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OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

RE: THE GUARDIAN

An article in The Guardian newspaper in London has falsely attributed to Mr Keating a flippant and offensive remark concerning Her Majesty The Queen.

The quote ascribed to Mr Keating has been cynically invented by the newspaper to enhance the story. Mr Keating denies emphatically making the remark attributed to him. He has given no interview to The Guardian newspaper. He recently met and shook hands with a journalist from The Guardian, but at this brief corridor encounter - in front of two witnesses - no such remark was made.

This is not the first time a member of the British press has let his imagination run ahead of his story. One expects this sort of behaviour from some British tabloids, but not from a newspaper with the reputation of The Guardian.

CANBERRA
9 November, 1995

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