

PRIME MINISTER

25 January 1997

TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRIME MINISTER THE HON. JOHN HOWARD MP DOORSTOP INTERVIEW - ADELAIDE

<u>E & OE.....</u>

JRNLST:

(inaudible)

PRIME MINISTER:

I don't have any comment. He's a private citizen and I'm not going to make comments on what he does. That's his business and I'm not going to reflect on it in any way.

JRNLST:

(inaudible)

PRIME MINISTER:

We'll be looking at it very closely. I think the report has exploded all of those conspiracy theories that were swilling around> We'll have a very close look at it. We didn't appoint the man to ignore his views. Equally, I can't certify that every single recommendation is going to be adopted but it seems to have been quite well received and it's obviously got a lot of intelligent recommendations. The Government will look at it very closely and quite speedily I would expect.

Pg: 2

JRNLST:

(inaudible)

PRIME MINISTER:

Senator \ has already dealt with the question of funding and I support what he said and don't have anything further to add. Thank you.

JRNLST:

(inaudible)

PRIME MINISTER:

Well it's a draft report and the Government will take a decision when it gets the final report and I invite people who are concerned about the recommendations in the draft report to respond with their concerns. I have said in the past that I regard the retention of a strong motor vehicle industry as being very important in Australia and I understand the importance to the industrial base of South Australia of the motor vehicle industry but I am not going to at this stage pre-empt how the Government may respond to a final report, particularly when we're still in the draft report stage.

Thank you