulate, Noumea – Condolences, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 29</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Athens, includes correspondence, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Lagos 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Foreign diplomats and other persons, Japan, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – New Delhi, 20–22 December 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Johannesburg, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Pretoria, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 36</td>
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<td>Condolence Book – Beirut, 1967–68</td>
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<td>M2655, 37</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Australian Embassy staff, Japan (English and Japanese script), 1967</td>
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<td>Prime Minister of Australia Condolences Book – Bonn, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Madrid, 1967</td>
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<td>Australian Consulate, Capetown – Condolences Book, 1967</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Auckland, 1967</td>
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<td>Australian Embassy, Buenos Aires – Condolence Book, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 43</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Montreal, 1967</td>
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<td>Los Angeles Condolences Book, 1967–68</td>
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<td>M2655, 45</td>
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<td>In Memoriam – Condolences Book – Belgrade, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Messages of sympathy from Malta – December 1967</td>
<td></td>
<td>M2655, 47</td>
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<td>Condolences Book – Kenya, 1967</td>
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<td>M2655, 48</td>
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</table>
Condolences Book – Rio de Janeiro, 1967

Condolences Book – Singapore - includes correspondence, Memorial Service order of service and photographs, 1967


Condolence book from the people of the South Island of New Zealand, December 1967

Condolences Book – Moscow, 1967

Condolences Book – Bangkok, 1967

Memorial services in Kuala Lumpur, Rangoon, Ottawa, San Francisco and Paris – orders of services and condolences sheets, 1967–68

Condolences Book – Vienna, 1967

Condolences Book – Paris, 1967

Condolences Book – Dili, Portuguese Timor, 1967

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68

Condolences – letters and cards, mainly from children and publications, 1967–68

Condolences – letters and cards, mainly from children, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from Heads of State and other prominent persons, including J Perceval (artist), 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from Heads of State and other prominent persons and others, 1967–68

Condolences – letters from organisations and local government, with replies from PM John McEwen, 1967–68

Condolences – letters and telegrams from business organisations and prominent persons, with replies from PM John McEwen and others, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68

Condolences – letters and telegrams from personal friends and associates (A–B to U–Z), 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from Members of Parliament, diplomatic representatives and others, includes Mexico Memorial Service order of service, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from church organisations, includes Church of St John the Baptist, Canberra Memorial Service order of service, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from branches of political parties, church and other organisations, includes City of Los Angeles tribute, 1967–68

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from branches of political parties and others, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from branches of political parties, Members of Parliament and others. Also includes Darling Point Memorial order of service, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from branches of political parties and others, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from Australian diplomatic missions and others, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams from local government, community organisations and others, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams received through Members of Parliament from local government and community, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, includes Prospect High School, Launceston magazine, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68  
Condolences Book – Berlin, includes correspondence, 1967  
Condolences Book – Port of Spain, Residence, 1967  
Condolences Book – Port of Spain, Office, 1967  
Condolences Book – Vancouver, British Columbia, 1967  
Condolences Book – Malaysia, 1967  
Condolences Book – Cairo, 1967  
Condolences Book – Australian Embassy, Tel Aviv, 1967  
Condolences Book – Brussels, 1967  
Condolences Book – Australian High Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 1967  
Australian High Commission, Accra Condolences Book, 1967  
Condolences Book Australian Embassy, Washington DC, 1967  
Messages of Condolence from Norfolk Island, 1967  
In Memoriam – Condolences Book – Ottawa, 1967  
Condolences Book – Dublin, 1967  
Book of Condolence – Australian High Commission, Karachi Office, Pakistan, 1967  
Book of Condolence – Australian High Commission, Rawalpindi, Pakistan includes correspondence, 1967–68  
Condolences Book – Rome, 1967  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, includes unsigned replies, 1967–68  
Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, includes replies and Newcastle Memorial service address, 1967–68
Condolences – letters and cards, 1967–68
M2655, 152 to 54

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, including some from royalty, 1967–68
M2655, 155

Condolences – letters, cards and telegrams, 1967–68
M2655, 156 and 157

Condolences Book – Victoria, 1967–68
M2655, 158

Condolences Book – Wellington, New Zealand, 1967
M2655, 159

Condolences Book – Djakarta, including entries dated 26 January 1967 to mark the first anniversary of Holt’s term of office as Prime Minister, 1967
M2655, 160

Phillip Lynch speaking at a memorial service for Harold Holt, Cheviot Beach, Portsea, 1969.
N A A : A 1200, L79740
Portraits, photographs and films, 1920–86

Press Secretary to Prime Minister Gorton, Mr Tony Eggleton looking at a portrait of former Prime Minister Harold Holt by William E Pidgeon, 1970. NAA: A1200, L87091

AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AND MRS ZARA HOLT, 1920–86

Recorded by:

1920–86 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
1930–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.80 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of about 380 photographs, one 45 rpm record and six films relating to Harold Holt and his wife, Zara Holt (later Dame Zara). The material mainly covers the period when Holt was Prime Minister (1966–67), although many of the photographs relate to his earlier career, particularly as Minister for Immigration (1949–56) and later, Treasurer (1958–66).

Most of the photographs are black and white prints in various sizes. They include official portraits, family photographs, Australian News and Information Bureau and official photographs covering a wide range of Holt’s official engagements both in Australia and overseas. A smaller number of photographs relate to Zara Holt, including her childhood, early fashion business in Melbourne, as wife of a
senior political figure and after Holt’s death. These are listed separately in Chapter 5.

The one 45 rpm record in the series is a recording of the song ‘We’re with you all the way LBJ’ sent to Holt by its composer B A Conway. The title refers to Holt’s association with US President Lyndon B Johnson and support of American involvement in Vietnam.

Six films make up the remainder of the series. They are print copies of Movietone, ABC, United States Information Service and other news films covering key events when Holt was Prime Minister. These include President Johnson’s visit to Australia and the Seven Nations’ Summit Conference in Manila (1966), Holt’s tour of Asia and ‘Meet the Press’ interviews in the US (1967).

Photographs – Harold Edward Holt, c 1930–1967 M4294, 3
This item includes official portraits.

Photographs – Harold Edward Holt and Mrs Zara Holt, c 1950–67 M4294, 4
This item includes official portraits.

Photographs – official engagements, c 1950–66 M4294, 5
This item includes photographs of the Third Citizenship Convention 1952, factory visits and the opening of Lavarack Barracks, Townsville 29 July 1966.

Photographs – official engagements, 1948–67 M4294, 6
This item includes photographs of Robert Gordon Menzies, John F Kennedy (US President), visits to Greece, Lausanne Trade Fair, Her Majesty the Queen Mother and conferences.

Photographs – official engagements, 1964–67 M4294, 7
This item includes photographs of conferences, opening of Moral Re-armament Monash Action Assembly and Lausanne Trade Fair.

45 rpm Record – song ‘We’re with you all the way LBJ’, 1966 M4294, 8
Composed by B A Conway and sung by George Greenwood.

Film – President Johnson Visit [Movietone], c 1966 M4294, 9

Film – Prime Minister Holt, 1966 M4294, 10
Film of the Holts relaxing at Portsea which includes footage of Harold Holt scuba diving and spear fishing on the southern end of the Mornington Peninsula.

Film – Prime Minister Holt, 1966 M4294, 11
Footage of guests and dance performances at a multicultural dinner function held for Holt at Five Dock in Sydney.

Film – Seven Nations’ Summit Conference, Manila, 1966, United States Information Service. M4294, 12

Film – Tour of Asia by the Prime Minister of Australia, 1967 ABC News.

Film – Meet the Press, 1967 M4294, 13
Interviews recorded in New York and Washington by NBC.
**AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AND MRS ZARA HOLT, 1921–81**

 Recorded by:  
 1921–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)  
 1950–69 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)  

 Quantity: 0.80 metres (Canberra)  

 This series consists of about 195 photographs, four sound recordings and four films relating to Holt and his wife, Zara Holt (later Dame Zara). The material mainly covers the period when Holt was Prime Minister (1966–67), although many of the photographs relate to his earlier career, particularly as Minister for Immigration (1949–56). Several items relate specifically to Mrs Zara Holt.  

 Most of the photographs are black and white prints in various sizes. Some are framed items. They include official portraits, family photographs, Australian News and Information Bureau and other official photographs covering a wide range of Holt’s official engagements both in Australia and overseas. A number of the photographs relate to Mrs Zara Holt as wife of a senior political figure, both before and after Holt’s death. A few relate to the first year of her subsequent marriage to another politician, H J P (Jeff) Bate and to her fashion business ‘Magg’. These are listed separately in Chapter 5.  

 The sound recordings are two records and two tapes. They include a recording of speeches made at the historic Commonwealth Parliamentary Association luncheon given in Westminster Hall, London in 1953, when Holt was Chairman of the Association, and a speech given by Holt at the 36th Session of the International Labour Conference the same year. The other two recordings are the song ‘Dame Zara’, by the group ‘The Wheelbarrow’, and a cassette tape of Mrs Zara Holt responding to ‘Dorothy Dix’ questions (see Chapter 5).  

 Four films make up the remainder of the series. They are print copies of ABC and foreign news films covering key events in the second year of Holt’s term of office as Prime Minister. These include the visit of Air Vice-Marshall Ky (Prime Minister of South Vietnam) to Australia, opening of the US Communications facility at North West Cape and overseas visits by the Holts to the US and Cambodia.  

 **Photographs – family and friends, 1946–81**  

 This item includes early photographs of Christopher (grandson), Nicolas, Andrew and Sam Holt (sons), the opening of the Franklin Road Country Club, Portsea, a family wedding in Sydney and later photographs of Dame Zara Holt with one of her sons.  

 **Photograph – family, c 1956**  

 Print of Nicolas Holt, aged c 16 years.  

 **Photographs – Harold Edward Holt, 1921–67**  

 This item contains photographs of Wesley College, Melbourne cricket team 1921, three photographs c 1950, later official portraits and a drawing by Paul Ruek in 1967.
Photograph – Harold Edward Holt, 1967
Print taken by The Advocate, Tasmania.

This item includes official portraits.

Photographs – official engagements, c 1950–67
This item includes official photographs of the Seven Nation Summit Conference, Lausanne Trade Fair, San Francisco Trade Delegation reception, commissioning of USS Harold E Holt and signed photographs of Bafrullan Khan (Foreign Minister of Pakistan) and US President Lyndon B Johnson.

Photograph – official engagement, 1955
Print of visit to a woollen mill.

Photograph – official engagement, 1966
Photograph of the opening of German Karnevals Society Ball, Geelong, 11 November 1966.

33 rpm record – speeches, 1953

45 rpm Record – songs, 1966–67

Magnetic tape – speech, 1953

Film – Mrs Zara Holt in Sydney and Perth – The Prime Minister at North West Cape, 1967

Film – Visite au Cambodge, 1967
Service Cinema Information.

Film – Visit by Air Vice-Marshall Ky to Australia, 1967

PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES AND PRINTS, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, ‘L’ [LIBRARY] PREFIX, 1945–71

Recorded by: 1945–50 Department of Information (CA 34)
1950–71 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 81.9 metres (Canberra)

This series, compiled largely by the Australian News and Information Bureau, shows all aspects of Australian life, including unique and varied views of individuals and scenes. It contains a significant number of photographs of Harold and Zara Holt. Many items in the series have been digitised and can be accessed via PhotoSearch (www.naa.gov.au).

Historical - Scenes - Search for Harold Holt, Portsea, 17th December, 1967 - mainly ground and helicopter, 1967

Personalities - Photograph taken during Harold Holt's Tour of Asia in 1967
This chapter covers departmental records held by the National Archives of Australia with relevance to Harold Holt’s career as a Minister and as Prime Minister. The list is not exhaustive but indicative of further sources for the study of Holt. It is arranged by agency:

- Air Services
- Attorney-General’s Department
- Australian Broadcasting Commission
- Commonwealth Police Force
- Copyright Office
- Defence
- External Affairs
  - Australian High Commission, London
- Health
  - National Fitness Council
- Home Affairs
- Immigration
- Interior
  - Australian News and Information Bureau
- Labour and National Service
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and Cabinet
  - Cabinet
  - Royal Commissions
- Territories
- Trade and Customs
- Treasury

At the end of this chapter is a list of records relating to Harold Holt in the personal papers of former Prime Minister John Gorton, trade union official Albert Monk, and ministerial colleague Paul Hasluck. These are also held in the National Archives of Australia.

**Air Services**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER (MELBOURNE) SERIES, 1922–60 A705**

Recorded by: 1922–39 Air Services Branch (CA 788)
              1930–69 Department of Air (CA 35)

Quantity: 665.9 metres (Canberra)

This is the main correspondence file series used by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) from 1933 to 1960, including what was subsequently known as Civil Aviation. It covers
such areas as general administration, technical and specialist areas, equipment procurement and disposal, personnel matters, and the leasing of land and buildings.

**AMP – Ex NST Aircrew University Squadron, 1954**
A705, 208/90/138
Representation by Harold Holt MP, on behalf of R Paton regarding continuation of flying.

**Department of Air – Visit of Holt to Singapore, 1952**
A705, 109/1/469

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**Attorney-General’s Department**

**CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1929–58**
A432
Recorded by: 1929– Attorney-General’s Department (CA 5)
Quantity: 2046 metres (Canberra), 352.62 metres (Sydney)
This is the department’s main files series.

**Questions arising out of the disappearance of Holt, 1967–68**
A432, 1967/3407

A432, 1968/3035

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**Australian Broadcasting Commission**

**RADIO ARCHIVES LIBRARY TAPES, ANNUAL MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES**
C100
Recorded by: 1973– Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)
Quantity: 666.41 metres (Sydney)
Master tapes kept by the Radio Archives of the Australian Broadcasting Commission of programming that are considered worthy of permanent retention.

**Special news review re Holt’s disappearance, 18 December 1967**
C100, 73/7/200

**RADIO ARCHIVES MASTER AUDIO TAPES, SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM**
C102
Recorded by: 1970–71 Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)
Quantity: 46.52 metres (Sydney)
Master and working copies of gramophone discs in the ABC’s sound archives.

**Holt, Harold (audio tape), 1967**
C102, POL93
Parts 1 and 2

**Holt, Harold – ‘Meet the Press’ (audio tape), 1966**
C102, POL94

**Holt, Harold (audio tape), 1966**
C102, POL95

**Holt, Harold – speaking on the opening Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station, 17 March 1966**
C102, POL96

**Holt, Harold – Liberal Party rally Box Hill, 1966**
C102, POL97
Holt, Harold – Wybong Winery (Penfolds), 1967
Holt, Harold – Speech on arrival at Korean War Cemetery; farewell speech, 1967
Holt, Harold – Speech, 1966
Holt, Harold – Speech Young Australia Rally, 1966
Holt, Harold – Speech to Royal Commonwealth Society, 1966

Commonwealth Police Force

PAPERS AND FILM RELATING TO THE SEARCH FOR HAROLD HOLT FOLLOWING HIS DISAPPEARANCE AT CHEVIOT BAY BEACH, PORTSEA, VICTORIA, ON 17 DECEMBER 1967, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES B6330

Recorded by: 1967–73 Commonwealth Police Force [II], District Office, Victoria (CA 955)
Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra); 0.18 metres (Sydney); 1.09 metres (Melbourne)

This series comprises police records in various formats relating to the disappearance of Harold Holt.

