

# AAP Celebrates 50 Years

AAP welcomed news media people of the world, business associates, present and former staff members and their wives, political leaders, and other special guests to Sydney for celebrations of our 50th Anniversary. The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, was principal speaker at the anniversary dinner at the Sydney Hilton, and the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mr Peacock, spoke to the editorial conference EDCON 85. They were among many guests caught by our photographers' cameras at the dinner, the conference, and an evening reception at the Sydney Opera House.



*AAP Chairman Lyle Turnbull welcoming the Prime Minister and other dinner guests.*

## The Prime Minister spoke of AAP as Australia's leading disseminator of news and information.

"In part AAP's success is a reflection of the quality and level of service AAP has striven to provide," Mr Hawke told 300 guests at the anniversary dinner.

"But AAP's stature goes beyond the domestic scene," he said. "It plays an important role in communicating Australian developments and attitudes to the rest of the world."

The agency's growth was also attributable to its adaptability, evidenced by its position over 50 years at the forefront of technological innovation.

Citing AAP's readiness to grasp the opportunities of advanced computer systems, satellite and microwave communications, he said the agency clearly understood a philosophy appreciated by all politicians:

"... that all the information in the world is of little use if it can't be communicated to the people who matter."

The Prime Ministerial plaudits were among many tributes delivered to AAP over two days of anniversary celebrations.

Associated Press President, Louis D. Boccardi, described Australia's domestic news agency as "internationally recognised as one of the most imaginative, rapidly growing and dynamic in the world."



*The Prime Minister addressing the anniversary dinner.*

"AAP embraces this vast nation with its words and its ideas, now marrying the satellite and the computer to the simple notion from which we all here spring: that no man can be free if he cannot speak freely," he said.

Mr Hawke, Glen Renfrew, Managing Director of Reuters, and Mr Boccardi were some of the principal guests at the dinner.





*AAP Chief Executive Lee Casey with Tranggono, Editor-in-Chief of the Indonesian news agency, Antara, and the Prime Minister.*



*At EDCON headquarters during a break in the conference: (left to right) AAP's Barry Wheeler, Glenda Loke, Dawn Willis and Graeme Connors.*



*Former AAP General Manager Duncan Hooper with another Melbourne visitor, AAP's Robin Strathdee.*



*Federal Opposition leader, Andrew Peacock, with David Jensen.*



*AAP's John Radovan and his wife Barbara enjoying the Opera House party with Peter Brown.*

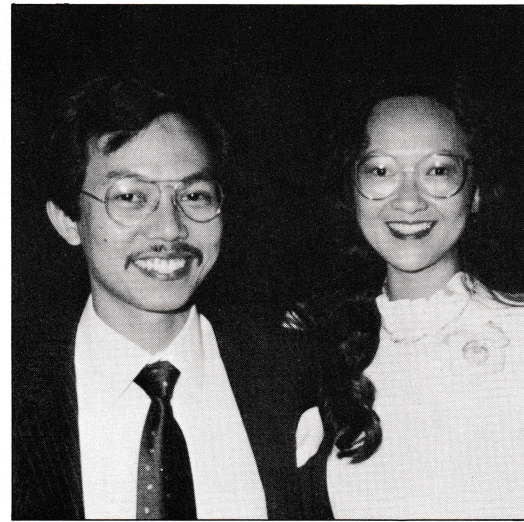


*Reuters Financial Controller, Chris Thomas (center) with Barney Blundell and Lee Casey.*





*COMCO's Phil Meens with his wife and AAP's Jim and Valda Shrimpton.*



*Popular COMCO guests, David and Kim Vu.*



*Reuters Managing Director, Glen Renfrew, speaking at the anniversary dinner.*



*COMCO to the fore: from left: Chris and Jackie Lawrence, David and Dorothy Blanks, and Jack and Carol Cannon.*



*AAP's Bob Lane and Nick Hughes, with Bob's wife, Kathy.*



*with (from left), Ian North, Bev Blundell,*



*AAP Editorial's Peter Brown and Terry Stayte.*





*David Jensen talking with dinner guests, Peter Job, Reuters Hong Kong (centre) and the ABC's Geoffrey Whitehead.*



*COMCO's Cliff and Anne Bowles celebrating at the Opera House.*



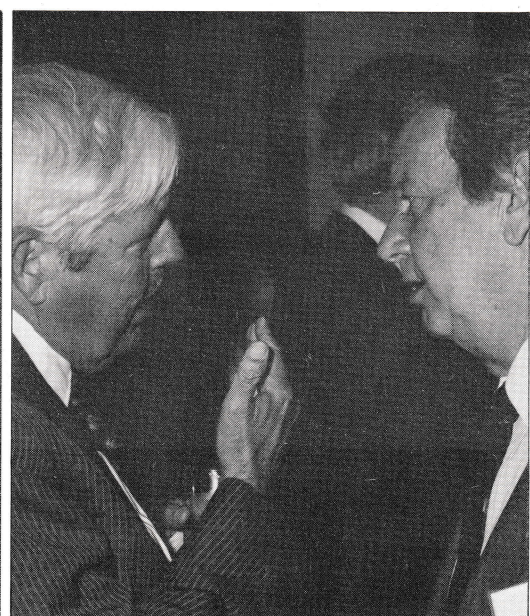
*Hard at work at the editorial conference, Sharon Robberds (left) and Dawn Willis.*



*AAP's Ian North (centre) with two Press Association visitors, Chief Executive Ian Yates (left) and Chairman, Ted Crosbie.*



*AAP's Len Ryan, Kevin Ricketts and David Eskill with Kevin's wife, Sharon, and David's wife, Sabina.*



*Hugh Mulligan, Associated Press columnist and an EDCON speaker, with Creighton Burns, Editor-in-Chief of "The Age."*