

PRIME MINISTER

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JOURNALIST: Mr Hawke on the Olympics, do you see a time approaching where smaller countries are going to be unable to hold them at all?

PM: Well as I've indicated last night, I think there must be some concern about the increased difficulty of the smaller countries having the opportunity. I want to emphasise that my observations are not in any sense made in sour grapes. I congratulate Atlanta in their success and I do wish them well in holding the Centenary Games in 1996. That will mark a centenary of the Games in which they've only been held once in the Southern Hemisphere. Now with the current frequency with which they are being returned to North America it must be a matter of some concern as to whether countries like, for instance, Australia with a proven capacity to discharge the obligations of holding the Games, whether they are really going to be able to have the opportunity of delivering. I mean I make those statements in the light of what so many members of the Olympic movement have said to us in the last 48 hours before and after our presentation. They went out of their way quite gratuitously to say our case was good and our presentation was the best. Yet in those circumstances you still can't win.

JOURNALIST: Mr Hawke do you think that the African countries moved on block towards Atlanta in one of those middle votes and if so why do you think they did that? Was it just because Atlanta has a big black population?

PM: I can't answer why that's so. I would have thought, and I hope everyone will understand the sense in which I say it, but I would have thought that the record and standing of Australia on issues of fundamental importance to our friends in Africa would have been such that we would have attracted a larger measure of their support than we obviously did. Again that's not said with sour grapes. They must cast their vote the way they would. I think there were lots of inducements and considerations that applied in their thinking. At any rate the end result is that we didn't get enough votes. We didn't win. JOURNALIST: Mr Hawke can you elaborate on what you meant this morning when you talked about restructuring the United Nations to accommodate Japan?

PM: My words were that I believe that there needed to be an understanding in the world today that no effective world order could be contemplated which did not recognise the great significance of Japan. That it has and will have into the future a political significance which will increasingly come to match its status as an economic giant. Now I was deliberately not specific about that because there is a number of ways in which that could be done ranging, for instance, and I say this without prescription, but it could go from at one level the amending of the United Nations charter to make Japan an additional permanent member with full veto rights. You could have that at one extreme. You could have other changes which did not involve an amendment of the charter. I want to emphasise that these are matters for the world community of nations within the United Nations. They must address these issues. Nor does it mean that possible amendment or changes in attitude would apply only to Japan. If there is one thing that's true and obvious in this world in which we live it is that it's not static and the assumptions and the positions and dimensions of 1945 are not the assumptions and the attitudes and the dimensions of 1990 and the final decade of this 20th Century. Good common sense I think will mean that the nations of the world must analyse these facts, look at these situations and attempt to come up with answers which reflect the realities. Now I repeat, I'm not seeking to impose some prescription. I am simply nominating obvious facts and reflecting also I think that it is inevitable that the world through the United Nations will come to consider these matters.

JOURNALIST: I believe this morning you had some conversations or some questions on the Multifunction Polis. Can you tell us how much interest you've had from the Japanese on the Polis and do you think it's going to be a success?

PM: Yes I am very pleased to see that the Japanese through their Minister, Mr Mutoh, with whom I was talking today seemed to retain a very real interest. And indeed they have agreed that they will nominate a joint co-chairman for the International Advisory Board. I won't go to the name of that gentlemen at the moment but let me say it's a name of very, very considerable significance. That is evidence of their preparedness to go through now into the next stages. I believe that they may be prepared to look at the possibility of an investment mission early next year, so that that could be fitted in with the next stage of feasibility studies that are being undertaken in Australia. So there seems to be no doubt of a continuation of their real interest.

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it's inevitable that there will be some adjustments. I haven't attempted in any way to prescribe what those adjustments should be. But I know that just as sure as we are of any fact in life is that will happen and it's appropriate that it be done in a way which the members of the United Nations are happy with and in a way which involves a considerable amount of discussion. But it will happen, ok.

JOURNALIST: Mr Hawke, just on the Raiders.

PM: Last one, yes. You look as though you were there right from when I left.

JOURNALIST: Who's going to win tomorrow in Sydney?

PM: The Raiders.

JOURNALIST: The Raiders?

PM: On Sunday. I mean they haven't changed it, have they?

JOURNALIST: By how many points?

PM: Well I've got to ... about 6, about 6.

JOURNALIST: Don't you think it would be nice to see the Panther's win for the first time though?

PM: Well I understand yes, it would be nice for them. It would bee good for the region and it's a great region that they're representing. But you know, I'm a fairly strong supporter of the Raiders and all my friends in Penrith will understand that. I just hope that it's a good, tough game and I'm sure it will be. Thanks.

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