The records include:

– one roll of 16 mm black and white film;
– black and white aerial photographs of coastline;
– a copy of the report to the Commissioner from the officer responsible for the investigation into Holt’s disappearance. The report includes copies of witness statements, black and white photographs and charts of the area;
– details of the air search;
– newspaper clippings relating to Holt’s disappearance; and

Defence

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, ‘O’ PREFIX, 1940–57 A663

Recorded by: 1940–42 Department of Defence Coordination (CA 37)
1967–68 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)
Quantity: 33.21 metres (Canberra)

This series records the main administrative activities of the Department of Defence. The activities in the records are those of general administration in the coordinating and policy-making department, excluding matters relating specifically to civilian personnel in the province of the forces who had their own departments.
Information on defence for Australian delegation to conferences in London of Empire Parliamentary Association, 1948  
A663, O66/1/704

Parliamentary question by Mr Holt about strength of the Services and number of discharges, 1945  
A663, O148/2/377

THE SHEDDEN COLLECTION, 1937–71  
A5954

Recorded by: 1937–71 Sir Frederick Shedden KCMG, OBE (CP 320)  
1937–39 Department of Defence [II] (CA 19)  
1939–42 Department of Defence Coordination (CA 37)  
1942–71 Department of Defence [III] (CA 46)

Quantity: 200.98 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of records collected by Sir Frederick Shedden during his career with the Department of Defence and in researching the history of Australian Defence policy. Shedden was Secretary of the Department of Defence from 1937 to 1956.

A5954, 63/6

VIP Aircraft – October–November 1967  
A5954, 1128/3

Statements and memoranda, 1966–69  
A5954, 1139/2

Statements and memoranda on Australian Defence Policy and Organisation. Booklet no. 7 (from Holt Government).

Treasurer (Mr Holt) forecasted Development Budget, newspaper cutting, 1963  
A5954, 1213/18

Press file – Political – Statements by Mr Harold Holt, Minister for Immigration, 1952–54  
A5954, 1623/2

SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES PERSONNEL DOSSIERS, 1939–47  
B883

Recorded by: 1940–47 2 Echelon, Army Headquarters (CA 2002)

Quantity: 3693 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of service documents for people who served in the Second Australian Imperial Forces during WW II.

Holt, Harold Edward, 1939–48  
B883, VX16194

External Affairs

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, MULTIPLE NUMBER SERIES, 1949–89  
A1838

Recorded by: 1948–70 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)

Quantity: 3435.20 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises the main correspondence files series of the Department of External Affairs and its successors.

British Commonwealth Relations – Prime Ministers’ Conference, October 1948  
A1838, 87/1/3/1B
Rhodesia – political relations with Australia, 1966
Declaration of Independence message from Mr Howman to Mr Holt.

Prime Minister’s visit to Canada, 1959–67
This item includes briefing notes for Prime Minister Holt’s 1967 visit overseas.

USA – relations with Australia, 1967
Correspondence regarding President L B Johnson’s attendance at Memorial Service for death of Mr H Holt.


Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference, 1945–67

PIO [Public Information Office] – visit to South-East Asia – including Taiwan by Mr Holt, March 1967

Australian defence and strategic interest in South-East Asia – Cabinet decisions and submissions, 1967–70

Cabinet and ministerial papers on South-East Asian defence, 1966–71
This item includes papers regarding additional forces for Vietnam, September–October 1967.

Commonwealth visit to Britain by Mr Holt, 1967

Travel – other Departments – Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference – New Delhi, 1957–58

The Rt Hon. H E Holt & Mrs Holt, Mr B G Luscombe – round world, 1957


Includes material about the Melbourne Memorial Service.


South-East Asia – relations with Australia – visit of Prime Minister, 1967

Japan – visitors to Japan – Mr Harold Holt, 1967–68

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1934–50

Recorded by: 1934–35 Department of External Affairs (CA 18)
1934–50 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 145.98 metres (Canberra)

This series contains general correspondence files that cover a wide range of subjects relevant to the Prime Minister.

Empire Parliamentary Association, 1920–49

National physical fitness, 1931–49
Imperial Conference, 1948–49

Empire Parliamentary Association Delegation to Bahamas, 1947–48

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1928–56

Recorded by: 1928–41 Territories Branch, Prime Minister’s Department (CA 822)
1941–51 Department of External Affairs (CA 42)
1951–56 Department of Territories [I] (CA 60)

Quantity: 241.50 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence about the government, administration and development of New Guinea, Papua, Norfolk Island, Nauru and New Ireland, and with some aspects of the administration of the Northern Territory.

New Guinea – visit to New Guinea of Messrs Harrison, Fadden and Holt, 1941

Territories General – Administration. Ministerial visit to New Guinea and Papua, 1941–42

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1920–68

Recorded by: 1920–68 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 27.18 metres (Canberra)

This series contains the classified files of the Australian High Commission, London.

Visit of Rt Hon Harold Holt 1967 – Programme

Prime Minister’s visit June 1967 – Admin. arrangements

Prime Minister’s visit June 1967 – Publicity

Prime Minister’s visit June 1967 – Finance

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1918–60

Recorded by: 1918–60 Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 68.69 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises the unclassified correspondence series of the Australian High Commission, London. It is likely to contain files regarding Holt.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1960–

Recorded by: 1960– Australian High Commission, UK (CA 241)

Quantity: 153.09 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises the main correspondence file for the Australian High Commissioner, London. The records deal with all aspects of work including visits, United Kingdom
policy, relations with other countries, international
organisations and conferences, appointments, representations
and classified correspondence.

Lunch given by High Commissioner for Rt Hon. H Holt,
Stoke Lodge, 27 September 1961

Appointment of Hon. Harold Holt, Prime Minister of
Australia, 1965–66

Article for Contemporary Review by Hon. H E Holt, 1966

Death of Hon. H E Holt, Prime Minister of Australia – main
file, 1967–68

Health

NATIONAL FITNESS COUNCIL

RECORDS OF THE NATIONAL FITNESS COUNCIL, CANBERRA, 1941–56  A9753
Recorded by: 1941–56 Commonwealth Council for National Fitness (CA 512)

Quantity: 1.08 metres (Canberra)

This series of records relates to the work of the National Fitness Council.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO NATIONAL FITNESS, 1939–63  A2131
Recorded by: 1939–63 National Coordinating Council for Physical Fitness (CA 1359)

Quantity: 5.40 metres (Canberra)

This series comprises publications relating to national fitness by the National Coordinating Council for Physical Fitness.

Home Affairs

LIBRARY MATERIAL, DEWEY DECIMAL NUMBER SERIES, 1911–62  A1203
Recorded by: 1911 Department of Home Affairs [I] (CA 8)
1911–62 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.6 metres (Canberra)

Various reports, ministerial statements and documents relating to a whole range of matters.


Immigration

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1949–50  A438
Recorded by: 1949–50 Department of Immigration (CA 51)

Quantity: 1.80 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of files of correspondence, decisions, policies and reports regarding the transport, assimilation, welfare and education of migrants from Europe. There are also reports on sessions of the International Labour Office; International Refugee Organisations; United National councils, committees and conferences; notices of motion to Parliament; and financial and administrative matters.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference – October 1948  A438, 1949/7/1316

Address by the Minister for Immigration Hon. H E Holt to the Australian Citizenship Convention, 24 January 1950  A438, 1950/7/217
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1951–55
Recorded by: 1951–55 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 28.8 metres (Canberra)
This series contains immigration policy files about assimilation, welfare and education of migrants. File subjects include child–youth migration, immigration legislation, accommodation and housing, sponsorship schemes, migrant organisations, transport, conferences, refugees and restricted immigration policy.

‘What kind of migration programme for Australia?’ By H Holt Minister for Immigration, 1952

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1953–
Recorded by: 1953–74 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 2756 metres (Canberra); 700 metres (Sydney)
This series comprises individual case files and policy files of the Department of Immigration. The subject matter includes applications for assisted passage, passports and naturalisation; deportation orders; and related policy material.

Prime Minister – Right Honourable H E Holt – visit to South-East Asia – September 1966 – overseas brief, 1966
Visit of overseas dignitaries to attend national memorial service Melbourne – for Right Honourable H E Holt, 1967-68
Prime Minister’s visit to Manila 1966 – brief, 1966–70

‘WHAT IMMIGRATION MEANS TO AUSTRALIA’: REPORT BY THE MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION, THE RT HON. HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 30 AUGUST 1956
Recorded by: 1956 Sir John Klunder Jensen OBE (CP 138)
Quantity: 0.18 metres (Melbourne)
‘What immigration means to Australia’: report by Minister for Immigration, the Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, 1956
This report was tabled in Parliament by Holt on 30 August 1956. At the time, Holt stated that he had undertaken to make available ‘a factual and comprehensive statement on the operation of the immigration programme in Australia’.

VOLUMES OF NOTES FOR OVERSEAS TOURS BY THE MINISTER, 1947–
Recorded by: 1947–74 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

LIBRARY MATERIAL – MINISTERIAL PRESS STATEMENTS AND OTHER PRINTED MATERIAL, 1956–65
Recorded by: 1956–65 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)
Statements by the Treasurer, Rt Hon. Harold Holt, 1964–65
Interior

AUSTRALIAN NEWS AND INFORMATION BUREAU

CONTACT PRINT ALBUMS FOR VIP VISITS AND OTHER IMPORTANT OCCASIONS, SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1954– A8281

Recorded by: 1954–74 Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 219)

Quantity: 23.04 metres (Canberra)

This series forms an easily accessible visual record of visits to Australia by foreign officials and heads of government as well as important events in Australia.

Contact print album for VIP visits – Prime Minister Holt’s tour of South-East Asia, 1966 A8281, 31

Contact print album for VIP visits – Prime Minister Holt’s tour of Asia, 1967 A8281, 35

Contact print album for VIP visits – Memorial service for Harold Holt, 1967 A8281, 36

Labour and National Service

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE SECRETARIAT AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISIONS, 1940–50 MP574/1

Recorded by: 1940–50 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)

Quantity: 24.05 metres (Melbourne)

Government Departments, Department of Labour & National Service, no. 3 wire correspondence, 1941 MP574/1, 60/1/26

This item contains wire correspondence forwarded by Holt and includes papers regarding the Manpower Priorities Board, National Security (Employment) Regulations, Boys’ Employment Movement, Preference for Australian Imperial Force (AIF) members in Commonwealth Public Service, Post-war reconstruction, munitions production, manpower shortages, Department of Information, and the wheat situation. It also contains correspondence with Sir John Latham in Tokyo about overseas students, and addresses and statements by Sir Herbert Gepp, Professor Boyce Gibson and J P Abbott.

Statistics – General, Minister (Mr Holt) file of Labour Statistics, 1940–41 MP574/1, 134/2/3

Stevedoring – Stevedoring Industry Commission. Miscellaneous papers (Hon. H E Holt), 1940–41 MP574/1, 137/1/10

This item includes papers regarding the Navigation Act 1941; shortage of seamen; deputations to the Attorney-General (Hughes); unrest at Fremantle and Darling Island; Board of Reference, Sydney, 30 December 1940; disputes, Sydney 1940; and demarcation matters (WWF and others).
Disputes – general files of papers, 1941
This item contains files of papers returned to the Department by H E Holt on termination of his term of office. It includes papers regarding engineers’ stop work meeting, 1941; Metal Trades Industry (Application for an Award), 1940; unrest in meat industry; Baddina canecutters; boilermakers; and Commonwealth Steel Ltd, Newcastle.

Disputes and grievances – metal – Minister (Mr Harold Edward Holt)’s file about ironworkers’ dispute, 1940–41

Parliament

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT HOUSE COMMITTEE, 1903– A7700
Recorded by: 1903– Joint House Department (CA 693)
Quantity: 0.54 metres (Canberra)
Seven leather-bound volumes (1901–83) containing minutes of the proceedings of the Joint House Committee. The Committee includes the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and members of the House Committees of the two Chambers. The Committee addresses functions that relate to all parliamentarians and the parts of Parliament House and its facilities used in common by both Chambers.

Prime Minister and Cabinet

PRIME MINISTERS’ CORRESPONDENCE, 1950–66 A6706
Recorded by: 1950–66 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 0.90 metres (Canberra)
This series consists of letters, either originals or copies, between Australian prime ministers (Menzies and Holt) and other Heads of Government. The papers were held in the office of the Secretary, Prime Minister’s Department, for potential use in the writing of memoirs.

Africa – British request for Australian assistance in drought relief, 1966 A6706, 1

Aircraft, 1958–66 A6706, 2
Correspondence between Prime Minister Menzies and UK and NZ politicians on re-equipment of Tasman Empire Airlines (TEAL) with Electra of Viscount aircraft; selection of F-111 (TFX) versus TSR2 aircraft for RAAF.

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and other heads of Government, 1959–66 A6706, 6
Correspondence regarding the British Commonwealth – independence of countries and membership of Commonwealth.

Cablegram to Australian High Commission, Colombo, 1966 A6706, 7
CECC, 1961
Communiqué of the Commonwealth Economic Consultative Council, Accra, 12–14 September 1961 – includes papers regarding discussion of UK entry into the EEC.

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and heads of other governments, 1956–66
Correspondence regarding the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Common Market, 1958–56
Extensive correspondence on British entry into EEC.

Congratulatory messages and greetings – letters of appreciation – various papers, 1958–67

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and heads of other governments, 1950–66
Correspondence regarding defence.

India, 1963–65
Correspondence between Prime Ministers Menzies, Holt and Macmillan on the Joint Air Defence Mission to India, and between Prime Ministers Holt and Wilson on Indian food shortage and balance of payments.

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and head of governments, 1957–66
Correspondence regarding Indonesia.

McEwen, J – report on talks with British Ministers, 1966

Money – various papers, 1960–66

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and head of other governments, 1957–66
Correspondence regarding Prime Ministers’ Conferences.

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and head of other governments, 1958–66
Correspondence regarding PM, Sir Robert Menzies.

Message from Mr Harold Holt to Mr Harold Wilson. Mr Holt’s speech in Washington, 1966

Rhodesia – various papers, 1961–66

UK/US talks, 1953–66
Correspondence between Heads of State.

Correspondence between Australian Prime Ministers (Menzies/Holt) and heads of other governments, 1962–66
Correspondence regarding Vietnam.

Visits – various papers, 1954–67

Western Samoa – hurricane relief, 1966

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1951–55

Recorded by: 1951–55 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 49.15 metres (Canberra)


A462, 114/28
Industrial legislation – Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1956  
Correspondence regarding division of functions between  
Department of Labour and National Service and Attorney-  
General’s Department.

Labour relations – industrial disputes – Policy, 1955–56  
Menzies anti-inflation plans curtailment of Immigration –  
General Representation, 1951

International Labour Office – reports of Australian  
delegates, 1952–56  
International Labour Office – reports of Australian  
delegates, 1950–56

PM’s Department Aust Immigration Policy Statement by  
Mr Holt, 1951–56

Capital Requirements of Immigration Programme, 1951–53

Immigration – Commonwealth and States Migration  
Officers Conference, Canberra, 17 February 1953

Immigration – report on Overseas visit of Minister for  
Immigration July 1952, 1952–53

Australian Immigration Policy – general – Australian  
Citizenship Conventions, 1953–56

Immigration – scheme for Commonwealth nominated  
British migrants, 1950

Allocation of migrant labour – general policy, 1951–52

Immigration – report on Conference between UK, USA and  
France on immigration from Western Europe, 1950

Celebrations – Immigration Sunday – letter to church  
leaders, 1950–54

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1956–

Recorded by: 1956–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 542.63 metres (Canberra); 183.96 metres (Sydney)

This series was raised to deal with the general and policy  
matters handled by the department. Subjects covered vary  
considerably, reflecting the coordinating function of the  
department. Political, social, cultural, economic, industrial  
and defence matters are all dealt with in this series; other  
aspects include the administration of the Commonwealth  
Government, immigration, honours, international conferences  
and diplomatic relations with other countries.

