



PRIME MINISTER

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH HEATHER EWART. ABC RADIO
31 January 1987

E & O E - PROOF ONLY

EWART: Finally Mr Hawke, do you have any response to the New South Wales' by-election results.

PM: I don't know all the details as you will appreciate at this stage but it does appear as distinct from the blustering of the John Howard and the Liberals that they were going to win these seats, the big loser is the Liberal Party. They have had their vote slashed and Labor seems to have held the seats. I would say that in New South Wales the Bass Hill election probably represented the nadir of the fortune of the New South Wales Government, that they are on the way up now. It is quite clear from other polls that the people of New South Wales are responding more and more positively to the leadership of Barrie Unsworth. And I think he will give them the sort of government that they need and that they want. And when he goes to the election in 1988 he, like we, will win.

ENDS