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SUBJ: LAWYER URGES PM TO SPEAK UP FOR GUANTANAMO AUSTRALIAN

SOURCE: MELBOURNE RADIO AUSTRALIA IN ENGLISH 0700 GMT 8 JUL 03

TEXT:

[FBIS TRANSCRIBED TEXT] LAWYER URGES PM TO SPEAK UP FOR GUANTANAMO AUSTRALIAN

TEXT OF REPORT BY RADIO AUSTRALIA ON 8 JULY

THE AMERICAN LAWYER FOR ALLEGED AUSTRALIAN TALEBAN FIGHTER **DAVID HICKS** SAYS THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD DEMAND FAIR TREATMENT FOR HIS CLIENT. MR HICKS IS ONE OF SIX DETAINEES DEEMED ELIGIBLE FOR TRIAL ON CHARGES RELATING TO HIS ALLEGED ASSOCIATION WITH THE TALEBAN IN AFGHANISTAN.

MINNESOTA LAWYER JOE MARGULIES SAYS IT IS UP TO THE PRIME MINISTER, JOHN HOWARD, TO PUSH FOR A FAIR TRIAL. [MARGULIES] IF HE CARES ABOUT WHETHER HE GETS A FAIR TRIAL, THERE OUGHT TO BE THE MOST STRENUOUS DIPLOMATIC OBJECTIONS ON BEHALF OF A NATION THAT HAS BEEN THE UNITED STATES' CLOSEST ALLY.

[DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: MELBOURNE RADIO AUSTRALIA IN ENGLISH -- GOVERNMENT-FUNDED OVERSEAS SERVICE OF THE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION]

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