Eban, Abba – Deputy Prime Minister of Israel – visit to  
Australia, 1966–67

Prime Minister’s Lodge – stocktake, 1966–67

Visit to Australia of Vice President of the United States  
Hubert Humphrey, February 1966
Congratulatory messages to Right Honourable Harold Holt on assuming the Office of Prime Minister, 1966  A463, 1966/1054
Prime Ministers’ conferences, 1966  A463, 1966/332
Prime Minister’s speeches, 1966  A463, 1966/333
Retirement of Sir Robert Menzies, 1966  A463, 1966/1296
Background notes for PM’s visit to Adelaide, March 1966  A463, 1966/1590
Commonwealth economic committee – Australian contribution and policy, 1948–66  A463, 1966/1645
Ministerial staff – policy, 1949–57  A463, 1966/2363
Prime Minister’s visit overseas – gifts, 1966–67  A463, 1966/2874
Premiers’ Conference – Prime Minister’s brief, 1966  A463, 1966/2936

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1957–

Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
Quantity: 789.90 metres (Canberra), 342.0 metres (Sydney)
This series comprises the classified files relating to general and policy matters handled by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Subjects range from departmental and domestic matters to foreign affairs, and reflect the functions of the department in the political, cultural, economic, industrial and defence fields.

Prime Minister’s visit to Washington, 1966  A1209, 1966/7378
Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Meeting in Rhodesia, minutes and documents (plus distribution), January 1966  A1209, 1966/7040
Prime Minister’s visit to United Kingdom, United States of America and Canada – cables, June/July 1966  A1209, 1966/7285
Parts 1 and 2
Vietnamese Prime Minister – visit to Australia, 1966–67  A1209, 1966/7292
Prime Minister’s visit – reports to the PM, April 1966  A1209, 1966/7312
Prime Minister’s visit, April 1966 – brief, 1966  A1209, 1966/7318
Prime Minister’s visit to New York, June/July 1966  A1209, 1966/7379
Prime Minister’s visit to London, June/July 1966  A1209, 1966/7380
Prime Minister’s visit June/July 1966 – reports to, 1966  A1209, 1966/7423
Interdepartmental committee on Australian Industry Development Corporation, 1966
Australian loan to New Zealand, 1966
Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Meeting, September 1966
This item includes correspondence regarding preliminary negotiations and meeting agenda.
Prime Minister’s possible visit to Indonesia, 1966–67
States financial problems, c 1966
Legislation programming, c 1966
This item includes party room discussion before presentation to Parliament.
Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ conference 1966 – delegations
S Mansholt, Vice President EEC – visit to Australia, 1966–69
PM’s visit, June – July 1966 – speech drafts, 1966–69
Material supplied to Sir Robert Menzies – including official documents, 1966–67
Prime Minister at Bingil Bay – arrangements, c 1966
Joint United States/Australia defense/space research facility, 1966–68
Cabinet room and Prime Minister’s Suite – alterations, 1966
Material provided for Prime Minister’s visit to the States, November 1966
Vietnam – Manila conference – brief and background papers, 1966
Vietnam – Manila conference – brief and background papers – Declaration of Manila summit meeting, 1966
Vietnam – Manila conference – brief and background papers – Prime Minister’s conference papers, 1966
This item contains brief and background papers – Final Act and summary report – Manila Summit Conference 1966 – 7 Nations – Manila.
Prime Minister’s visit to Asia, March/April 1967
This item includes itinerary of the visit.
Prime Minister’s visit to New Zealand, February 1967
Prime Minister’s visit to New Zealand, February 1967
Prime Minister’s visit to New Zealand, 1967
Premiers’ Conference and Loan Council Meeting, c 1967
Briefing notes for the Prime Minister, 1966–71
Briefing notes for the Prime Minister, c 1967

Matters raised by Mrs Holt, 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to the United Kingdom, June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to South-East Asia, March/April 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to South-East Asia, March/April 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to Canada, United States of America and United Kingdom, May/June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to Canada, United States of America and United Kingdom, May/June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to Canada, United States of America, May/June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to Canada, United States of America, May/June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to United States of America, June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to United States of America, June 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to South-East Asia, March/April 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to the United States of America, Canada and United Kingdom, May/June 1967

Future commitments of the Prime Minister, 1967

Prime Minister’s visit to Western Australia, September 1967

Ministerial meetings with United States Presidential envoys Clifford and Taylor, 1967

Canadian Royal Commission on Security – visit to Australia, c 1967

Mr Holyoake, Prime Minister of New Zealand – visit to Australia, 1967

Prince Souvanna Phouma, PM of Laos – visit to Australia – discussions, 1967

Effects of delay in National Service legislation, 1967

Tunku Abdul Rahman – Prime Minister of Malaysia – visit to Australia – policy and discussions, 1967

Prime Minister of Laos – visit to Australia – biographical notes, 1967

Interdepartmental committee to review Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1967

Death of Prime Minister Holt, H – supplementary action by the Commonwealth, 1967–67

Facilities for Dame Zara Holt, 1967–68
Prime Minister Holt’s disappearance – Constitutional, 1967–81
This item includes material regarding considerations in
swearing in of interim Prime Minister and Ministers.

Prime Minister’s discussions with Government heads
attending memorial service for Mt Holt, 1968

Possible Summit Meeting of Government Heads attending
Memorial Service for Mr Holt, 1968

Memorial service for Mr Holt – arrangements for
representatives from United Kingdom, 1967

Memorial service for Mr Holt – arrangements for
representatives from United States of America, 1968

Memorial service for Mr Holt – arrangements for
representatives from Japan, 1968

There are many more files with similar titles for every
country represented at the memorial service.

Search for Mr Holt – arrangements – including report by
Victorian and Commonwealth police, 1968

Relations between Liberal and Country Parties following
Mr Holt’s death, 1968

Re-naming of North West Cape communications station to
commemorate late Prime Minister Holt, 1967–68

Indian mystic’s claim to knowledge of whereabouts of Mr
Holt’s body, 1968

Original manuscript of the report on the disappearance of
the Right Honourable Holt, Harold CH, MP, 1968

Memorials to Right Honourable Holt, Harold in Australia –
Policy, 1968

Holt memorial services, London, 1967–68

Disappearance of Mr Holt – information for o/seas posts, 1967

Removal and storage of effects of late Prime Minister and
Mrs Holt – Prime Minister’s Lodge, 1968–71

PRIME MINISTER’S VISITORS BOOKS, THE LODGE, CANBERRA, 1966–

Recorded by: 1966–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)
1971– Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)
Quantity: 0.45 metres (Canberra)
This series records the Prime Minister’s official visitors at The
Lodge in Canberra. Entries are generally chronological.

Green plastic-covered volume, includes the signatures of the
Queen Mother, Prince Charles, Sir Robert Menzies, John
McEwen and William McMahon (3 April 1966), Lord Casey
(Governor General), Lady Casey, Lyndon B Johnson, Lady
Bird Johnson, members of the Holt family, Keith Holyoake
(Prime Minister of New Zealand) and foreign diplomats.
PRIME MINISTER'S VISITORS BOOKS, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA, 1937  A2444

Recorded by:  1937–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  
1971 Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (CA 1401)  

Quantity:  0.81 metres (Canberra)

This series records the Prime Minister’s official visitors at Parliament House in Canberra. Prior to extensions to the Prime Minister’s suite in ‘Old’ Parliament House in the early 1970s, the visitors’ book was kept on a pedestal in the corridor and there was no restriction as to who signed it. As each book was completed it was returned to the Prime Minister’s Department (from March 1971, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet). It has also been general practice to start a new book for each Prime Minister. Since E G (Gough) Whitlam’s term of office, however, the visitors’ book has been retained in the Prime Minister’s Office.


SUBJECT FILES MAINTAINED BY A EGGLETON, PRESS SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER, 1965–71  M2093

Recorded by:  1965–71 Anthony Eggleton AO, CVO (CP 440)  
1965–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)  

Quantity:  1.98 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of folders of papers arranged under subject headings which relate to the Press Secretary’s activities, prime ministerial correspondence and briefings, visits and arrangements, as well as other issues of the period.

The Duke of Edinburgh with the Holts at The Lodge, 6 March 1967. NAA: A1200, L60989
CABINET


Recorded by: 1958–67 Secretary to Cabinet/Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)

Quantity: 77.76 metres (Canberra)

This is the main series maintained by the Cabinet Office for the administration of Cabinet business between 1958 and 1967. The files are arranged by subject and contain papers dating back to 1949. They generally include original copies of submissions and supporting papers, circulation details, minutes of decisions, memoranda to interested ministers and any other related papers.

In general, administrative use of these files ceased prior to the swearing in of the Gorton Ministry on 10 January 1968; however, notes documenting use of the files continued to be added to the end of 1970.

Prime Minister - Report on overseas visit, April 1966
Prime Minister's Visit to USA and UK, June/July 1966
Prime Minister's Visit to New Zealand, February 1967
Prime Minister Holt - Disappearance and subsequent search, December 1967

This item includes a report by the Commonwealth and Victoria Police on the disappearance of Prime Minister Holt.


Recorded by: 1962–67 Secretary to Cabinet/Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)

Quantity: 0.18 metres (Canberra)

Volume 1 deals with full Cabinet (Ministry), 1962–67 and Inner Cabinet (Cabinet), 1962–67, and Volume 2 deals with Cabinet Committees (1962–67). Each volume contains an index. Information contained includes date and place of meeting, absentees and decisions recorded by number and title.

EIGHTH MENZIES, HOLT, MCEWEN AND FIRST GORTON MINISTRIES – FOLDERS OF BUSINESS LISTS OF CABINET AND CABINET COMMITTEES, 1965–68

Recorded by: 1965–68 Secretary to Cabinet/Cabinet Secretariat (CA 3)

Quantity: 0.90 metres (Canberra)

Each business list is a list of agenda items and shows: the meetings, date and time, place if other than the Cabinet Room, submission title and number, minister responsible and minister(s) co-opted where applicable.
ROYAL COMMISSIONS

ORIGINAL AGENCY RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO THE COMMISSION, 1984–85  A6456

Recorded by: 1984–85 Royal Commission into British Nuclear Tests in Australia during the 1950s and 1960s.

Quantity: 101.75 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of original records (correspondence files, reports, notebooks) that were transferred to the Commission’s custody primarily by Australian Government departments and statutory authorities for the Commission’s research use.

USA VLF (Very Low Frequency) Station, 1963  A6456, R087/199

Newspaper clippings and speeches concerning the United States Naval Communications Station at North West Cape.

Territories

FOLDERS OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA, 1951–63  M332

Recorded by: 1951–63 The Rt Hon. Sir Paul Meerna Caedwalla Hasluck KG, GCMG, GCVO, KStJ (CP 115)
1951–63 Department of Territories [I] (CA 60)

Quantity: 0.9 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence and memoranda between Mr Hasluck, as Minister for Territories, and members of Parliament, business organisations and the public.

Holt, Rt Hon. Harold, 1962  M332, 93

Disposal of New Guinea properties.

Trade and Customs

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1935  A425

Recorded by: 1935–56 Department of Trade and Customs (CA 10)

Quantity: 2491 metres (Canberra), 254.52 metres (Sydney)

This was the main correspondence files series for the Department of Trade and Customs (1935–56) and its successors, and covers a wide range of subjects.

Treasury

CORRESPONDENCE FILES, ANNUAL SINGLE NUMBER SERIES, 1901–76  A571

Recorded by: 1901–76 Department of Treasury [I] (CA 11)

Quantity: 643.79 metres (Canberra), 72.36 metres (Sydney)

This is the main series of Treasury files. Items listed below are a small example of items that contain Holt-related material.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overseas Visit</td>
<td>The Treasurer and Sir Roland Wilson, September 1965</td>
<td>A571, 1964/3067</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decimal Currency Board Submissions</td>
<td>to the Treasurer, 1964</td>
<td>A571, 1964/265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decimal Currency Board Submissions</td>
<td>to the Treasurer, 1964–66</td>
<td>A571, 1964/265</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority</td>
<td>Financial directives, 1952–61</td>
<td>A571, 1963/4932</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Records of Committees</td>
<td>Associated with 16th Olympiad, Melbourne, 1956</td>
<td>AA1967/379</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded by</td>
<td>Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>0.72 metres (Canberra)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This series consists of various records from committees assisting with the organising of the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. These committees appear to have operated under the umbrella of a body called the Organising Committee of the 16th Olympiad which was registered under the Companies Act in 1951. Besides papers of the Committees and sub-committees, the series includes agreements with such bodies as the International Olympic Committee and the Melbourne Cricket Club.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decimal Currency Films, 1963–66</td>
<td>C2927</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Recorded by</td>
<td>Film Division (also known as the Australian News and Information Bureau (CA 1670))</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Decimal Currency Board (CA 834)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Australian Broadcasting Commission (CA 251)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>0.27 metres (Sydney)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The series consists of 8 mm, 16 mm and 35 mm colour and black and white advertising films of various lengths, used during the publicity campaign for the introduction of decimal currency. The films and commercials were produced by the advertising agencies George Patterson and Jackson Wain, the Commonwealth Film Unit, the News and Information Bureau, and ABC Television.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decimal Currency talk by Prime Minister Harold Holt, 1965–66</td>
<td>C2927, 48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decimal Currency publicity film.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Records in personal papers

**PAPERS OF ALBERT E MONK, 1920–75**

Recorded by: 1920–73 Albert Ernest Monk CMG (CP 141)

Quantity: 10.80 metres (Melbourne)

This series consists of personal papers of Albert Ernest Monk who was a trade union leader and politician.

**Coal Industry, c 1949–c 1958**

This item contains a joint statement by Minister for Labour and National Service, the Rt Hon. H E Holt and Minister for National Development, Senator the Hon. W H Spooner.

**FOLDERS OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES, 1944–55**

Recorded by: 1951–55 The Rt Hon. Sir Paul Meernaa Caedwalla Hasluck KG, GCMG, GCVO, KStJ (CP 115)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

This series contains correspondence between Sir Paul Hasluck and ministerial colleagues, and was maintained by the Minister’s Private Secretary. The correspondence includes representations by members of the public, recommendations for jobs, publications of interest, and other matters specific to his portfolio.

**Correspondence with the Minister for Labour and National Service and for Immigration, The Rt Hon. H E Holt, 1951–55**

**SUBJECT FILES OF THE RT HON. JOHN GREY GORTON AS PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, 1963–73**

Recorded by: 1968–71 The Rt Hon. Sir John Grey Gorton GCMG, AC, CH, PC (CP 136)

Quantity: 1.98 metres (Canberra)

The files mainly relate to the Vietnam War, the Second Voyager Royal Commission, the Five Power defence arrangements, provision of training facilities for Singapore in Australia, purchase of F-111 aircraft, journalist Maxwell Newton, civil disturbance in New Guinea (and the background to self-government). Several files include correspondence between Gorton and his ministers, State premiers and heads of foreign governments (particularly the US President Richard Nixon) on various matters.

Maxwell Newton [investigation], 1967–69

John McEwen and William McMahon rift, 1967–68

F-111 Aircraft papers (Part 1), 1963–71

F-111 Aircraft papers (Part 2), 1963–70
Records in other collections

Most of the records relating to Harold Holt are held in the National Archives of Australia. Small quantities of records are held in other Australian institutions, including the Australian War Memorial, National Library of Australia, ScreenSound Australia and some State libraries. Material is also held in several overseas institutions, most notably the Public Record Office (PRO), National Archives, UK. This chapter lists relevant records in other collections under country and institution. Australian institutions are listed first, followed by overseas institutions in Switzerland, the UK and the USA.

