



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

16 December 1983

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, and the Premier of New South Wales, Mr Wran, today announced an extension of time for the Royal Commission headed by Mr Justice Stewart to conduct its inquiries into the activities of the Nugan Hand Group.

Mr Justice Stewart has already presented his first interim report which covered three of the Royal Commission's terms of reference. In summary, these terms of reference required an examination of whether there had been any improper interference with the investigations of any law enforcement body into the Nugan Hand Group. This report was tabled in the Federal Parliament on 6 December 1983.

The remaining terms of reference require an examination of whether the Nugan Hand Group engaged in activities which involved contravention of the laws of the Commonwealth and New South Wales.

Mr Justice Stewart is to report on these aspects of his terms of reference by 30 June 1984.