

PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF DOORSTOP, MARIST COLLEGE, ASHGROVE, BRISBANE 4 JUNE 1989

E & O E - PROOF ONLY

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, is the Government looking at privatising Qantas as soon as possible?

PM: Well you heard Mr Willis. It's not a question of looking at it as soon as possible. There are processes under way, as Mr Willis said, in the Party and I thought he put the position very fairly and straight.

JOURNALIST: Do you have a problem with Party policy?

PM: That's a silly question, if I may say so.

JOURNALIST: What's your reaction to the news from Iran, Sir?

PM: Well, I trust that the death of the Ayatollah will not be followed by a period of turbulence. I hope the processes of transition are peaceful and that we will see a situation which Iran will be able, more than it has been in the past, to be able to take its place fully in the community of nations. There have been difficulties in the past and a message will be sent from us by the Governor General, as is appropriate from Head of State, to Iran expressing our condolences in the situation, but we look to the future now and we hope that that future situation, after a non violent transition, that there be the opportunity, I repeat, for a greater degree of positive involvement by Iran in the community of nations.

ends