

PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF DOORSTOP, HYATT HOTEL, CANBERRA 4 OCTOBER 1989

E & OE - PROOF ONLY

JOURNALIST: Are you pleased with the pilots' outcome?

PM: Just let's understand what has happened. The pilots have reiterated in their press statement that they are not going to operate within the guidelines. They have issued a log of claims. They have no employees in the airlines now. The matter is before the Commission and it will be precisely for the Commission to determine whether in its judgement, in these circumstances where the Pilots' Federation is still saying that they will not be bound by the guidelines, whether there is any place for the Federation. So in that sense their statement has only confirmed what their position has been from the beginning, that is their repudiation of the guidelines. In those circumstances obviously what will continue to happen is that the airlines will continue to build up their capacity to gradually build up the proportion of normal operations. That will go on and full operations will be restored. As I say, it will be a matter for the Commission as to whether there is any place for the Federation in it. I would presume - and I of course don't speak for, I can't and wouldn't presume to speak for the Commission - but obviously the Commission is not going to see a place for the Federation if the Federation continues to say that it is not bound by the guidelines. Now those are the simple facts.

ends