



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

The Prime Minister has decided to lease his family home at Sandringham, in Melbourne, from later this month.

The experience of the last 9 months had demonstrated that it was only possible to spend a relatively few days in Melbourne and this could not justify the need for expensive and continuous security by the Australian Federal Police at the house.

On future visits to Melbourne Mr. and Mrs. Hawke will stay at a hotel when necessary.

Mr. Hawke said the leasing of the house did not mean he would be spending any less time in Melbourne.

SYDNEY
3rd January, 1984