(DRUM ROLL)

INTRODUCTION - BRUYN

GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN - JUST TO BE SURE NONE OF YOU ARE UNDER ANY ILLUSIONS ABOUT TONIGHT, I WILL SAY THIS SLOWLY ... THIS IS NOT A C.L.P. FUNCTION.

SHANE AND JOSEPHINE STONE WILL BE HERE SOON, BUT IN THE MEANTIME I WILL GET THINGS UNDER WAY BY OUTLINING TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

FIRSTLY, THERE WILL BE SE VERAL SPEAKERS

TONIGHT AND THE EVENING WAS DESIGNED TO BE
A RELAXED AND ENJOYABLE ONE, SO THE
SPEECHES ARE LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES AND I WILL
INTRODUCE THE VARIOUS LUMINARIES WHO ARE
HERE TONIGHT NOW, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO HAVE
THEM LISTED TIME AND AGAIN - I HOPE THAT'S
SUITABLE YOU KNOW, DESPITE THE FACT THIS
ISN'T A CLP SHOW, I'M SURPRISED TO SEE SO MANY
OF YOU SILVERTAILED BUGGERS DRESSED TO KILL
TONIGHT!

OUR SPECIAL GUESTS THIS EVENING:

- CHAIRMAN OF THE DARWIN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, DICK GRIFFITHS AND ROSIE GRIFFITHS AND THE 19 MEMBERS OF THE DARWIN ORGANISING COMMITTEE.
- FORMER CHIEF MINISTERS, PAUL EVERINGHAM AND MARSHALL PERRON.
- FORMER ADMINSTRATOR, AUSTIN ASCHE AND DOCTOR VAL ASCHE.
- THE CATHOLIC BISHOP OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, TED COLLINS,
- MINISTER MICK PALMER.
- MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, ERIC POOLE AND STEVE BALCHE.
- FORMER FEDERAL MINISTER, BOB COLLINS.
- FORMER MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
 HARRY GIESE AND CHANCELLOR OF THE

NORTHERN TERRITORY UNIVERSITY, MRS NAN GIESE.

- CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE SHELL GROUP OF COMPANIES IN AUSTRALIA, DR ROLAND WILLIAMS AND MRS MARGARET JACK.
- MR ED NOTTER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF ALUSUISSE OF AUSTRALIA AND SWISS ALUMINIUM AUSTRALIA LTD, CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVE JOINTVENTURE.
- MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THIESS CONTRACTORS
 PTY LTD, MR MARTIN ALBRECHT AND MRS FRAN
 ALBRECHT.
- PAK ARGUS, SALAMAT DATANG, ACTING CONSUL
 FOR THE REPUBLIC OF INDONEDIA,
- HONORARY CONSULS REPRESENTING, MEXICO, PHILIPPINES, GREECE, JAPAN, NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND AND MALAYSIA.

- THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER, COL FULLER AND PAM FULLER.
- OTHER SENIOR AND DISTINGUISHED NORTHERN TERRITORY PUBLIC SERVANTS.
- TO ALL OF SHANE'S FORMER AND SERVING STAFF MEMBERS.
- VISITORS FROM INDONESIA, MALAYSIA AND BRUNEI.
- LEADERS OF THE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES IN
 DARWIN INCLUDING THE TIMOR CHINESE, THE
 CHUNG WAH SOCIETY, HAKKA CHINESE
 COMMUNITY, PORTUGUESE TIMORESE,
 FILIPPINO, INDIA, SRI LANKIAN, ITALIAN
 (INCLUDING THE SICILIANS), GERMAN,
 KALYMNIAN BROTHERHOOD AND CYPRIOT
 COMMUNITIES.
- REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PASTORAL AND LIVE EXPORT INDUSTRIES INCLUDING FROM THE BARKLY AND CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.

- MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY LEGAL PROFESSION AND SERVING NORTHERN TERRITORY POLICE OFFICERS.
- ANDREW MALONEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE ALICE SPRINGS TESTIMONIAL LUNCH HELD 2 WEEKS AGO AND HIS WIFE BECKY, WHO HAVE TRAVELLED FROM CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TO BE WITH US.
- MEMBERS OF THE DARWIN BUSINESS COMMUNITY -BIG AND SMALL.
- MEMBERS OF THE DARWIN MEDIA.
- SHANE AND JOSEPHINE'S MATES, TERRITORIANS ALL.

WE HAVE LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF APOLOGIES WHICH TIME DOES NOT PERMIT ME TO GO THROUGH.

HOWEVER I DO THANK EVERYBODY WHO
RESPONDED AND AM DELIGHTED THAT WE HAVE
SOLD MORE THAN 400 TICKETS, WHICH IS MORE
THAN A FULL HOUSE FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT.

WE APOLOGISE TO THOSE TERRITORIANS WE HAVE HAD TO TURN AWAY. IF EVER THERE WAS AN ARGUMENT FOR A CONVENTION CENTRE IN DARWIN TONIGHT IS LIVING PROOF THAT WE NEED ONE.

DARWIN IS ALSO HOSTING TONIGHT AN OLYMPIC DINNER AND WE ARE EXPECTING AN OVERFLOW FROM THAT EVENT AFTER 10.00PM.

SHORTLY I WILL BE INTRODUCING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DARWIN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, DICK GRIFFITHS, WHO WILL FORMERLY WELCOME YOU TO THIS TERRIFIC VENUE.

WE THANK THE KALYMNIAN BROTHERHOOD FOR MAKING THIS FACILITY AVAILABLE. SHANE HAS BEEN CONFERRED LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF THE KALYMNIAN BROTHERHOOD, GREEK ORTHODOX AND CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES.

FIRST SOME HOUSEKEEPING:

TONIGHT'S MEAL HAS BEEN CATERED BY CHEZ COLLETTE - ALSO KNOWN AS C-C CATERING - AND INCLUDES A MAGNIFICIENT SPREAD. ALL DRINKS ARE ON THE HOUSE UNTIL THE MONEY RUNS OUT.

AROUND THE HALL, THERE ARE DISPLAYED VARIOUS NEWS CUTTINGS, CARTOONS AND OTHER MEMORABILLIA.

PLEASE DO NOT SOUVENIR AND REMOVE ANY OF THE MEMORABILLIA SO THAT OTHERS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT IT DURING THE COURSE OF THE EVENING.

WHAT YOU ARE WELCOME TO TAKE HOWEVER ARE
THE PLACE MATS ON THE TABLES THAT DEPICT
WICKING CARTOONS AND ALSO YOUR TABLE
POSTER AND NUMBER - YOU WILL HAVE TO WORK
IT OUT AMONG YOURSELVES AS TO WHO GETS IT.

THE BAR SERVICE IS BEING PROVIDED BY THE KALYMNIAN BROTHERHOOD AND THE WHOLE IDEA OF TONIGHT - AS I SAID - IS NOT TO HAVE LONG SPEECHES BUT RATHER, HAVE A GOOD TIME.

THERE WILL BE 2 SHORT VIDEO PRESENTATIONS
DURING THE PROCEEDINGS. THOSE PEOPLE
SEATED AT TABLES 19,10, 28, 30, 31 AND 9 WILL GET

A BETTER VIEW IF THEY MOVE BACK WHEN THE TIME COMES.

IT COULD WELL HAVE BEEN SEVERAL OF OUR FORMER CHIEF MINISTERS - AND THE TWO LONGEST SERVING, PAUL AND MARSHALL, ARE CANDIDATES - IT COULD HAVE BEEN ANY OF THEM WHO SAID THIS, BUT IT WAS IN FACT THAT VIRGIN AIRLINES FAILED BALLOONIST RECORD PRODUCER MILLIONAIRE AIRLINE ADVENTURER PLAYBOY - RICHARD BRANSON - WHO IN 1984 COINED THE UNFORGETTABLE SHANE STONE-ISM:

I BELIEVE IN BENEVOLENT DICTATORSHIP - PROVIDED I AM THE DICTATOR.