Australian institutions holding Holt records

CANBERRA, ACT

Australian War Memorial

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION – BROADCASTING DIVISION

Speeches by H E Holt, April 1941

HEADQUARTERS AUSTRALIAN FORCES VIETNAM (SAIGON)

Headquarters, Australian Forces Vietnam, visits by Prime Minister Rt Hon. Mr Holt

Amenities/welfare – general – Harold Holt Memorial Pool

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST AUSTRALIAN LOGISTICAL SUPPORT GROUP (VUNG TAU)

Amenities – Harold Holt Memorial Pool – general

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Records from joint military operations and plans: Defence requirements of US Naval Communications Station, Harold E Holt – NW Cape (April 1965 – November 1969)
National Library of Australia

MANUSCRIPTS

ALLAN, SCOTTY (GEORGE URQUHART), PAPERS, 1905–93  MS 4911

Quantity:  0.56 metres (4 boxes) + 1 folio package


ARMSTRONG, ROBERT EDWARD, PAPERS, 1947–74  MS 8953

Quantity:  0.28 metres

Robert Armstrong served as Private Secretary to Immigration Minister Arthur Calwell (1945–49), and as a senior public servant in the Department of Immigration. His appointments included Chief Migration Officer, London (1954–57, 1969–71) and Secretary of the Department of Immigration (1971–74). The letters, addresses, cuttings and photographs in the collection provide a record of Armstrong’s career in the Department of Immigration 1947–74. Correspondents include Harold Holt.

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY, NEUTRAL BAY BRANCH, PAPERS, 1964–74  MS 4528

Quantity:  0.01 metres

This collection includes a copy of a 1966 letter to Holt from the Mosman Branch of the ALP condemning totalitarianism.

BROOKES, HERBERT AND IVY, PAPERS, 1869–1970  MS 1924

Quantity:  25.60 metres

Herbert Brookes was a member of the Tariff Board 1922–28; Commissioner-General USA (1929–30); and Vice-Chairman ABC (1932–40). Ivy Brookes was on the executive of the National Council of Women (1912–70) and the Women’s Hospital (1921–27). The Brookes were longstanding friends of Harold and Zara Holt. This collection includes notes, diaries, correspondence, minutes, books, photographs and cuttings. See also www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/1924.html.

CALWELL, ARTHUR AUGUSTUS, PAPERS, 1905–73  MS 4738

Quantity:  48 metres

Arthur Calwell was a Federal parliamentarian (1940–72) and leader of the ALP (1960–66). This collection contains reports, correspondence, personal documents, minutes, cuttings, family documents, photographs, subject files, biographical files, invitations, speeches and publications. The papers cover Calwell’s entire career, including his early involvement in the
Victorian branch of the ALP, the Australian Public Service Association and the Melbourne City Council.

Access restricted.

CASEY, LORD, PAPERS, 1820–1978  MS 6150

Quantity: 11 metres

Lord Casey had a varied political career that included Federal Treasurer, Minister of State in the British War Cabinet, and Minister for External Affairs (1951–60). He was Governor of Bengal (1944–46) and Australian Governor-General (1965–69). This collection includes diaries (1939–76) and press cutting books (1924–78). The Casey family papers include the papers of Lord Casey (1890–1976), his father Richard Gardiner Casey Sr (1846–1919) and grandfather Cornelius Gavin Casey (1810–96).

CLARK, JOSEPH JAMES, PAPERS, 1930–98  MS 2708

Quantity: 1.54 metres (11 boxes)

Clark was a Federal politician (1934–69) and Chairman of Committees and Deputy Speaker in 1946–49. The majority of the papers cover 1930–69 and comprise clippings, circulars, correspondence and speeches concerning elections and the ALP. Series 2 contains letters by Harold Holt. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/2708.html.

DAFF, ALFRED, PAPERS, 1921–76  MS5401

Quantity: 0.25 metres

Alfred Daff was a film producer and director. This collection includes correspondence, news cuttings, publicity material and photographs. Correspondents include Harold Holt.

Partly restricted.

EGGLESTON, FREDERIC WILLIAM, PAPERS, 1911–54  MS 423

Quantity: 5.40 metres (34 boxes)

Frederic Eggleston was Attorney-General 1924–27; First Minister Plenipotentiary to China, 1941–44; Minister to USA, 1944–45; and adviser to Department of External Affairs, 1946–49. This collection of correspondence, memoranda, notes, diaries, manuscripts and cuttings dates mostly from 1919 and concerns Eggleston’s political and diplomatic career. The papers include three Holt letters. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/0423.html.

GARNSEY, DAVID, PAPERS, 1936–90  MS 9030

Quantity: 3.78 metres (27 boxes)

David Garnsey was a Headmaster of the Canberra Grammar School (1948–58) and Bishop of Gippsland (1959–74). The

**HARRISON, SIR ERIC, PAPERS, 1931–64**

Quantity: 0.80 metres

Eric Harrison was Liberal MHR for Wentworth NSW (1931–56) and Deputy Leader of the Opposition (1944–45). He held various portfolios in the Lyons and Menzies Governments (1934–41) and (1949–56) and served as Australian High Commissioner to London (1960–64). The bulk of this collection consists of programs, invitations, menus, photographs and a scrapbook.

**HASLUCK, SIR PAUL, PAPERS, 1925–89**

Quantity: 6.60 metres


Restricted access.

**HEYMANSON, SIR RANDAL, PAPERS, 1920–84**

Quantity: 21.70 metres

Sir Randal Heymanson was a journalist, editor and chairman of the American Australian Association, New York (1967–84). This collection includes correspondence, diaries and notebooks, business papers, cables, general files and miscellaneous papers. Extensive papers include correspondence with Harold Holt.

**HINCE, KENNETH, PAPERS, 1855–1969**

Quantity: 3.70 metres

Kenneth Hince was music critic for *The Australian* from 1964. Most of the material covers the period 1895–1969 but there are a few items dating from earlier than 1895. Almost all the correspondence relates to music and primarily Australian music. Correspondents include Harold Holt.
Howson, Peter, Papers, 1956–90

Quantity: 15.85 metres


Restricted access until 2003.

Hudson, Sir William, Papers, 1948–80

Quantity: 9.10 metres (62 boxes) + 2 folio items

Sir William Hudson was Commissioner of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority (1949–67). Harold Holt is a major correspondent in these papers. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/9025.html.

Restricted access until 2005.

Hughes, William Morris, Papers, 1875–c 1979

Quantity: 35 metres (224 boxes) + folio items.

William (Billy) Morris Hughes’ papers include news cuttings, correspondence, diaries, notebooks, photographs, and family and political papers. The political papers comprise official and personal records dating from his time as Prime Minister (1915–23) and include correspondence with Holt. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/1538.html.

Kent Hughes, Sir Wilfrid, Papers, 1914–86

Quantity: 12.31 metres (82 boxes) + 5 folio boxes

Kent Hughes was a State and Federal politician. He became Federal Member for Chisholm in 1949 and Minister for Interior and Works (1951–56). He was also Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee (1956–61) and Chairman of the Olympic Games Committee (1951–56). The papers include foreign affairs correspondence with Harold Holt. For a descriptive list see www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/4856.html.

Latham, Sir John, Papers, 1868–1964

Quantity: 18.40 metres

Latham entered politics in 1922 as a Progressive Liberal for the Federal seat of Kooyong. He first held ministerial office as Attorney-General in 1925–29. In 1931 he became Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for External Affairs and Minister for
Industry. He was appointed Chief Justice of the High Court in 1935. Sir John’s son, Richard, was a contemporary of Harold Holt at Queen’s College, University of Melbourne.

**LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA: FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, PAPERS, [1945?]-1990 MS 5000**

Quantity: 624.80 metres

The collection includes correspondence, press statements, agenda minutes, polls, subject files, press cuttings, Hansard reports and printed material. For more information, see www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/5000.html.

Restricted access.

**LYONS, DAME ENID, PAPERS, 1931–74 MS 4852**

Quantity: 2.55 metres

Dame Enid Lyons was Member for Darwin (Tasmania) in Federal Parliament (1943–51). She was married to Joseph Lyons, Prime Minister between 1932 and 1939 (when he died). This collection consists mainly of correspondence, but also includes photographs, newspaper cuttings, speeches, broadcasts and manuscripts of her books.

**MC EWEN, SIR JOHN, PAPERS, 1943–80 MS 4654**

Quantity: 25.20 metres

Sir John McEwen was Leader of the Australian Country Party and Deputy Prime Minister (1958–71) and Prime Minister for 22 days following Holt’s untimely death (1967–68). His portfolios included Minister for Commerce and Agriculture (1949–56), Minister for Trade (1956–62) and Minister for Trade and Industry (1963–71). This collection comprises correspondence, diaries, speeches, notes for speeches, invitations, press statements, cuttings, itineraries, election material, photographs and other papers. Most of the papers date from 1958 to 1970. For more information, see www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/4654.html.

**MCMAHON, SIR WILLIAM, PAPERS, 1949–87 MS 3926**

Quantity: 80 metres


Records and list closed.
MACNAMARA, BERES, VERSE, 1968  MS 2075

Quantity:  2 pages

This manuscript copy of a verse titled ‘Thoughts in Memory of Mr Holt’ was given to the National Library unsolicited with no biographical information about the author.

MENZIES, SIR ROBERT, PAPERS, 1905–78  MS 4936

Quantity:  80.92 metres

Sir Robert Menzies was Prime Minister of Australia, (1939–41) and (1949–66), leader of the Federal Opposition (1943–49) and Member of the House of Representatives for Kooyong, Victoria (1934–66). He was founder of the Liberal Party of Australia. This extensive collection includes personal papers, press cuttings, speeches, diaries and research material. For more information see www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/4936.html.

OPPERMAN, HUBERT FREDERICK, PAPERS, 1914–76  MS 6429

Quantity:  3.40 metres

Hubert Opperman was Australian road cycling champion from 1924 to 1929. He won the French Award Bol d’Or in 1928. He was the Liberal member for Como (1949–66), and served as Minister for Shipping and Transport (1960–63) and Minister for Immigration (1963–66). On leaving Parliament he served as High Commissioner to Malta (1967–72). This collection consists of news cuttings, books, personal diaries and correspondence as Minister for Immigration and High Commissioner to Malta and as a sportsman.

OSBORNE, FREDERICK M, PAPERS, 1945–84  MS 3662

Quantity:  7.28 metres

Frederick Osborne was a politician, solicitor, businessman and naval commander. He was Minister for Customs and Excise (1956), Minister for Air (1956–60) and Minister for Repatriation (1960–61). He was State President of the NSW State Executive of the Liberal Party, (1967–70). This collection includes correspondence, speeches, representations and photographs. Principal correspondents include Harold Holt. See also www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/3662.html.

O’SULLIVAN, SIR NEIL, PAPERS, 1948–65  MS 8639

Quantity:  1.12 metres (8 boxes)

A Liberal Senator for Queensland from 1947 to 1968, Sir Neil O’Sullivan served as Minister for Trade and Customs (1949–56), Minister for the Navy (1956), Attorney-General (1956–58) and Vice-President of the Executive Council (1956–58). He also served as Leader of the Government in the Senate (1949–59). These papers include correspondence with Harold Holt and a

PAGE, SIR EARLE, PAPERS, 1908–61  

Quantity: 42.67 metres

Earle Page helped found the Country Party and was leader from 1920 to 1939. He was Treasurer in the Bruce–Page Government (1923–29) and served as Minister for Commerce (1934–39) and Minister for Health (1937–38) in the Lyons government. He served as Prime Minister briefly in 1939. He was again Minister for Commerce in the Menzies and Fadden governments of 1940–41 and was Minister for Health in the Menzies governments of the early 1950s. See Truant Surgeon (Angus & Robertson 1963). This collection includes subject files of correspondence, telegrams, cables, cuttings, personal documents, reports, memoranda and semi-official papers, speeches, press statements, parliamentary bills, papers and reports, statistics and notes. They cover primary industry, taxation and banking, foreign affairs, national insurance, federalism, industrial relations, constitutional reform and referenda, social services, immigration, trade, new state movements, and the formation of the Bruce–Page Government and the Country Party.

PERKINS, CHARLES, PAPERS, 1956–93  

Quantity: 10.50 metres (75 boxes) + 1 folio box

Charles Perkins was an activist for Aboriginal rights and Secretary of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs 1984–88. His personal correspondence includes a letter by Holt written after the 1967 referendum. A descriptive list is available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/8047.html.

The personal papers are held under restricted access.

REID, ALAN DOUGLAS, PAPERS, 1942–85  

Quantity: 6.30 metres.

Alan Reid was a journalist and author, Canberra correspondent of the Sun, Daily Telegraph (Sydney) and the Bulletin, 1937–85. He wrote The Power Struggle (1969), The Gorton Experiment (1971) and The Whitlam Venture (1976). The bulk of the collection comprises subject files, mainly containing newspaper cuttings, but also telexes, notes, letters and printed material. They date mostly from 1976–85.

RISCHBIEITH, BESSIE, PAPERS, 1900–67  

Quantity: 7.50 metres

Rischbieth was co-founder of the Women's Service Guild of Western Australia, 1909 and co-founder and President of the
Australian Federation of Women Voters, 1921–42. Two letters by Holt are included in the records relating to the Australian Federation of Women Voters. A descriptive list is available.

RITCHIE, SIR THOMAS MALCOM, PAPERS, 1915–71  MS 2555

Quantity: 7 volumes

A businessman, Ritchie was chairman of the Federal Executive of the Liberal Party and its first President (1945–47 then 1949–51). This collection contains scrapbooks of company reports, press cuttings and correspondence. The material relates to companies such as Metropolitan–Vickers, Associated General Electric Industries, Noyes Brothers, and the Liberal Party. Correspondents include Harold Holt.

SNEDDEN, SIR BILLY, PAPERS, 1941–83  MS 6216

Quantity: 37.30 metres (281 boxes)

Sir Billy Snedden was a Liberal Member of the House of Representatives 1955–83. During this time he served as Attorney-General (1963–66), Minister for Immigration (1966–69), Minister for Labour and National Service (1969–71), Treasurer (1971–72), Leader of the Liberal Party (1972–75) and Speaker of the House of Representatives (1976–83). A descriptive list of this collection is available.

Access to the papers is restricted.

STREET, JESSIE, PAPERS, 1914–68  MS 2683

Quantity: 4.18 metres (31 boxes + 5 folios)

Jessie Street was a feminist and social activist. Her papers include petitions to the Holt Government calling for a referendum on Aboriginal rights as well as five letters to or from Holt. Further information and a descriptive list are available at www.nla.gov.au/ms/findaids/2683.html.

UREN, TOM, PAPERS, 1941–94  MS 6055

Quantity: 29.40 metres plus 1 folio box


Access to the collection is restricted.
WARD, EDWARD JOHN, PAPERS, 1914–63  MS 2396

Quantity: 7.62 metres

Eddie Ward was the ALP member for East Sydney (1931–63), and Minister for Labour and National Service (1941–43) and Transport and External Territories (1943–49). The collection includes twelve Holt letters and ten letters from Ward to Holt. A descriptive list is available.

Access to the papers is partly restricted.

WRAGG, ALAN, ARTICLE, 1968  MS 4693

Quantity: 1 folder

This is an account of the search for Harold Holt by the Diving Section of Flotilla One (published in Boatmaster, July 1968 as ‘The auxiliary’s part in the Holt search’).

