



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

14 July 1983

I have this afternoon received a letter from Mr. Young tendering his resignation from the Ministry. I have with regret considered it necessary to accept his resignation.

The circumstances involved in his decision go to matters which will be dealt with by the Hope Royal Commission. I refer particularly to Clause 17 of the issues to be resolved in respect of para (c) of the Commission's Terms of Reference i.e. "was there any unauthorised or improper disclosure by any and what Minister of the information made available to the NIS Committee concerning the relationship between Combe and Ivanov before 11 May?"

I am also seeking an opinion from the Attorney-General as to whether an offence may have been committed under the Crimes Act.

It is perfectly clear that I am therefore at this point unable to answer any questions on this matter.

I need hardly say that the resignation of Mr. Young - who is a close friend and valued colleague over many years - and my necessary acceptance of that resignation, is for me a matter of profound personal sadness.



PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

14 July 1983

His Excellency the Rt Hon Sir Ninian Stephen  
AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE, KStJ,  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of  
Australia  
Government House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

I am forwarding to Your Excellency a letter from the Hon Michael J. Young MP, resigning from the office of Special Minister of State and his appointment as Vice President of the Executive Council. I recommend that Your Excellency accept Mr Young's resignation.

I also recommend to Your Excellency that the Hon Kim C. Beazley MP, be sworn as Special Minister of State in addition to his present portfolio as Minister for Aviation and Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, and that the Hon Lionel Bowen MP, be appointed as Vice President of the Executive Council.

I inform Your Excellency that I have appointed the Hon Lionel Bowen MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Trade and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Commonwealth-State Relations, as Leader of the House.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bob Hawke'.

R.J.L. Hawke



SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA 2600  
Tel. 733666

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His Excellency the Rt Hon. Sir Ninian Stephen  
AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE, KStJ,  
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of  
Australia  
Government House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

I, Michael Jerome Young, hereby tender my resignation  
from the Office of Special Minister of State and as  
Vice President of the Executive Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michael J. Young'.

Michael J. Young