A FEW FACTS TO START OFF:

- SHANE WAS ADMITTED TO LEGAL PRACTICE IN THE TERRITORY BAR IN 1982 AND WAS AT THE MELBOURNE BAR THROUGHOUT THAT TIME.
- HE AND JOSEPHINE MOVED TO ALICE SPRINGS IN 1985.

- HE BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE NON-PARTICIPATING PARTY FOR THE FIRST OF TWO TIMES IN 1988 AND JOINED THE PARLIAMENT AS THE MEMBER FOR PORT DARWIN IN1990, GOING STRAIGHT INTO A FRONT BENCH JOB - THE FIRST POLITICIAN SINCE THE EVERINGHAM TEAM WHICH CARRIED THE TERRITORY TO SELF-GOVERNMENT IN 1978, TO DO SO.
- HE TOOK OFFICE AS CHIEF MINISTER ON MARSHALL'S RETIREMENT IN 1995.

NOW, THAT GREAT PHILOSOPHER, GROUCHO MARX, TOLD US ONLY ONE MAN IN A THOUSAND IS A LEADER OF MEN – THE OTHER 999 FOLLOW WOMEN.

ANY OF US WHO KNOW SHANE WELL KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT WHO'S THE SENIOR PARTNER IN THE LEGAL FIRM OF STONE AND STONE.

SHANE AND JOSIE MET WHILE STUDYING AT A-N-U HIM THE MATURE AGE STUDENT, SHE THE YOUNG
SLIP OF A GIRL, DAUGHTER OF IMMIGRANT
PARENTS, WHO IS NOW THE SENIOR PRACTITIONER

OF THE NT LEGAL AID COMMISSION AND SENIOR PARTNER OF STONE, AND STONE.

THOSE OF US WHO DIDN'T KNOW OF JOSIE'S
METTLE SAW IT WELL DISPLAYED WHEN SHE
CHAIRED THE RED CROSS APPEAL FOR KATHERINE
- I WAS A MEMBER OF THAT COMMITTEE AND NOW I
KNOW WHY SHANE'S HAD TO BUY ALL THOSE
PEARLS!

THE PAIR HAVE FOUND TIME SOMEWHERE DURING THIS BUSY CAREER LIFE TO RAISE TWO KIDS, JACK AND MADELAINE - AND TO DO EVERYTHING WE'RE SAYING THANKS FOR TONIGHT.

NOW, AS FOR SAYING THANKS, IF ANYONE'S DONATING THAT CAR THEY WERE RAVING ABOUT EARLIER IN THE WEEK IN THE PRESS, DICKY GRIFFITHS IS QUIETLY ACCEPTING BROWN PAPER ENVELOPES AT THE BACK OF THE ROOM AND IS HAPPY TO TAKE BIGGER PARCELS IF YOU HAVE ANY. ONLY JOKING.

SPEAKING OF THANKS - SOME SPECIAL MENTIONS:

- PETER POINARIS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE KALYMNIAN BROTHERHOOD FOR THE VENUE,
- DICK GRIFFITHS FOR THE ORGANISATION
 AND FOR TAKING THE FLAK,
- ROLAND WILLIAMS FOR FLYING UP WITH THE PRESENT,
- BURRUNDI PICTURES FOR A CLIP YOU WILL SEE SOON OF THE STONE CAREER'S UPS AND DOWNS,
- YOU FOR COMING,

