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(AUSTRALIA)

WASHINGTON--AUSTRALIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER PAUL HASLUCK WAS WELCOMED TO CAPITOL HILL TODAY BY AN EFFERVESCENT VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY.

HUMPHREY GREETED HASLUCK WARMLY WITH A HEARTY HAND-SHAKE AND A "WELCOME TO MY HUMBLE QUARTERS."

A SMALL ARMY OF PHOTOGRAPHERS AND REPORTERS CROWDED INTO THE VICE PRESIDENT'S HIGH-CEILINGED OFFICE FOR THE FIRST FEW MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

HASLUCK SAID THAT AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER HAROLD HLT SENT HIS GOOD WISHES.

HUMPHREY REPLIED, "PLEASE CONVEY MY GOOD WISHES TO HIM, AND INDEED, TO ALL THE CABINET."

"HOW WELL WE REMEMBER THAT VISIT," HUMPHREY ADDED, REFERRING TO HIS FLYING VISIT TO CANBERRA DURING THE VIET NAM BOMBING LULL LAST FEBRUARY.

AS HE AND HASLUCK POSED FOR PICTURES, HUMPHREY INVITED AMBASSADOR KEITH WALLER INTO THE GROUP. "IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO HAVE AN AMBASSADOR AROUND ON OCCASIONS LIKE THIS," HE SAID.

AS HUMPHREY GUIDED HASLUCK TO THE LOUNGE HE APOLOGIZED, "EXCUSE THIS MONSTER HERE," POINTING TO A STREAMLINED MODEL OF A HUGE PLANE ON THE COFFEE TABLE.

"THIS IS OUR NEW SUPERSONIC JET," HE SAID.

HASLUCK WAS CLOSETED WITH HUMPHREY FOR THIRTY MINUTES, BUT DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE NATURE OF HIS TALK FOR THE TIME BEING. HE HELD IN HIS HAND SMALL CARDBOARD BOXES, WHICH HE EXPLAINED, CONTAINED SETS OF VICE PRESIDENTIAL CUFF LINKS AND TIE PINS. HE SAID ONE SET WAS FOR THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE OTHER FOR HIMSELF.

~~FROM CAPITOL HILL HASLUCK DROVE RAPIDLY TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE HEADQUARTERS IN NEARBY VIRGINIA FOR LUNCH WITH U.S. SPY CHIEF ADG.~~

~~WILLIAM F. RABORN~~

THIS AFTERNOON HE WILL CONFER WITH DEFENSE SECRETARY ROBERT S. McNAMARA AT THE PENTAGON.

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