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PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

4 JULY 1988

I have sent the following message to Prime Minister Namaliu of Papua New Guinea:

"Dear Rabbie

On behalf of the Australian Government and people I congratulate you on assuming the office of Prime Minister. I recall with pleasure our meetings in Port Moresby and Canberra when you were a Minister in earlier Governments. I look forward to working closely with you to further the very important relationship between our two friendly, neighbouring countries, and to pursuing our mutual interests within the region.

I hope to see you at the Forum Meeting in September where, as you will be aware, there are a number of important regional issues to be discussed.

Bob Hawke"

I intend to telephone Mr Namaliu later this evening to convey my congratulations personally.