



PRIME MINISTER

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING MP

DR DON RUSSELL

I am pleased to announce that the Australian Ambassador to the United States, Dr Don Russell, is to return to Australia to take up the position of Principal Adviser on my personal office staff.

Dr Russell has filled the important role of Ambassador to Washington with great distinction for more than two years. His knowledge and experience of domestic and international policy issues and his dedication to his country's interests have lifted Australia's profile in the United States and strengthened the ties between us.

Of the many issues on which Dr Russell has worked successfully, I want to thank him in particular for so effectively conveying Australia's views on APEC and other trade matters to the Clinton Administration.

Naturally, I am pleased that Dr Russell has now agreed to re-join my office from next month. His experience, knowledge and creativity will be a valuable addition to the team - and indeed to Government policy and Australian public life.

I am also pleased that John Bowan will continue to work with me as Chief of Staff.

Arrangements are in train to appoint a new Ambassador to the United States, whose name will be announced shortly.

CANBERRA
16 OCTOBER 1995