DURING THE MANY TIMES I HAVE MIXED WITH SHANE, I'VE OFTEN SEEN PARALLELS BETWEEN HIM AND A LITTLE ROLY POLY FRENCHMAN, ALSO MARRIED TO A JOSEPHINE AND WONDERED WHETHER - SUB-CONSCIOUSLY - HE SOMETIMES STICKS HIS LEFT PAW UNDER THE SHIRT-BUTTON, BUT IN RESEARCHING FOR TONIGHT, I FOUND ANOTHER FRENCHMAN WHO WAS APPARENTLY A CLOSER MATCH. HE WAS A PORTLY POLITICIAN AND LAWYER - IN FACT, A PROSECUTOR FOR THE

REPUBLIC - IN REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE - ABOUT THE TIME CAPTAIN COOK WAS CAREENING ENDEAVOUR WHERE COOK TOWN IS TODAY. HIS NAME WAS ALEXANDRE AUGUSTE LEDRU-ROLLIN - AND WHEN TRYING TO PUSH THROUGH A MOB HE UTTERED THE IMMORTAL WORDS: "LET ME PASS, I HAVE TO FOLLOW THEM, I AM THEIR LEADER."

WHEN THE STONES ARRIVE I AM SURE WE WILL WELCOME THEM IN THE USUAL WAY AND ALLOW THEM TO GET SEATED.

IT IS NOW MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DARWIN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, DICK GRIFFITHS.

(DRUM ROLL)

DICK GRIFFITHS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU ALL HERE THIS EVENING ON THIS SPECIAL OCCASION TO MARK THE CONTRIBUTION OF SHANE AND JOSEPINE STONE AS THIS CHAPTER IN THEIR LIVES CLOSE.

IN PARTICULAR I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE 19
MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE WHO
HAVE DONE A MARVELOUS JOB INCLUDING PEARL
AND ANNETTE, MY DAUGHTERS TANYA AND MANDY
FOR THEIR RSVP EFFORS. I WOULD ALSO THANK
PETER PONIRIS AND THE KALYMNIAN
BROTHERHOOD FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO ANDREW AND BECKY MALONEY FROM ALICE SPRINGS. ANDREW WAS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE IN ALICE SPRINGS WHICH WAS EQUALLY A GREAT SUCCESS.

LATER IN THE EVENING ANDREW AND I WILL BE MAKING A PRESENTATION TO SHANE AND JOSEPHINE ON BEHALF OF OUR TWO COMMUNITIES.

IT ISA WHISKY DECANTER, TOGETHER WITH 12 GLASSES.

DR ROLAND WILLIAMS WILL BE MAKING A
PRESENTATION OF AN ACCOMPANYING TRAY.

OVER 400 TICKETS HAVE BEEN SOLD AND SADLY WE HAVE HAD TO TURN PEOPLE AWAY FROM TONIGHT'S FUNCTION.

WE DID HOWEVER WANT IT TO BE A QUALITY
EVENT RATHER THAN SIMPLY CRAM PEOPLE IN
FOR THE SAKE OF LARGER NUMBERS, I HAVE
PREPARED A DETAILED STATEMENT OF
INCOMINGS AND OUTGOINGS WHICH SHOWS A
COMPLETE AQUITAL OF ALL MONIES RAISED FOR
THE PURPOSE OF THIS FUNCTION.

ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO INSPECT THAT DOCUMENT, NEED ONLY ASK.

SHANE AND JOSEPHINE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ARRIVE AT 7.45PM AND WE WILL ANNOUNCE THEIR ENTRANCE INTO THE HALL AND REQUEST THAT YOU BE UPSTANDING.

WE THEN INTEND TO MOVE STRAIGHT TO THE MEAL AND AT APPROXIMATELY 9.30PM WE WILL COMMENCE THE FORMAL PROCEEDINGS.

DR ROLAND WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE SHELL GROUP OF

COMPANIES IN AUSTRALIA WILL BE THE FIRST SPEAKER.

HE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER AND A SERIES OF RECORDED MESSAGES FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA BY PREMIERS WHO HAVE WORKED WITH SHANE - FROM BOTH SIDES OF POLITICS.

