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## PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WITH VITALI ILYASHENKO, SOVIET TELEVISION, 15 FEBRUARY 1990

E & OE - PROOF ONLY

ILYASHENKO: Mr Hawke, we are very optimistic in Moscow about our relations. Are your expectations fulfilled now?

PM: Yes. We've had a marvellous visit from Prime Minister Ryzhkov. The good personal relations which I was able to establish with him, as with President Gorbachev two years ago in Moscow, have now been renewed here in Australia. They've been reflected in the signing of six agreements - fisheries agreements, a commodities agreement and other agreements covering a range of areas. We have had meetings with him at the political level. He has had meetings with very many of our businessmen. I'm confident that as a result of the visit of Prime Minister Ryzhkov that there will be an expansion of our economic relationships and indeed a strengthening of the relationships between the Soviet and Australian people in very very many areas. May I also say that the Prime Minister extended to me an invitation to visit the Soviet Union again and I've indicated that I have very much pleasure in accepting that. So we're going to keep up this high level communication.

ILYASHENKO: Thank you very much Prime Minister.

PM: Thank you very much.

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