PICTORIAL COLLECTION

The visit to Asia, 28 March – 9 April 1967 by Prime Minister Harold Holt  PIC Album 381

Opening of Honeysuckle Creek Tracking Station, 17 March 1967  PIC Album 743

Australian Citizenship Convention convened by the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration, the Hon. H E Holt MHR, 23–27 January 1950  PIC Album 770

Harold Holt album of family photographs  PIC Album 773

Harold Holt album of family photographs  PIC Album 774

Visit of Harold and Zara Holt to Cambodia, 1967  PIC Album 775

Holt attending Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Nairobi, 1954  PIC Album 776

To the President of the International Labour Conference 40th Session  PIC Album 789

ScreenSound Australia

A selection of items relating to Harold Holt from the online ScreenSound catalogue is listed below. The items have been arranged in date order.

FILM

POMP AND CEREMONY: GOVERNOR-GENERAL OPENS 19TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT, 3 MARCH 1950  73173

Cinesound Review, no. 0957

The Governor-General, Mr McKell, opens the 19th Commonwealth Parliament in Canberra. Scenes of diplomatic represent-
atives arriving for the ceremony along with Prime Minister Menzies, Harold Holt, Arthur Calwell, Ben Chifley, Dame Enid Lyons, Hubert Opperman and Billy Hughes. Scenes also of the garden party held after the ceremony and flashbacks to historical footage of other parliamentary events, like laying the foundation stone (1913) and the opening of Parliament House.

**MY HERO WINS CAULFIELD CUP, 22 OCTOBER 1953**

Movietone News, vol. 24, no. 47

Newsreel item about My Hero winning the Caulfield Cup at Caulfield Racecourse in Melbourne, 1953. Mr Richard Nixon, Vice-President of the US is greeted at the racecourse by Mr John Cain, Labour Premier of Victoria and Mr Harold Holt, Minister for Labour and National Service.

**SPOTTING THE NEWS, 16 JUNE 1960**

Cinesound Review, no. 1494

Newsreel item about the premiere of the film Porgy and Bess at the Chelsea Theatre, Melbourne. Among distinguished guests arriving for the premiere are: Greater Union Theatres Chairman, Mr Rydge, Australian actor John McCallum and his wife Googie Withers, and Federal Treasurer Harold Holt and Mrs Holt.

**SOUTH-EAST ASIAN JOURNEY, 1966**

Visit to South-East Asia by the Prime Minister Mr Harold Holt in April 1966.

**AUSTRALIA AND VIETNAM: A TRIBUTE TO TROOPS PAST AND PRESENT, 28 APRIL 1966**

Cinesound Review, no. 0957

Prime Minister, Harold Holt, visits South Vietnam where he is welcomed by Premier Ky and holds a press conference before setting off to spend Anzac Day with Australian troops at the front line. Note: Item is incomplete.

**NEW PRIME MINISTER PICKS CABINET: CANBERRA, 3 FEBRUARY 1966**

Cinesound Review, no. 1788

Prime Minister Harold Holt arrives at Government House in Canberra for the official swearing-in of his first Cabinet ministry. William McMahon (Treasurer), Dr Forbes (Health) and Dame Annabel Rankin (Housing) are also shown arriving. After the ceremony, the new Liberal government ministers pose for official photographs with the Governor-General, Lord Casey.
BIG CROWDS: 1966 ROYAL EASTER SHOW, 7 APRIL 1966 72378

Cinesound Review, no. 1797

Newsreel item. Action shots of the woodchopping contest are shown. The film moves to the Royal Agricultural Hall, where Prime Minister Harold Holt and others are seen viewing the exhibits; many of the items have come from drought-stricken areas. Film ends with shots of prize-winning exhibits including wool-clips, fruit, vegetables and flowers.

RADIO

LIFE OF CHARLES HAWKER, POLITICIAN AND PASTORALIST: MONOLOGUE
BY HAROLD HOLT 185893

Participants talk about the most unforgettable character they’ve met.

RECORDED SOUND

HAROLD HOLT MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ST PAUL’S CATHEDRAL
MELBOURNE, 22 DECEMBER 1967 288136

H M QUEEN ELIZABETH MESSAGE ON DEATH OF HAROLD HOLT, 1967 155462

4BH, Historic Events Compilation – Queen Elizabeth II expresses her condolences to Prime Minister Holt’s family, and says that his death is both a personal and public loss. The Queen emphasises Holt’s contribution to world affairs and his representation of Australia on the world stage.

ARCHBISHOP STRONG, PRIMATE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND, TRIBUTE TO
HAROLD HOLT, 1967 155467

4BH, Historic Events Compilation, title no. 193403 – Primate Phillip Strong speaks of the contribution of the late Prime Minister Harold Holt to Australia’s image overseas. Speaks of Holt’s role in deepening Australian friendship with the United States and Asian countries, and in maintaining ties with the United Kingdom. Emphasises Holt’s importance in the increasing stability of Australia.

TELEVISION

SPEECH ON THE NEWLY DESIGNED AND MINTED DECIMAL CURRENCY, 1964 32523

NBN 3 News, Newcastle, 3 August 1964 – 13 September 1964

HAROLD HOLT SPEAKS OF THE NEED FOR TRADE EXPANSION AND OF THE
UPCOMING TRADE FORUM IN KUALA LUMPUR, 1965 286833

TVT 6, Hobart, News, 1962–68 (unedited footage)
BOB AND DOLLY DYER GO FISHING WITH PRIME MINISTER HAROLD HOLT IN QUEENSLAND: ADVERTISEMENT 493647

Pick-A-Box, no. 387

A BP advertisement from the television quiz show Pick-A-Box, with commentary by Bob Dyer. Bob and Dolly Dyer take a spear fishing trip in Queensland with Harold Holt on his birthday.

BIG US NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS BASE OPENS IN AUSTRALIA, 1967 58624

Australian Information Service TV news footage. A US Naval Communications Base opened at Exmouth on Australian North West Cape. Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Harold Holt, and US Ambassador to Australia, Mr Ed Clark, opened the station.

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO MR HAROLD HOLT HELD IN MELBOURNE, 1967 59332

Australian Information Service TV news footage. The memorial service for Mr Harold Holt, held on 22 December 1967, brought the largest number of world leaders in Australia’s history to the country. The service was held at St Paul’s Anglican Cathedral, Melbourne.

THE FIRST US DESTROYER TO BE NAMED AFTER A FOREIGN LEADER, 1969 448993


The first US Destroyer to be named after a foreign leader, Harold Holt, is christened today by his widow Zara Holt, 5 May 1969.

VICTORIA

Queen’s College Archives, University of Melbourne

The Queen’s College Archives collects and preserves records, photographs, plans and artefacts that document the history and development of the college. Holt was a resident of the College during the years he attended the University of Melbourne (c 1926–30) and was president of its Sports and Social Club. Diligent researchers are likely to locate records relating to Holt in the collection.

State Library of Victoria

LANGFORD, LOUIS, PAPERS, 1906–66 MS 9135

Quantity: 1 folder

Louis Langford appeared on the stage in Victoria and later opened the firm of Pyramid Plate. Papers include three letters from Holt.
University of Melbourne Archives

BELZ, MAURICE HENRY, PAPERS, 1939–75 95/59, 95/96

Quantity: 0.04 metres

Maurice Belz was an academic statistician at University of Melbourne. The papers include correspondence with Harold Holt and a 1966 Christmas card from Harold and Zara Holt.

BURCHETT PASSPORT COMMITTEE, PAPERS, 1955–70 73/69

Quantity: 0.36 metres

This collection comprises correspondence, reports, material regarding the campaign petition (1955–70). Correspondents include Harold Holt.

HOWSON, PETER, PAPERS, 1970–78 80/16; 84/98; 93/51

Quantity: 98 archives boxes

Peter Howson was a federal politician and businessman. This collection comprises a wide range of business and political records. Correspondents include Harold Holt.

LYNCH, SIR PHILLIP, PAPERS, 1940–83 83/110

Quantity: 105 archives boxes


The papers include correspondence, press releases and speeches. Correspondents include Harold Holt.

Wesley College Archives, Melbourne

The college archives includes a wide range of memorabilia and photographs, together with copies of the Wesley College Chronicle.

NEW SOUTH WALES

State Library of New South Wales

RUSSELL, JESSICA STUART – LITERARY WORKS ML 1256

‘Vale a great Australian’, poem written on the death of Prime Minister Harold Holt.
Overseas institutions holding Holt records

SWITZERLAND

International Labour Organisation (ILO), ILO Historical Archives, Geneva

As Minister for Labour and National Service, Harold Holt attended sessions of the ILO and presided over the 40th Session in 1957. It is likely that the ILO Historical Archives houses materials relating to him. The Archives section of the ILO does not have an external website but can be contacted via email at archives@ilo.org.

UNITED KINGDOM

The National Archives

The UK National Archives was launched in April 2003, bringing together the Public Record Office (PRO) and the Historical Manuscripts Commission (HMC). It has one of the largest archival collections in the world, spanning 1000 years of British history, from the Domesday Book to government papers recently released to the public. National Archives (PRO) holds a small number of records relating to Harold Holt in his dealings with the British Government as Minister for Immigration, Treasurer and Prime Minister, and also in relation to meetings such as those of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers, Commonwealth Finance Ministers, and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

REGISTERED FILES (EC SERIES), 1967–68


Quantity: 102 files

This series contains the records of the Common Market Department relating to UK and Commonwealth relations and the application of the UK to join the EEC.

Visit of Mr Holt to UK, 1967 (EC 5/207/2 Part A) FCO 20/48

Visit of Mr Holt to UK, 1967 (EC 5/207/2 Part B) FCO 20/49

REGISTERED FILES (H & FW SERIES), 1967–73

Recorded by: 1966–68 Commonwealth Office, Far East and Pacific Department

1968–79 Foreign and Commonwealth Office, South West Pacific Department

Quantity: 1527 files

This series contains the records of the Far East and Pacific Department of the Commonwealth Office in the period January 1967 to October 1968 and thereafter the records of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office South West Pacific Department.
Disappearance and presumed death of Harold Holt, 1967 (HB 1/16 Part A) FCO 24/180
Disappearance and presumed death of Harold Holt, 1967 (HB 1/16 Part B) FCO 24/181
Mr Holt, Australian Prime Minister’s visit to Britain, 1967 (HB 2/6) FCO 24/186

REGISTERED FILES (RP AND CP SERIES), 1967–73 FCO 36
Recorded by: 1967–68 Commonwealth Office, Rhodesia Political Department
1968–72 Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Rhodesia Political Department
Quantity: 1351 files
This series contains records of the Rhodesia Political Department of the Commonwealth Office and of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Briefing for Mr Holt’s visit to UK, 1967 (RP 3/22) FCO 36/174

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1906–66 FO 371
Recorded by: 1906–66 Foreign Office, Political Departments
Quantity: 190 967 files and volumes
This series contains correspondence of the Foreign Office’s Political Departments and of certain of the joint Foreign Office/Commonwealth Relations Office departments.

Visit of Rt Hon. Harold Holt, Australian Minister of Labour, to Venezuela, 1957 (File 1632) FO 371/126755

CORRESPONDENCE AND PAPERS, 1964–70 PREM 13
Recorded by: 1964–70 Prime Minister’s Office
Quantity: 3564 files
The records in this series cover Harold Wilson’s Labour administration and are listed chronologically within subject.

Visit by Harold Holt, Federal Treasurer to UK: record of meeting with Prime Minister, 7 October 1965 PREM 13/131
Retirement of Sir R Menzies as Australian Prime Minister: appointment of Harold Holt as successor; messages from Prime Minister, November 1965 – December 1966 PREM 13/727
Visit by Australian Prime Minister to UK, May – July 1966 PREM 13/729
Visit to UK of Harold Holt, Prime Minister of Australia, March – July 1967, Part 2 PREM 13/1323
Death of Harold Holt: Prime Minister’s visit to Australia for memorial service; records of discussions with other heads of Government, December 1967 PREM 13/1324
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, Austin, Texas

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Library was established to preserve and make available for research the papers and memorabilia of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. The Library holds more than 44 million documents, an extensive audiovisual collection, and oral history interviews with more than 1000 individuals.

A small number of references to Holt can be found in the collection including mention in the President’s Daily Diary regarding Johnson’s attendance at the memorial service held for Holt in Melbourne in December 1967.

World Bank Archives, Washington, DC

The World Bank Archives contain the program-related and administrative records produced by the World Bank Group institutions, and offer a vast amount of original source material related to economic development.

As Australian Treasurer, Harold Holt was, ex-officio, a Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and regularly attended the annual meetings in Washington. It is likely that materials relating to him are housed in the collection.
Zara Holt’s charm, energy and influential family and business connections gave considerable impetus to the upward trajectory of Harold Holt’s political career.

Born Zara Dickins on 10 March 1909, she was educated first at home then at Ruyton and Toorak Colleges in Melbourne. She first met Harold Holt through mutual friends in about 1926.

An early foray into the fashion business – a dressmaking establishment in Collins Street – was followed by an overseas trip to America and London. These early activities reflect the nature of her later contribution to Australian public and political life: as an enthusiastic traveller and creator of attractive social and physical milieus, Zara Holt played a key role in fostering influential relationships in politics and business, at home and abroad.

Zara Holt’s first marriage was to James Heydon Fell, a British officer in the Indian 15th Lancers. She lived two years in India, but her sons Nicolas and twins Sam and Andrew were born in Melbourne. Back home in Melbourne, she worked in her father’s packaging business and dabbled in real estate.

After her divorce, she married Harold Holt on 8 October 1946. Zara Holt took little interest in her husband’s parliamentary career, remaining in Melbourne when Parliament was sitting, establishing another dressmaking business and visiting Canberra only for gala functions. Zara generally travelled with her husband on his official visits abroad and, on her return, was frequently interviewed about her perspective on overseas fashions.

When Harold Holt became Prime Minister, Zara Holt took on the renovation of The Lodge, inspired by her visit to Blair House, the official guesthouse in Washington. Although the couple lived in Canberra, they still returned to Melbourne or Portsea for most weekends. In 1966, to considerable acclaim, Zara Holt advised on the uniforms worn by the Australian officials at Expo ‘67 in Montreal, Canada.
Zara Holt at the foot of the stairs in The Lodge, Canberra, 1966. NAA: A1200, 54546

After Harold Holt’s disappearance, Zara Holt took an extended overseas trip, which included the Memorial Service at Westminster Abbey, lunch with the Queen, a personal visit to the White House, and the laying down of the keel of the USS destroyer *Harold E Holt*. Zara Holt was created a Dame (DBE) in June 1968 and later that year also published her memoirs, *My Life and Harry: An Autobiography*.

In 1969, Zara Holt married Jefferson Bate (1906–84). In 1976 she sold her home in Toorak and her business (‘Magg’) and moved to Tilba Tilba, NSW. In 1980 she moved to Surfers Paradise in Queensland where she died on 14 June 1989. She is buried beside her parents at Sorrento, Victoria.

**Records in the National Archives**

**AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AND MRS ZARA HOLT, 1920–86**

M4294

Recorded by: 1920–86 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
1930–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)

Quantity: 0.80 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of about 380 photographs, one 45 rpm record and six films relating to Harold Holt and his wife, Zara (later Dame Zara). Most of the photographs are black and white prints in various sizes. They include official portraits, family photographs, Australian News and Information Bureau and official photographs covering a
wide range of Holt’s official engagements both in Australia and overseas. A smaller number of photographs relate to Zara Holt, including her childhood, early fashion business in Melbourne, as wife of a senior political figure and after Holt’s death. For a full series description please see page 88.

**Photographs – family and friends, 1920–86**  
This item includes early photographs, possibly of Zara Holt as a child and of her fashion business partner Betty James.

**Photographs – Mrs Zara Holt, 1952–68**  
This item includes photographs of Lady Bird Johnson, launching of HMAS Torrens, an official portrait and autographed photograph of Mrs Zara Holt on a swing.