THE HONOURABLE AUSTIN ASCHE AC QC, THE FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY SUPREME COURT AND ADMINISTRATOR, WILL THEN SPEAK.

THE THIRD AND FINAL SPEAKER WILL BE THE FIRST CHIEF MINISTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, THE HONOURABLE PAUL EVERINGHAM AO, WHO WILL INTRODUCE A SPECIALLY PREPARED VIDEO CLIP AT THE CONCLUSION OF WHICH SHANE STONE WILL BE INVITED TO ADDRESS US THIS WILL THEN CONCLUDE THE EVENING.

BE ASSURED THAT IT HAS BEEN IMPRESSED ON ALL SPEAKERS THAT THEY TRY AND CONFINE THEIR REMARKS TO 3 MINUTES.

OTHERS HAVE ALREADY ASKED WHETHER THEY
MIGHT SPEAK BUT THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE IS
OF THE VIEW THAT IF WE LET ONE IN THEN
EVERYBODY WILL BE IN AND WE WILL BE HERE ALL
NIGHT LISTENING TO SPEECHES.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT, THE OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO THIS FUNCTION HAS BEEN VERY GRATIFYING TO ME AS CHAIRMAN AND MY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SIT BACK AND RELAX, HAVE A FEW DRINKS AND WE WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN SHANE AND JOSEPHINE ARRIVE. THANK YOU.

7.45PM SHANE AND JOSEPHINE ARRIVE

DRUM ROLL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE BE UNSTANDING
FOR SHANE AND JOSEPHINE

9.30PM

DRUM ROLL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN IT IS NOW MY PLEASURE
TO INTRODUCE THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER, OF THE SHELL GROUP OF
COMPANIES IN AUSTRALIA, DR ROLAND WILLIAMS.

DR WILLIAMS IS JOINED BY MRS MARGARET JACK
AND BY THE CHAIRMAN'S REPRESENTATIVE IN THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY, MR ANDREW HARTFORD
AND MRS HARTFORD.

DR WILLIAMS HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH SHANE
IN PURSUIT OF THE LNG PROJECT IN THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY – THE NORTH AUSTRALIAN
GAS VENTURE.

HE ORIGINALLY JOINED THE SHELL COMPANY IN

1963 IN THE NETHERLANDS AND HAS WORKED

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD INCLUDING THAILAND,

THE UNITED KINGDOM, SWEDEN AND AUSTRALIA.

DR WILLIAMS IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO THE POST GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE; PRESIDENT OF THE BUSINESS HIGHER EDUCATION ROUND TABLE; CHAIRMAN, OF THE CONGRESS COUNCIL 6TH WORLD CONGRESS OF CHEMICAL **ENGINEERING. MELBOURNE 2001; CHAIRMAN** ELECT. OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS (AUSTRALIA); DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, OF THE COMMITTEE FOR MELBOURNE AND A DIRECTOR OF A MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

OF COURSE, IN THE TERRITORY, AS CHAIRMAN OF SHELL, HE IS ALSO KNOWN AS A CHAMPION AND A SPONSOR OF THE D-S-O - DARWIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. HE HAS ALSO BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN SUPPORTING THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

OF THE ABORIGINAL ART COLLECTION AT THE NORTHERN TERRITORY MUSEUM.

A REGULAR AT THE FINNESS RIVER CHARITY RACE
DAY, A MAN WHO IS PREPARED AND WANTS TO
COME TO THE TERRITORY AT EVERY AVAILABLE
OPPORTUNITY, INCLUDING IN THE WET SEASON
AND IN THE WORDS OF OUR PRIME MINISTER, JOHN
HOWARD, A MATE OF SHANE AND JOSEPHINE
STONE.

IT IS MY PLEASURE, TO WELCOME DR WILLIAMS TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY GENERALLY, BUT MORE PARTICULARLY ON BEHALF OF CORPORATE AUSTRALIA.

