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PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF DOORSTOP, ST FIDELIS HALL, COBURG,
14 OCTOBER 1990

E & OE - PROOF ONLY

JOURNALIST: inaudible

PM: Well I've been in touch with Mr Kelty over the last couple of days and I'll remain in touch with him. I'm hopeful that the discussions that are going on now will resolve it. It certainly should be resolved.

JOURNALIST: If it does continue how damaging will it be to the Australian -

PM: Well I'm not concerned with hypotheticals. All I'm concerned with is trying to do what little I can to help to get it resolved.

JOURNALIST: The four unions say that if ESSO swallowed it's pride and agreed to negotiate while they're on strike it could be resolved within 24 hours. Do you think that ESSO should do that?

PM: Well I hope that both parties or both sides will do everything that's necessary to get it resolved.

ends