

SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT THE MINISTERIAL DINNER GIVEN BY THE HONOURABLE MR. DON DUNSTAN, PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ON 17TH OCTOBER, 1975

Honourable Premier¹, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I thank you, Mr Premier, for your warm welcome and the delightful hospitality you have extended to me and my wife and members of my party this evening.

Although this is not my first visit to Australia, I am unfortunately a stranger to South Australia. But you have a most impressive Ambassador in the person of my good friend and colleague here, Dr. Lim Chong Eu, and it was not difficult for me to be persuaded to make this visit here. Dr. Lim has also given me excellent advice on all the "dos" and "musts" and over the next few days therefore I look forward to acquainting myself with your beautiful and exciting State.

In the respective historical annals of our own State of Penang as of South Australia, the Light family, Sir Francis and his son William, occupy a prominent place. Under your dedicated and progressive leadership, Mr Premier, the "son", as it were, has many things to show the "father". Fortunately, no generation gap exists between the two and indeed it gives me heightened and particular pleasure to be here in Adelaide, the sister city of George Town, Penang.

The twinning of the two cities itself manifests the good and friendly relations that so happily exists between Australia and Malaysia. The close friendship between our two countries is strongly rooted not only in historical association but also in many shared undertakings and enterprises as well as in the aspirations and ideals we hold in common. The future of our continued co-operation is bright indeed.

¹ Mr. Don Dunstan.

Earlier this year a successful Penang Week was held in Adelaide and I understand that a reciprocal Adelaide Week in Penang would be organised this December. I see such occasions as part—and an important part—of the continuous renewal and strengthening of our abiding ties. I have no doubts that these direct contacts between our peoples are extremely rewarding and the goodwill engendered would remain long after the festivities are over.

Mr. Premier, may I once again say how happy my wife and I are to be in South Australia and if tonight's hospitality is anything to go by, I am confident that our stay here would be both enjoyable and memorable.