ROLAND SPEAKS

THANK YOU DOCTOR WILLIAMS. PLEASE REMAIN
ON STAGE. I ALSO INVITE DICK GRIFFITHS AND
ANDREW MALONEY TO JOIN US ON STAGE
TOGETHER WITH SHANE AND JOSEPHINE FOR THE
PRESENTATION OF THE DECANTER, GLASSES AND
TRAY.

DRUM ROLL

PRESENTATION MADE. NO SPEECHES.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WE NOW BRING YOU A
NUMBER OF SHANE'S COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE
RECORDED MESSAGES OF GOOD WISHES FOR THE
FUTURE. TABLES CLOSER TO THE FRONT MAY
FIND THAT THEY GET A BETTER VIEW IF THEY
MOVE BACK.

DRUM ROLL

FIRST VIDEO SCREENS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS NOW MY PLEASURE
TO INTRODUCE TO YOU, THE FORMER CHIEF
JUSTICE AND FORMER ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY, THE HON AUSTIN ASCHE
AC QC. AUSTIN HAD THE TASK OF ADMINISTERING
THE OATH OF OFFICE TO SHANE STONE ON THE 25TH
OF MAY, 1995 WHEN HE BECAME THE 5TH CHIEF
MINISTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

HE MUST HAVE WONDERED, AT THE TIME,
WHETHER HE COULD HAVE FORESEEN THAT HIS
FORMER RESEARCH ASSISTANT OF SOME 20 YEARS
BEFORE IN MELBOURNE, WOULD ONE DAY BE THE
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT IN THE NORTHERN
TERRITORY.

AUSTIN AND VAL ASCHE ARE NO STRANGERS TO TERRITORIANS. THEY CAME TO THE TERRITORY BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO BE HERE. THEY HAVE REMAINED HERE IN THEIR RETIREMENT AND HAVE

BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC AMBASSADORS FOR THIS
WONDERFUL PLACE THAT WE ALL CALL HOME –
AUSTRALIA'S NORTHERN TERRITORY.

PLEASE WELCOME AUSTIN ASCHE.

DRUM ROLL

AUSTIN ASCHE LEAVES THE STAGE

IT IS NOW MY GREAT PLEASURE, TO INTRODUCE TO YOU TO THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'S FIRST CHIEF MINISTER, THE HON PAUL EVERINGHAM AO.

(TWILIGHT ZONE AND THE KING OF THE KIDS – CASINO PRESSER)

PAUL EVERINGHAM BECAME SYNONYMOUS WITH
THE EMERGENCE OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
AS A VIBRANT PART OF AUSTRALIA.

PLEASE WELCOME THE KING OF THE KIDS – PORKY

– THE BULL IN THE CHINA SHOP AND THEY ONLY

MADE ONE OF HIM – PAUL ANTHONY EDWARD

EVERINGHAM.

EVERINGHAM SPEAKS AND INTRODUCES THE VIDEO CLIP.

INTRODUCES SHANE TO SPEAK.

DRUM ROLL.

SHANE SPEAKS.

EVERINGHAM FINISHES UP.

ANDY THANKS EVERYBODY FOR COMING ALONG.



FACSIMILE

PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

TO:

Mr Shane Stone

FM:

The Prime Minister

Tonight is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the contribution that you have made both as a private citizen and as a leading political figure in the Northern Territory.

While you were not born in the Territory, it can truly be said that you are of the Territory and for the Territory. You have given distinguished service to the people of the Northern Territory in a number of capacities, most recently as Chief Minister. You have helped to extend and deepen our links with the countries in our region, an enterprise for which you are highly respected.

I have valued your counsel and enjoyed our meetings, even during Premiers Conferences!

You have stood up for the Territory and were instrumental in finally getting the Commonwealth government to support the dream of an Alice Springs to Darwin railway.

Whatever you do in the future, I know you will bring to it the same qualities of determination, fortitude and character that you have displayed in Northern Territory politics.

With best wishes.

JOHN HOWARD