



PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF DOORSTOP, HYATT HOTEL, CANBERRA
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E & O E - PROOF ONLY

JOURNALIST: ... You knew all along did you?

PM: No I didn't. I just thought that's what would happen. Well, I really talked about it yesterday. I've had the opportunity of working with Geoffrey over a number of years on different issues. I like him as a man. I respect him as a politician. I think he will be an intelligent and compassionate Prime Minister. Certainly the relationship between our two countries will not only not be diminished but will go on I think to further strengths. His relationship with us is close. I was able before he was to visit the Soviet Union to give him the opportunity of coming here and having briefings from our people because we had a broader range of experience and facilities that was available to him here. I know he appreciated that very much. I can also beat him at golf.

JOURNALIST: Mr Hawke, what's your reaction to the wage case decision?

PM: I really haven't had the opportunity of examining it yet in all the detail I'd want. I'd prefer to make a comment on that later on thanks.

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