**Photographs – Harold Edward Holt and Mrs Zara Holt, c 1950–67**  
This item includes official portraits.

**Film – Prime Minister Holt, 1966**  
Film of the Holts relaxing at Portsea which includes footage of Harold Holt scuba diving and spear fishing on the southern end of the Mornington Peninsula.

**AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AND MRS ZARA HOLT, 1921–81**

Recorded by: 1921–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)  
1950–69 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)

Quantity: 0.80 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of about 195 photographs, four sound recordings and four films relating to Holt and his wife, Zara Holt (later Dame Zara). There are a number of photographs of Mrs Zara Holt as wife of a senior political figure, both before and after Holt’s death. A few items relate to the first year of her subsequent marriage to another politician, H J P (Jeff) Bate, and to her fashion business ‘Magg’. The sound recordings include the song ‘Dame Zara’, by the group ‘The Wheelbarrow’, and a cassette tape of Mrs Zara Holt responding to ‘Dorothy Dix’ questions. For a full series description please see page 90.

**Photographs – family and friends, 1946–81**  
This item includes early photographs of Christopher (grandson), Nicolas, Andrew and Sam Holt (sons), the opening of the Franklin Road Country Club, Portsea, a family wedding in Sydney and later photographs of Dame Zara Holt with one of her sons.

**Photograph – family, c 1956**  
Print of Nicolas Holt, aged c 16 years.

**Photographs – Mrs Zara Holt, c 1950–68**  
Studio and official portraits and photographs taken at the time of Harold Edward Holt’s disappearance.
Photographs – Dame Zara Bate (Holt) and H J P (Jeff) Bate, 1969
This item includes an official portrait of Jeff Bate, photographs taken at Tilba Tilba Aboriginal settlement and Long Beach Naval Shipyards, California.

Photographs – Mrs Zara Holt, 1955–65
This item includes fashion photographs of models and evening gowns designed by Diana Bonython, Adelaide.


Photographs – Harold Edward Holt and Mrs Zara Holt, 1949–67
This item includes official portraits.

45 rpm Record – songs, 1966–67

Cassette tape – Mrs Zara Holt, c 1967
Tape of Mrs Zara Holt apparently recording answers to ‘Dorothy Dix’ letters.

Film – Mrs Zara Holt in Sydney and Perth – The Prime Minister at North West Cape, 1967

Film – Mrs Zara Holt’s interview with Dr Lorienne Chase on TV, Los Angeles, June 1967

PRESS CUTTING BOOKS OF HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1934–66

Recorded by: 1934–66 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 1.62 metres (Canberra)

The 15 volumes of press cuttings in this series document Holt’s political career, from his first attempt to enter Federal politics in September 1934 to his first year as Prime Minister. Most of the volumes include information about Holt’s personal life including Mrs Zara Holt and her fashion business. For a full series description please see page 19.

Volume 1, 1926–46
This volume contains clippings relating to Holt’s early public life and includes articles on his marriage to Zara Fell as well as letters from R G Casey, R G Menzies and others.

Volume 2, 1948–51
This volume includes articles on the Chifley Government and Mrs Zara Holt.

Volume 3, 1951–53
This volume includes articles on migrants, employment, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mrs Jessie Street and Mrs Zara Holt.
Volume 4, 1953–55
This volume includes articles on migration, waterfront disputes, Royal visit, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mrs Zara Holt and fashion.

Volume 6, 1957–58
This volume includes articles on unemployment, communism, equal pay, Mrs Zara Holt and Dr H V Evatt.

Volume 7, 1958–60
This volume includes articles on Holt’s first Budget as Treasurer, banking, road plans, parliamentary salaries, overseas loans and the Holt family.

Volume 10, 1960–63
This volume includes articles on the Budget, taxation, banking, 1961 election, decimal currency, European Common Market, Mrs Zara Holt and political cartoons.

Volume 11, 1963–64
This volume includes articles on the Budget, decimal currency, 1963 election, defence spending and the ‘Magg’ fashion salon.

Volume 13, 1965–66
This item includes articles on succession to the prime ministership, First Ministry, Liberal Party’s 21st Anniversary, tax legislation, Mrs Zara Holt and the Vietnam War 1965–66.

Volume 14, 1966
This item includes articles on the Vietnam War, National Service, overseas trips, The Lodge, Kooyong by-election, Royal visit and the Holt family 1966.

PERSONAL PAPERS OF DAME ZARA HOLT, 1946–97
Recorded by: 1946–89 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
Quantity: 1.20 metres (Canberra)
This series mainly covers the period 1946 to 1989, although several items were accumulated subsequently by her eldest son Nicolas.

Correspondence, newspapers, press cuttings and magazines account for most of the records in the series. Many of these items relate to the death of Holt in December 1967 and his memorial services in Melbourne a few days later and at Westminster Abbey, London in January 1968. Some include complete issues of major daily Australian newspapers and press cuttings from US newspapers, collected by the Australian News and Information Bureau in New York. The correspondence includes two files of condolences addressed to Nicolas Holt, one relating to Holt’s death and the other to Dame Zara’s death in June 1989. Another file includes a list of Holt’s personal papers deposited in the National Archives by the Prime Minister’s Department in 1968 and an inventory of his personal effects.
Other items relate to an overseas visit the Holts made in 1957, social engagements, fashion (including Dame Zara’s fashion business ‘Magg’) and to other members of the Holt family in more recent years.

**Travel diary, 1957**
This diary contains roneoed accounts of Bangkok, Beirut, Italy, Geneva and London (seven instalments).

**Personal correspondence, 1968**
Correspondence includes thank you letters for flowers received at Savoy Hotel, London. It also contains references to Holt’s Memorial Service, Westminster Abbey.

**Personal correspondence – condolences, congratulations, 1967–68**
Correspondence includes letters and telegrams about Harold Edward Holt’s death, travel arrangements for Memorial Service in London, proposed publications and underwater memorial, Paul Kuek sketch, Marc Clark sculpture ‘Girl on the Beach’, Dick Weight portrait of Mrs Zara Holt, congratulatory telegrams to Sir Robert Helpmann and others about Imperial honours. It also contains address lists and two photographs.

**Personal correspondence – personal effects, 1968**
Correspondence includes inventory of personal effects and lists of items held in a bank deposit for Harold Edward Holt and Mrs Zara Holt, list of Holt’s personal papers, letter and unsigned forms about Mrs Zara Holt’s entitlements under the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Act.

**Personal correspondence – miscellaneous, 1967–86**
Correspondence includes article ‘World notable guests at historic Blair House’ (Washington) by Frances W Kerr, poem, invitation, Christmas cards, guest lists, two photographs of Dame Zara Bate and related news clipping (1982).

**Personal correspondence – condolences, 1967–68**
Correspondence includes letters, cards and telegrams addressed to Nicolas Holt and family on the death of Harold Edward Holt. It also contains Parliamentary eulogies (Hansard, 12 March 1968).

**Personal correspondence – condolences, 1989**
Correspondence includes letters and cards addressed to Nicolas Holt and family on the death of Dame Zara Bate (Holt). It contains ‘A Thanksgiving for the Life of Zara Kate Bate, DBE, 1909–89: Order of Service’.


**Press cutting book, 1946–81**
This item includes cuttings about visit of US President Lyndon B Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson to Australia, Harold Edward Holt commemorations, Mrs Bettina Gorton,
Susan Peacock and other politicians’ wives, fashion, T Eggleton (press secretary), R Coppin (driver), H J P (Jeff) Bate and cartoons.

Press cuttings – Australian News and Information Bureau, New York, 1967
This item includes United States newspaper cuttings about death of Harold Edward Holt, attendance of President Lyndon B Johnson at Memorial Service in Melbourne, appointment of John McEwen as caretaker Prime Minister and official talks during visit.

Press cuttings – Australian News and Information Bureau, New York, 1967–68
This item includes United States newspaper cuttings about visit of President Lyndon B Johnson to US troops in Vietnam, audience with the Pope, tributes to Harold Edward Holt and Australian political succession.

Press cuttings – social engagements and fashion, 1946–86
This item contains miscellaneous newspaper articles in a beige stitched folder with hand-painted initials ‘H E H’ on cover. It includes souvenir issues of The Good Neighbour and Sun-Herald about the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth to Australia, February 1954.

Newspapers, 1967
These two items contain issues of The Age, The Australian, the Sydney Morning Herald and the Sun covering the disappearance of Harold Edward Holt and the Memorial Service for Holt in Melbourne, 22 December 1967.

Newspapers, 1967–68
This item contains issues of the Sydney Morning Herald and other articles covering the death and estate of Harold Edward Holt.

Newspapers, 1976–87
This item contains issues of The Australian and the Herald covering the sale of Dame Zara Bate (Holt)’s fashion business ‘Magg’ and the 10th anniversary of Harold Edward Holt’s death.

Newspapers, 1990–97
This item contains issues of The Australian (including 30th anniversary commemorative issue, 16 July 1994) and other articles covering Sophie Holt, Tilba Tilba, demolition of the Holt home at 112 St George’s Road (Toorak), Sorrento (Vic), Susie and Pippa Holt, the 30th anniversary of Harold Edward Holt’s death and the death of Andrew Holt.

Here is Kelaniya – souvenir book, 1946
This souvenir book commemorates the completion of the restoration of the Ancient Vihara at Kelaniya, Ceylon, edited by D C Wijewardene.

Magazines, 1976–97
Magazines, 1947–97

_Memorial Service for the Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, CH, 22 December 1967_ M4300, 21
This item contains the order of arrangements and black leather-bound order of service.

_Port of Los Angeles: brass plaque, 1969_ M4300, 22
This plaque was presented to Dame Zara Bate, DBE, sponsor of the destroyer escort _Harold E Holt_ (DE-1074), named in honour of the late Australian Prime Minister, launched at Todd Shipyards, Port of Los Angeles, 5 May 1969.

_Ephemera, 1953–80_ M4300, 23
This item includes two original artworks by Peter Kiliwa, Mamina (6 April 1953), original painting of the US destroyer _Harold E Holt_ (presented by a sailor, c 1969), Christmas cards and two drawings by Pippa Holt.

_Stationery, 1960–85_ M4300, 24
This item contains unused 18 Millicent Avenue and 50 Washington Street, Toorak letterhead paper and cards as well as ‘Magg’ and Saint Laurent business cards (in box).

PERSONAL PAPERS OF DAME ZARA HOLT, 1949–89 M4296
Recorded by: 1956–68 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of a small number of items associated with Mrs Zara Holt (later Dame Zara), wife of former Prime Minister Harold Edward Holt. It includes roneoed copies of travel diaries and letters written for distribution to family and friends when she accompanied Holt on his overseas visits (mainly 1957–60), some personal correspondence, financial papers, unused stationery and other items of ephemera including the order of service on her death in June 1989.

_Travel diaries and letters, 1949–60_ M4296, 1
The diaries and letters in this item contain roneoed accounts of Singapore, Bangkok, Italy, Geneva and London and include annotated pages from a travel book, map, postcards and photographs relating to East Africa, c 1949–54 and a copy of Harold Edward Holt’s travel diary, 1957.

_Personal correspondence, 1965–89_ M4296, 2
Correspondence includes letters from M R M Smith, Clothing and Allied Trades Union (Vic Branch), Queen of Cambodia, ‘A Thanksgiving for the Life of Zara Kate Bate, DBE, 1909–89: Order of Service’, diplomatic passport and news cuttings.
Personal correspondence – Accounts, 1966–67 M4296, 3
Correspondence includes letters about Portsea property, ‘Magg’ (Sydney), J Büst, list of jewellery for overseas trip 1966 and household workers’ insurance policy.

Stationery, 1966–67 M4296, 4
This item contains unused 112 St George’s Rd, Toorak letterhead paper, envelopes and a Christmas card.

FOLDERS OF OVERSEAS TRAVEL DIARIES AND CORRESPONDENCE MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1952–65 M2608
Recorded by: 1952–65 The Rt Hon. Harold Holt (CP 27)
1952–53 Department of Immigration (CA 51)
1953–57 Department of Labour and National Service (CA 40)
1959–65 Department of the Treasury [I] (CA 11)
Quantity: 0.72 metres (Canberra)
This series of folders documents the overseas trips made by Holt and his wife, 1952–65. In this 13-year period the Holts visited South-East Asia, Europe, London and the USA on each trip, including Africa in 1954 and 1961 and Jamaica in 1965. The folders were maintained by successive private secretaries to Holt, and consists of his diaries and some of Mrs Holt’s letters and diaries (typed and circulated), itineraries and related correspondence. The series consequently strongly reflects the arrangements made for each trip, and in most cases the Holts’ personal accounts of them, but does not include the formal record of the various official meetings and conferences Holt attended. For a full series description please see page 31.

Mrs Harold Holt’s diary, 1959 M2608, 8
This incomplete diary includes accounts of Singapore, Beirut, Rome, London and a boring dentist.

Mrs Harold Holt’s letters, 1960 M2608, 10
These letters include accounts of Hong Kong, Japan, London and the Lausanne Trade Fair.

‘Off to Market’, travel diary, 1962 M2608, 18
This travel diary includes comments on the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference, European Common Market, America’s Cup, Mrs Zara Holt, social engagements in Athens, Rome, London and New York.

Mrs Harold Holt’s travel letters, 1962 M2608, 19
These letters include accounts of overseas shopping, fashion, social engagements, Buckingham Palace Reception for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers’ Conference and the America’s Cup Challenge.

Overseas letters (Japan), 1964 M2608, 20
One instalment – Mr Holt; one letter – Mrs Holt. These letters include comments on Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Conference.
CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1957–

Recorded by: 1957–71 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 789.9 metres (Canberra), 342.0 metres (Sydney)

This series comprises the classified files relating to general and policy matters handled by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Subjects range from departmental and domestic matters to foreign affairs, and reflect the functions of the department in the political, cultural, economic, industrial and defence fields. The items listed below contain material about Dame Zara Holt.

Matters raised by Mrs Holt, 1967

Facilities for Dame Zara Holt, 1967–68

Removal and storage of effects of late Prime Minister and Mrs Holt – Prime Minister’s Lodge, 1968–71

Prime Minister Holt at Portsea, Victoria in 1966, where he was later to disappear while swimming in heavy seas.  NAA : A1200, L54379
PRESS CUTTINGS SCRAPBOOKS RELATING TO HAROLD EDWARD HOLT’S
SUCCESSION AS PRIME MINISTER, JANUARY–MARCH 1966 A1730

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.09 metres (Canberra)

The press cuttings in this volume document the succession of Holt to the position of Prime Minister in January 1966, following the retirement of Sir Robert Menzies.

The cuttings relate to Holt’s wife (Mrs Zara Holt) and family, his policies and leisure pursuits, overseas visitors, decimal currency, Vietnam, Menzies and the deputy leadership of the Liberal Party, and include an interview with John Bennetts (The Age). They are mainly from Australian newspapers, including the Sydney Morning Herald, Daily Mirror, Financial Review, Canberra Times, Sydney Sun and The Age. Most of the cuttings include photographs and some are political cartoons. A smaller number of cuttings are from overseas newspapers, including the Illustrated London News and the New York Times (Australian News and Information Bureau copies).

