

PRIME MINISTER

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING, MP PUBLIC SERVICE APPOINTMENTS

The Government will be recommending to the Governor-General the appointments of Mr Andrew Podger and Mr Sandy Hollway as secretaries of departments.

Mr Podger, 45, has held senior positions in the Departments of Social Security and Finance. He has been Deputy Secretary of the Department of Defence since 1990. The Government will be recommending his appointment as Secretary to the Department of the Arts and Administrative Services.

Mr Hollway, 46, has held senior positions in the foreign affairs portfolio, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister's Office. He has been Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet since 1990. The Government will be recommending his appointment as Secretary to the Department of Industry, Technology and Regional Development.

Mr Noel Tanzer, who has been Secretary to the Department of the Arts and Administrative Services since 1 March 1989, will be retiring from the Australian Public Service. On behalf of the Government, I express appreciation for the considerable contribution made by Mr Tanzer during his career, especially in recent years as Secretary to the Departments of Veterans' Affairs and Administrative Services.

Mr Neville Stevens, has been Secretary to the Department of Industry, Technology and Regional Development since 22 December 1990. Previously, he was Deputy Secretary In that Department from June 1985. While the Government considers it timely for a change in the leadership of the Department of Industry, Technology and Regional Development, it wishes to continue to draw on Mr Stevens' considerable skills and experience. Accordingly, the Government will be recommending Mr Stevens' appointment as a Commissioner of the Industry Commission.

The Government will recommend that these appointments take effect on Monday, 20 December 1993.

CANBERRA 13 DECEMBER 1993