Press cuttings scrapbook relating to Harold Edward Holt’s succession as Prime Minister, January–March 1966 A1730, 1

PRESS CUTTINGS RELATING TO THE SEVEN NATION SUMMIT CONFERENCE,

Recorded by: 1966 The Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt CH, PC (CP 27)
1966 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 0.36 metres (Canberra)

This large volume represents Filipino press coverage of the Seven Nation Summit Conference held in Manila 24–25 October 1966. The Summit was hosted by President Ferdinand E Marcos of The Philippines and aimed at trying to end the Vietnam War. Leaders of the seven countries attending were President Lyndon B Johnson (USA), Harold Holt (Australia), Keith Holyoake (NZ), Park Chung Hee (South Korea), Nguyen Cao Ky (South Vietnam), Thanom Kittikachorn (Thailand) and Marcos. Much of the media attention focused on President Johnson.

Two-thirds of the volume covers the lead up to the Summit; the remaining one-third is taken up by entertainment of the leaders’ wives, the Summit itself and its immediate aftermath. The cuttings (including cartoons) are from the main English Philippines newspapers, including The Philippines Herald, Manila Bulletin, Manila Chronicle, Manila Times and the Evening News, and the Tagalog (Filipino national language) newspaper Taliba. The volume was compiled by the Philippine Press Clipping Bureau. It was received by Holt’s Press Secretary, Tony Eggleton, in early March 1967.

CORRESPONDENCE FILES MAINTAINED BY HAROLD EDWARD HOLT AS
PRIME MINISTER, 1966–67

Recorded by: 1966–67 The Rt Hon. Harold Holt (CP 27)
1966–69 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 3.06 metres (Canberra)

This series consists primarily of correspondence files
maintained in the Prime Minister’s Office during Holt’s prime
ministership. A few files include letters from Holt’s wife (Mrs
Zara Holt) and his brother (Cliff Holt). For a full series
description please see page 69.

Congratulations on becoming Prime Minister, 1966
Written replies, includes Mrs Zara Holt’s letters.

Overseas visit – USA, Cambodia, Britain, 28 May – 22 June 1967
This item includes cables, programs, correspondence and
letters from Mrs Zara Holt.

CONDOLENCE BOOKS, LETTERS, CARDS AND TELEGRAMS RECEIVED ON THE
DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON. HAROLD EDWARD HOLT, 1967–68

Recorded by: 1967–68 Dame Zara Kate Holt DBE (CP 717)
1967–68 Prime Minister’s Department (CA 12)

Quantity: 5.58 metres (Canberra)

This series consists of 77 condolence books and over 80 files
of letters, cards and telegrams received following the
disappearance of Harold Edward Holt on 17 December 1967,
towards the end of his second year as Prime Minister. Most of
the letters, cards and telegrams (which number over 3000) are
addressed to Mrs Holt personally, including those sent
through the Department of External Affairs or a Member of
Parliament. They include expressions of sympathy from
Heads of State and royalty, local government, community
organisations, branches of political parties, professional
bodies, churches, personal friends and associates, and a large
number from individual members of the Australian public
(men, women and young people). A few files also include
letters of congratulation to Mrs Holt on being created a Dame
(June 1968). For a full series description and item listing
please see page 82.

Australian High Commission, Colombo Ceylon, 20–22
December 1967 – Book of Condolence in Memory of the
Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, MP, 1967

Condolences Book Suva – the late Rt Hon. Harold Edward
Holt, CH, 1967–68

Condolence Book on the death of Harold Edward Holt –
Hong Kong, 1967–68

Condolences Book on the death of Harold Edward Holt –
San Francisco, 1967

Rt Hon. Harold Edward Holt, LLB Condolences Book –
Victoria, British Columbia, 1967–68
Records in other collections

National Library of Australia

MANUSCRIPTS

HAROLD HOLT SCRAPBOOK, 1967–68

Quantity: 0.07 metres

This scrapbook covers Holt’s disappearance and the publication of Dame Zara Holt’s autobiography, *My Life and Harry: An Autobiography*.

DAME ZARA HOLT, 1934–77 (MAINLY 1951–68)

Quantity: 0.42 metres

This item includes correspondence, appointment diaries (1957 and 1962), travel diaries (copies in National Archives of Australia), travel itineraries, and Christmas card list (1967).

PICTORIAL COLLECTION

Harold Holt album of family photographs

Visit of Harold and Zara Holt to Cambodia, 1967

National Archives of Australia  Zara Holt

Photograph of Zara Holt taken during Harold Holt’s tour of Asia, 1967.  NAA: A1200, L63366
ScreenSound Australia

FILM

SPOTTING THE NEWS, 16 JUNE 1960 128543

Newsreel item from 1960 about the premiere of the film Porgy and Bess at the Chelsea Theatre, Melbourne ... Among distinguished guests arriving for the premier are: Greater Union Theatres Chairman, Mr Rydge, Australian actor John McCallum and his wife Googie Withers, and Federal Treasurer Harold Holt and Mrs Holt.

TELEVISION

MEMORIAL SERVICE TO MR HAROLD HOLT HELD IN MELBOURNE, 1967 59332

The Memorial Service for Mr Harold Holt, held on 22 December 1967 brought the largest number of world leaders in Australia’s history to the country. The service was held at the St Paul’s Anglican Cathedral, Melbourne. Australian Information Service news footage tf 67/69.

THE FIRST US DESTROYER TO BE NAMED AFTER A FOREIGN LEADER, 1969 448993

Appendix 1  Timeline

1908  5 August  Harold Edward Holt was born in Stanmore, NSW.
1909  10 March  Zara Kate Dickins was born in Kew, Victoria.
1920  Holt was a student at Wesley College, Melbourne until 1926.
1927  Holt attended Queen’s College, University of Melbourne until 1931.
1932  10 November  Holt was admitted to the Bar, Melbourne.
1934  15 September  Holt stood unsuccessfully for United Australia Party against James Scullin in Federal electorate of Yarra.
1935  2 March  Holt stood unsuccessfully for United Australian Party against John Cremean in State electorate of Clifton Hill.
           4 May  Zara Dickins married James Heydon Fell in Melbourne.
           17 August  Holt was elected for United Australia Party at by-election for Federal seat of Fawkner, following the death of G A Maxwell QC.
1937  23 October  Holt was re-elected for Fawkner.
1939  26 April  Holt was Minister without Portfolio assisting the Minister for Supply and Development until 14 April 1940.
           14 October  Holt was Acting Minister for Air and for Civil Aviation during the absence of J V Fairbairn until 31 December 1939.
           26 October  Holt was Minister in Charge of Scientific and Industrial Research until 14 March 1940.
1940  23 February  Holt was Minister without Portfolio assisting the Minister for Trade and Customs (Menzies) until 14 March 1940.
           7 May  Holt was appointed Member of the National Fitness Council.
           22 May  Holt enlisted in 2nd Australian Imperial Force.
           28 August  Air crash in Canberra in which three Ministers and the Chief of Staff were killed. Menzies recalled Holt to Parliament.
           21 September  Federal election – Menzies government was returned.
           29 October  Holt was Minister for Labour and National Service, Minister in charge of Scientific and Industrial Research, Acting Minister, Department of Civil Aviation and Department of Air until 7 October 1941.
1941  April  Passage of Child Endowment Act.
           26 June  Holt was Member, Economic and Industrial Committee of Cabinet until 7 October 1941.
           7 October  No confidence motion in Fadden Government successful – Curtin Government formed.
          October  In Opposition – Holt was front bench spokesman on industrial relations until December 1949.
1943  14 October  Holt was Member, Parliamentary Joint Committee on War Expenditure until 16 August 1946.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>Harold Holt married Zara Kate Fell in Melbourne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 July</td>
<td>Holt was Member, Joint Committee on Broadcasting of Parliamentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proceedings until 31 October 1949.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td></td>
<td>Electoral redistribution following enlargement of House of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Representatives. Holt moved to the electorate of Higgins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Federal election – Menzies Government returned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Holt was Minister for Labour and National Service until 10 December</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1958 and Minister for Immigration until 24 October 1956.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>2 June</td>
<td>Holt attended the Coronation in London.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Visit of Vice President and Mrs Nixon to Australia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>1 January</td>
<td>Holt was Acting Minister for Air and Civil Aviation until 31 March</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>during absence overseas of A G Townley.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>26 September</td>
<td>Holt was Deputy Liberal Leader until 20 January 1966.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26 September</td>
<td>Holt was Member, Standing Orders Committee until 19 December 1967.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>May–June</td>
<td>Holt made overseas visit as President, 40th Session of ILO, Geneva.</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>1 August</td>
<td>Holt was Acting Minister in charge, CSIRO from 1 Aug – 30 Nov 1957;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 December</td>
<td>Holt was Federal Treasurer until 26 January 1966.</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>12 August</td>
<td>Holt presented first Budget.</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>20 January</td>
<td>Robert Menzies announced resignation. Holt elected Leader of the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Liberal Party.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26 January</td>
<td>Harold Holt sworn in as Prime Minister.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14 February</td>
<td>Introduction of decimal currency.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>August–September</td>
<td>Holt visited USA and UK for Prime Ministers’ Conference.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>October–November</td>
<td>Visit of President Johnson to Australia followed by Seven Power</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conference about Vietnam in Manila.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26 November</td>
<td>Federal election – the Coalition won a ‘record majority’.</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>Referendum held to break nexus between the size of the Senate and</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>House of Representative (lost) and to permit the Commonwealth to</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>make laws in relation to Aboriginal people (won).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>Holt became Member, Joint Select Committee on New and Permanent</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parliament House.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25 November</td>
<td>Half Senate election in which the Coalition fared badly.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17 December</td>
<td>Holt disappeared at Cheviot Beach, Portsea.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>22 December</td>
<td>Memorial service at St Paul’s Cathedral, Melbourne.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>2 February</td>
<td>Dame Zara Holt married Jefferson Percival Bate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>14 June</td>
<td>Dame Zara Bate died at Surfers Paradise, Qld.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 2 Who’s who

This appendix includes people frequently mentioned in Harold Holt’s papers. The list includes Permanent Heads and First Assistant Secretaries of Departments for which Holt served as Minister, his private secretaries, immediate family and friends.

John Anderson was Chairman of Directors of the Royal Opera House. His wife, Ada Anderson was Trustee of the Royal Ballet Benevolent Fund and Member of the Council of Friends of Covent Gardens. She became a close friend of Zara Holt.

Bailey, Peter Hamilton (1927–)
Peter Hamilton Bailey was educated at Wesley College and Queen’s College, the University of Melbourne. He was a First Assistant Secretary in the Prime Minister’s Department (1965–67) and First Assistant Secretary, Department of Cabinet Office (1968–71).

Bailey, Sir Kenneth Hamilton (1898–1972)
Educated at Wesley College and the University of Melbourne, Sir Kenneth Hamilton Bailey was Professor of Jurisprudence and then Professor of Public Law at the University of Melbourne between 1928 and 1946. From 1946 to 1964 he was Commonwealth Solicitor General and Secretary of the Attorney-General’s Department. He was Australian High Commissioner to Canada from 1964 to 1969. His papers are held in the National Archives.

Best, Sir Robert Wallace (1856–1946)
Sir Robert Wallace Best was a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly and a Senator (1901–10) and member for Kooyong (1910–22). He was a partner in Fink, Best & Miller, the firm to which Harold Holt was articled.

Black, Eugene Robert (1898–1992)
A banker, Eugene Black was Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in Washington (1947–49) then its President and Chairman from 1949 to 1962. From 1961 to 1962 he was Chairman and Vice President of the International Finance Corporation. As Treasurer, Harold Holt attended and addressed meetings of the International Finance Corporation.

Bland, (Sir) Henry Armand (1909–97)
Sir Henry Armand Bland was Secretary, Commonwealth Department of Labour and National Service from 1952 to 1967.

Brookes, Dame Mabel Balcombe (1890–1975) and Sir Norman Everard Brookes (1877–1968)
Dame Mabel Brookes was President of the Committee of Management, Queen Victoria Hospital, and a member of many women’s organisations. Businessman and tennis player, her husband Sir Norman Brookes was a Wimbledon champion. The Brookes were longstanding friends of Harold and Zara Holt.

Brown, Sir Allen Stanley (1911–90)
Educated at Wesley Grammar and Queen’s College, University of Melbourne (MA LLM ACIA), Brown was Secretary, Prime Minister’s Department (1949–59), Deputy High Commissioner, London (1959–65) and Australian Ambassador to Japan (1965–70).

Büssst, John (c 1910–71)
Educated at Wesley College and Queens College, University of Melbourne, John Büssst worked as a reporter before moving to North Qld and later to Bingil Bay. An amateur painter and conservationist, he married Alison Fitchett, a close friend of Zara Holt.

Chase, Allen (1911–[1980s])
Allen Chase was a director in Allen Chase & Co, Los Angeles, and an American business associate of Harold Holt. He was married to Dr Loriene Eck Chase.

Chase, Lorieene Eck (1920–[1980s])
Dr Lorieene Eck Chase was a television presenter who interviewed Zara Holt in 1966.

Clark, Edward ‘Ed’ Aubrey (1906–92)
Ed Clark was United States Ambassador to Australia (1965–67), appointed by President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

Clarke, Sir Rupert (1919–), 3rd Baronet Clarke of Rupertwood
Sir Rupert Clarke was Chairman of Cadbury Schweppes (Australia) (1955–89) and of
Clyne, Sir Thomas Stuart (1887–1967)
Harold Holt studied with Sir Thomas Clyne (for the bar) in the early 1930s. Clyne was later lecturer in European History, University of Melbourne and a judge in the County Court of Victoria.

Connolly, Brian Tognini (‘Barney’) (1908–74)
Barney Connolly was best man at Harold Holt's wedding in 1946. He held Trade Commissioner positions in Trinidad, New York, San Francisco and Athens.

Crocker, Walter Russell (1902–97)
Over a long diplomatic career, Walter Crocker served as High Commissioner to India (1952–55 and 1958–62), Indonesia (1955–56), Canada (1957–58), then as Ambassador to Nepal (1960–62), Netherlands and Belgium (1962–65), Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya (1965–67) and Italy (1967–70). His papers are held in the University of Adelaide Library.

Daff, Alfred (‘Al’) Edward (1902–91)
Al Daff was office boy and projectionist for Progressive Films in Melbourne before joining Universal Pictures. He was one of Harold Holt’s first clients when Holt began as a solicitor. His papers are held in the National Library of Australia.

d’Egville, Howard (1879–1965)
Howard d’Egville was organiser and first Secretary of Empire/Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (1920) and was elected Secretary General of CPA (1949). He organised and attended every EPA/CPA function until he retired in 1960. Harold Holt was Chairman of the General Council of the CPA from 1952 to 1954 and a regular attendee at meetings thereafter. (The CPA was an organisation dedicated to promoting the advancement of parliamentary democracy.)

Downer, Sir Alexander (1910–81)
MHR for Angas SA (1949–63) and Minister for Immigration (1958–63), Sir Alexander Downer was Australian High Commissioner in London from 1964 to 1972.

Dyer, Bob (1909–84) and Dolly Dyer
Bob and Dolly Dyer were radio and television personalities, and game fishers. Harold Holt went spear fishing with them in Queensland.

Eggleton, Anthony (‘Tony’) (1932–)
Tony Eggleton was Press Secretary to Prime Ministers Robert Menzies, Harold Holt (1966–67) and John Gorton (1968–71).

Emanuel, Sidney (1903–?)
Sidney Emanuel was a London financier and owner of Gogo Station, Fitzroy Crossing WA. As Treasurer, Holt met with him to discuss financial matters during visits to London.

Engelhard, Charles William (1917–71)
Charles William Engelhard was chairman of gold, silver and platinum dealers Baker & Co, and partner in the Anglo–American Corporation of South Africa. He is said to be the inspiration for Ian Fleming’s ‘Goldfinger’ character in the James Bond novel of the same name. The Holts were frequent guests of the Engelhard’s in New York and New Jersey.

Fairbairn, James Valentine (1897–1940)
James Fairbairn was Minister for Civil Aviation (1939–40) and Vice President of the Executive Council. He was killed in an air crash with two other ministers and the Chief of the General Staff on 13 August 1940 while serving as Minister for Air. Fairbairn’s widow, Daisy, remarried, lived in London and retained close contact with the Holts.

Gerard, Rupert (1916–78)
Rupert Gerard was Charles Engelhard’s brother-in-law. Often in Melbourne on business, he introduced the Holts and the Engelhards.

Graham, John Ernest (1907–?)
John Graham was Hon. ADC to the Governor of Victoria (1939–48) and then Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Cinematograph Exhibitors Association. In 1935 Harold Holt became Industrial Secretary to the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association.

Grounds, Bettine (‘Betty’) and Sir Roy Grounds (1905–81)
‘Betty’ Grounds was Zara Holt’s partner in ‘Magg’, their dressmaking business. She and her husband, Sir Roy Grounds, architect, were friends of the Holts.

Hall, (Hessel) Duncan (1891–1976)
Duncan Hall was Professor in International Relations at the University of Syracuse, USA (1926–27). He organised the first inter-university Assembly of the League of Nations in the USA. He worked for the League of Nations then went to Harvard as a professor. Holt travelled with him to the Nairobi Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in 1954. Hall wrote Commonwealth: A History of the British Commonwealth 1900–50, published in 1970. His papers are held in the National Library MS 5547.

**Harrison, (Sir) Eric John (1892–1974)**
Sir Eric Harrison held a number of ministerial positions between 1934 and 1941 before becoming Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party, then Minister for Defence and Minister for Interior. He was Australian High Commissioner, London (1956–64).

**Hawker, Charles Allen Seymour (1894–1938)**
Charles Hawker was Minister for Markets in 1932 during his six years as MHR for Wakefield (SA). Before he was killed in the 1938 crash of the aircraft ‘Keeyma’, Hawker was considered a possible future Prime Minister. Harold Holt spoke on radio about Hawker as the most unforgettable character he had met.

**Hewitt, (Sir) Cyrus Lenox Simson (1917–)**
After an academic and Public Service career in economics, and a period as chairman of the Australian Universities Commission (1967–68), Sir Lenox Hewitt was Secretary of the Commonwealth departments of Prime Minister; Environment, Aborigines and the Arts; and Minerals and Energy. He retired from the Public Service to become Chairman of Qantas and the Snowy Mountains Council, and a member of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission.

**Heymanson, Sir Sydney Randal (1903–84)**
Sir Sydney Randal Heymanson was a journalist, editor and chairman of the American Australian Association, New York (1967–84). The association provides a networking forum for government and business leaders in Australia, New Zealand and the United States. Harold Holt and Sir Heymanson corresponded extensively.

**Holt, Clifford Thomas (1910–67)**
Leaving Wesley College at fifteen, Harold Holt’s brother Cliff worked first as a journalist for *Everyone’s Variety*, then joined Hoyts, for whom he worked until 1963 when he established himself as a consultant. He died in Sydney on the eve of his brother’s prime ministerial trip to Asia.

**Holt, Edgar George (1904–88)**
From 1951 to 1972 Edgar Holt was Director, Public Relations, Liberal Party of Australia, and then Senior Political Adviser, Federal Secretariat, Liberal Party of Australia. He was not related to Harold Holt.

**Holt, Thomas James ‘Tom’ (1886–1945)**

**Hooper, Cecil Gordon (1906–c 1975)**
Cecil Hooper was a legal partner with Harold Holt, and later Director and Chairman of J C Williamson Ltd and J C Williamson Theatres Ltd respectively.

**Howse, John Brooke (1913–2002)**
John Howse was MHR for Calare (1946–60), holding various Parliamentary Secretary positions during that time. His wife Valerie was described as a tireless entertainer and giver of charity balls.

**Howson, Peter (1919–)**
Peter Howson was MHR for Higgins (1955–69), Deputy Government Whip (1961–63), Minister for Air (1964–68) and Minister Assisting the Treasurer (1966–68).

**Jennings, Francis William (1930–)**
Francis Jennings was Private Secretary to Prime Minister Harold Holt, (1966–67).

**Lampe, Frederick Ernest (1892–1972)**
A retailer and businessman, Frederick Lampe was a foundation member of the Institute of Public Affairs, President of the French Chamber of Commerce (1948–58) and had a strong connection with the Elizabethan Theatre Trust and Australian Ballet.

**Larkin, John Terence ‘Terry’ (1926–)**
Terry Larkin was Private Secretary to Harold Holt (1958–59).
Latham, Sir John (1877–1964)
Sir John Latham was MHR for Kooyong (1922–34) and a minister in the Bruce and Lyons governments. A contemporary of Holt’s, Latham was Chief Justice of the High Court from 1935 to 1952.

Lawler, Sir Peter James (1921–)
Sir Peter Lawler was First Assistant Secretary of the Prime Minister’s Department in 1962, Deputy Secretary of the Cabinet Office in 1968, Secretary of the Department of Special Minister of State in 1972, and Ambassador to Ireland and the Holy See from 1983 to 85.

Linkletter, Art (1912–)
A Los Angeles-based entertainer (radio and television) and businessman, Art Linkletter’s investments included sheep and cattle stations in Australia.

Luscombe, Brian Gerrard (1914–)
Brian Luscombe was Private Secretary to Holt, Department of Labour and National Service, 1957–58.

MacDonald, Malcolm John (1901–81)
Malcolm MacDonald was Governor General, Malaya, Singapore and Borneo (1946–48), Commissioner General for the United Kingdom in South-East Asia (1948–55), High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in India (1955–60), and Governor General, Kenya (1963–64).

Sir Edwin McCarthy was Secretary, Department of Commerce and Agriculture, Commonwealth Controller of Food (1945–50), Deputy High Commissioner, London (1950–58), Chairman, International Wheat Council (1958–59), then Ambassador to the Netherlands (1958–62), Ambassador to Belgium (1960–64) and Ambassador, EEC (1960–64).

McIntyre, Grant (1907–)
Grant McIntyre was educated at Wesley College and was a friend of Harold Holt’s from that time. He was Holt’s Private Secretary, Department of Immigration (1953–55). He wrote a play for the Holt grandchildren, performed at Canberra Theatre in December 1966.

McIntyre, Sir Laurence Rupert ‘Jim’ (1912–81)
Sir Laurence McIntyre filled many posts in External Affairs before becoming Australian Commissioner, Malaysia (1952–54), Ambassador to Indonesia (1957–60), Ambassador to Japan (1960–65), Deputy Secretary in the Department of External Affairs (1965–70) and Ambassador to UN (1970+). His papers are held in the National Library of Australia, MS 7662.

Martin, Harold Vernon (1887–1972)
Harold Martin was Holt’s ‘Uncle Marty’. He was editor of *Everyone’s Variety: Devoted to the Moving Picture Industry, Vaudeville, Drama, Carnival, Circus and Kindred Entertainment* (1922+).

Maxwell, George Arnot (1859–1935)
From 1917 to 1935, George Maxwell QC was MHR for Fawkner. Harold Holt was preselected for Fawkner following Maxwell’s death.

Menzies, Sir Douglas Ian (1907–74)
Sir Douglas Menzies was President, Law Council of Victoria (1958), Justice of the High Court (1958+) and Chancellor of Monash University (1968+).

Monk, Albert Ernest (1900–75)
Albert Monk was Secretary (1934–43, 1949–69). His papers are held in the National Archives of Australia (as M1171)

Newman, John Joseph ‘Shem’ (c 1906–68)
John Newman was a partner in the legal firm, Holt, Graham & Newman.

Pearce, Vera (1895–1966)
Aunt to Harold Holt, Vera Pearce began acting in pantomime at the age of four, and later appeared in vaudeville and musical comedy as well as early Australian films. In 1921 she went to London where she spent most of the rest of her career. Vera Pearce died in the week that Harold Holt became Prime Minister.

Potter, Sir (William) Ian (1902–94)
Sir Ian Potter was an economist and principal partner in Ian Potter & Co, Melbourne.

Randall, Sir Richard John (1906–82)
Sir Richard Randall was financial editor of *Smith’s Weekly*, then later Deputy Secretary, Commonwealth Treasury 1957–66 and Secretary, Commonwealth Treasury (1966–71).

Rockefeller III, David (1915–)
David Rockefeller III was Chairman and CEO, Chase Manhattan Bank (1968–80). He had interests in Australian banking and the
pastoral industry. Harold Holt had meetings with him on his trips to the United States.

**Short, James Robert ‘Jim’ (1936–)**

**Sinclair, Ernest Keith (1914–94)**
Ernest Sinclair’s career in journalism began on Melbourne’s *The Age* newspaper, of which he was later editor (1959–66). He was Director, GTV9 1959–66, Chairman, Australian Associated Press (1965–66) and a consultant to Prime Ministers from 1967 to 1972.

**Sloman, Maurice (1897–1985)**
Educated at Wesley College and the University of Melbourne, Maurice Sloman was Director and General Manager, Hoyts Theatre Ltd and associated companies (1921–41). He and his wife Margaret were close personal friends of the Holts.

**Spender, Sir Percy Claude (1897–1985)**
Sir Percy Spender served as MHR for Warringah (1937–51). Originally elected as an Independent (1937–51), he joined the United Australia Party in 1940 and the Liberal Party on its formation in 1944. His many national and international appointments included Member of the War Cabinet, Treasurer, Minister for the Army, Minister for External Affairs and External Territories, Vice President, 5th UN General Assembly NY (1950–51) and Ambassador to USA (1951–58). From 1964 to 1967 he was President of the International Court of Justice, The Hague.

**Stirling, Alfred (1902–81)**
Alfred Stirling was High Commissioner to Canada, High Commissioner to South Africa, Ambassador to the Netherlands, Ambassador to France, Ambassador to Philippines, Australia’s first Ambassador to Greece and finally Ambassador to Italy 1962–67.

**Warrender, Simon George (1922–)**
Simon Warrender founded and was chairman of Australian World Airlines. He and his wife, Pamela née Myer, were close friends of the Holts.

**Wilson, Sir Ronald (1904–96)**
Sir Ronald Wilson was Commonwealth Statistician and Economic Adviser to the Treasury (1936–40 and 1946–51). He was Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Labour and National Service (1940–46). Between 1946 and 1949 he was Member and Vice Chairman then Chairman of the Economic and Employment Commission of United Nations. He was Secretary, Commonwealth Treasury (1951–66), Chairman, Commonwealth Banking Corporation (1966–73) and Chairman, Qantas Airways (1966–73).
Appendix 3  Bibliography

BOOKS, JOURNAL ARTICLES AND THESES


Brookes, Dame Mabel, Crowd Galleries, Heinemann, Melbourne, 1956.


Hudson, William James, Casey, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1986.

Hughes, Colin Anfield, Mr Prime Minister: Australian Prime Ministers 1901-1972, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1976.


Parnaby, Owen, Queen’s College, University of Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, Carlton, Victoria, 1990.


NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES


Appendix 4  Addresses of National Archives offices

The main office of the National Archives is located in Canberra, where we have galleries and a reading room. We also have offices and reading rooms in each State capital and Darwin.

Records in our collection can be accessed via our website or viewed in our reading rooms. Copies can be obtained from the National Reference Service.

National Reference Service
TTY: (02) 6212 3689
Email: ref@naa.gov.au
Website: www.naa.gov.au
Postal address:
PO Box 7425
Canberra Business Centre
ACT 2610

Reading Room addresses

Canberra
Queen Victoria Terrace
Parkes ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6212 3900
Fax: (02) 6212 3999
Postal address:
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Canberra BC ACT 2610

Sydney
120 Miller Road
Chester Hill NSW 2162
Tel: (02) 9645 0110
Fax: (02) 9645 0108
Postal address:
Locked Bag 4
Chester Hill NSW 2162

Sydney Records Centre
2 Globe Street
The Rocks NSW 2000

Melbourne Archives Centre
Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 9285 7999
Fax: (03) 9285 7979
Postal address:
PO Box 8005
Burwood Heights VIC 3151

Brisbane
996 Wynnnum Road
Cannon Hill Qld 4170
Tel: (07) 3249 4226
Fax: (07) 3399 6589
Postal address:
PO Box 552
Cannon Hill Qld 4170

Perth
384 Berwick Street
East Victoria Park WA 6101
Tel: (08) 9470 7500
Fax: (08) 9470 2787
Postal address:
PO Box 1144
East Victoria Park WA 6981

Adelaide
78 Angas Street
Adelaide SA 5000
Tel: (08) 8409 8400
Fax: (08) 8409 8499
Postal address:
PO Box 6536
Halifax Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Hobart
Ground Floor
85 Macquarie Street
Hobart TAS 7000
Tel: (03) 6230 6111
Fax: (03) 6230 6134
Postal address:
GPO Box 309
Hobart TAS 7000

Darwin
Kelsey Crescent
Millner NT 0810
Tel: (08) 8985 0300
Fax: (08) 8985 0399
Postal address:
PO Box 24
Nightcliff NT 0810
Appendix 5 Institutions holding Holt-related material

**Australia**

**CANBERRA, ACT**

*Australian War Memorial*
GPO Box 345
Canberra ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6243 4315
Fax: (02) 6243 4325
Email: info@awm.gov.au
Website: www.awm.gov.au

*National Library of Australia*
Parkes ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6262 1111
Fax: (02) 6257 1703
Website: www.nla.gov.au

*ScreenSound Australia, Canberra*
McCoy Circuit
Acton ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6248 2091
Fax: (02) 6248 2222
Email: access@screensound.gov.au
Website: www.screensound.gov.au

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

*State Library of New South Wales*
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Tel: (02) 9273 1414
Fax: (02) 9273 1255
Email: library@sl.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.sl.nsw.gov.au

**VICTORIA**

*Queen’s College, University of Melbourne*
The Archivist
Queen’s College, College Crescent
Parkville VIC 3052
Tel: (03) 9349 0741
Fax: (03) 9349 0525
Website: www.queens.unimelb.edu.au/
facilities/03library/04archives.html

*State Library of Victoria, Melbourne*
328 Swanston Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Tel: (03) 8664 7000
Fax: (03) 9639 3673
Website: www.slv.vic.gov.au

**Overseas**

**SWITZERLAND**

*International Labour Organisation (ILO)*
ILO Historical Archives
4, route des Morillons
1211 Geneva 22
Tel: +41 22 799 7857
Fax: +41 22 798 8685
Email: archives@ilo.org
Website: www.ilo.org

**UNITED KINGDOM**

*National Archives (Public Record Office)*
National Archives (PRO)
Ruskin Avenue
Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU
Tel: +44 20 8876 3444
Fax: +44 20 8392 5286
Email: enquiry@pro.gov.uk
Website: www.pro.gov.uk

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

*Lyndon Baines Johnson Library & Museum*
2313 Red River Street
Austin, TX 78705
Website: www.lbjlib.utexas.edu

*World Bank Archives*
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433
Tel: (202) 473 2841
Fax: (202) 477 1499
Email: archives@worldbank.org
Website: archives.worldbank.org
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This guide describes archival records on Harold Holt, Australia’s seventeenth Prime Minister. Holt came into office in January 1966, after a parliamentary career of nearly 30 years, which included significant periods as Minister for Immigration, Minister for Labour and National Service, and Treasurer. He succeeded Australia’s long-serving Prime Minister, Robert Menzies, but his own term in office was shortlived. In December 1967, he mysteriously disappeared while swimming in Victoria.

Listed in this guide are records held by the National Archives of Australia and other collecting institutions. Files, photographs, press clippings and audiovisual material, relating to both Harold Holt and his wife Dame Zara Holt, are included.

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