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Title:
State Report - Elliott Johnston

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TELEVISION SCRIPT.

STATION:	DURATION:	TITLE
		State Report - from the Premier of South Australia, Don Dunstan.
DATE:		KEY NO.

AUDIO

VIDEO

GOOD EVENING:

DON.

AT NOON TODAY FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE COUNCIL THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL, MR. KING, ANNOUNCED THAT MR. ELLIOTT JOHNSTON HAS BEEN APPOINTED A QUEEN'S COUNSEL BY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, SIR MELLIS NAPIER, ON THE ADVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT. AND SO I HAVE CHOSEN TO SPEAK TO YOU TONIGHT ON THIS APPOINTMENT AND ON WHERE MY GOVERNMENT STANDS WHEN CIVIL LIBERTIES ARE AT ISSUE.

THE LABOR PARTY AND THE LABOR GOVERNMENT IS GLAD TO SEE THAT MR. JOHNSTON HAS BEEN APPOINTED. HIS HIGH PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND HIS WIDE EXPERIENCE IN LAW PRACTICE MAKE HIM EMINENTLY DESERVE A POSITION OF SENIOR COUNSEL AT THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BAR. SIX OF THE SEVEN AVAILABLE SUPREME COURT JUDGES HAVE CLEARLY NOTED HIS PROFESSIONAL STANDING AND QUALIFICATIONS. THE CHIEF JUSTICE HAS RECOMMENDED HIS APPOINTMENT. THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS AGREED, AT A GENERAL MEETING, THAT SUCH A RECOMMENDATION SHOULD BE

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ACTED UPON AND THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF QC'S SHOULD BE BASED SOLELY ON PROFESSIONAL STANDING.

WHEN THE RECOMMENDATION FOR MR. JOHNSTON'S

APPOINTMENT WAS PLACED BEFORE THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, IT WAS REJECTED ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY. AND IN RECOMMENDING HIS APPOINTMENT TODAY, THE LABOR GOVERNMENT WAS NATURALLY AWARE OF THIS. BUT WE BELIEVE, AND WE INSIST, THAT POLITICAL OPINIONS OF ANY KIND HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO BEARING ON WHAT IS, AND WHAT MUST REMAIN, A PURELY PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTION.

AND WHAT PRECISELY IS A QC? WELL, HE'S A SENIOR LAWYER. THE TITLE IS HISTORICAL. HE HAS NO OFFICIAL DUTIES. HIS ADVANTAGES (OR DISADVANTAGES, AS THE CASE MAY BE) ARE THAT HE CANNOT APPEAR WITHOUT A JUNIOR LAWYER BEING WITH HIM, AND THAT HIS FEES ARE VERY MUCH HIGHER THAN AN ORDINARY LAWYER'S AND ALSO - ON APPOINTMENT, HE IS ALLOWED TO WEAR A SILK GOWN AND A FULL-BOTTOMED WIG.

IT IS, AS I HAVE SAID, A PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTION. AND TO APPLY POLITICAL

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TESTS TO SUCH AN APPOINTMENT IS TO BEGIN A PROCESS OF POLITICAL INTERFERENCE IN AN AREA THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NEVER ENTER. SUCH POLITICAL TESTS ARE WELLKNOWN IN DICTATORSHIPS. THEY ARE APPLIED IN COUNTRIES LIKE RUSSIA, CHINA, SPAIN, GREECE AND SOUTH AFRICA. GOVERNMENTS WHO IMPOSE THEM HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN A CALLOUS AND FRIGHTENING DISREGARD OF PERSONAL LIBERTY AND POLITICAL FREEDOM.

FOR THE LABOR PARTY AND THE LABOR GOVERNMENT, WE REJECT UTTERLY THE CONFUSIONS AND DELUSIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY - JUST AS WE REJECT THE DOCTRINES OF APARTHEID, GEORGE WALLACE, ADOLF HITLER AND ENOCH POWELL. RATHER, WE WILL SUPPORT - AND DEMAND - AND COMMIT OUR POLITICAL FUTURE TO - THE MAINTENANCE OF THE OVER-RIDING PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY. AND THESE ARE SOME OF THOSE PRINCIPLES:

EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE A FREE AND EQUAL VOTE FOR THE PARLIAMENTS THAT MAKE THE LAWS HE OBEYS. HE SHOULD HAVE THOSE VOTES BECAUSE HE IS A PERSON, NOT A TREE, AN ACRE, OR A BANK BALANCE.

Roll

FILM

EXT + INTERIOR

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IN OUR COURTS, EVERYONE SHOULD BE
 EQUAL UNDER THE LAW, WHILE IN THE
 PROFESSION THAT SERVES THE COURTS
 AND IN OUR JUDICIARY WHERE THE
 JOB IS TO ADMINISTER AND INTERPRET
 THE LAW AS IT IS WRITTEN, THERE MUST
 BE NO POLITICAL FAVOUR, NOR
 POLITICAL FEAR, BUT SIMPLY A
 SEARCH FOR COMMON JUSTICE.

NO MAN SHOULD BE PUNISHED FOR THE
 OPINIONS HE HOLDS, NO MATTER HOW
 WRONG OR UNPOPULAR, FOR THAT IS
 THE STYLE OF DICTATORSHIP AND
 TOTALITARIAN IDEOLOGIES. THE
 RULE OF LAW MUST BE MAINTAINED,
 AND IT IS ONLY THROUGH ACTIONS OF
 BREAKING LAWS THAT A MAN SHOULD
 STAND CONDEMNED.

WE MUST MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE OUR
 RIGHTS TO READ, TO A FREE AND
 INDEPENDENT PRESS, TO FREE SPEECH,
 AND TO THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS,
 SCHOLARSHIP, AND DISCOVERY, IN
 OUR SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES AND
 PROFESSIONS.

WE BELIEVE OUR LAWS SHOULD REFLECT
 THE PUBLIC WILL, BUT SHOULD NOT
 ENTER REALMS OF PRIVATE AND

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PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. OUR RIGHTS TO PRIVACY MUST BE PROTECTED. THE PROPER ROLE OF THE POLICE IS THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE'S PERSONS AND PROPERTY FROM ATTACKS BY OTHER PEOPLE, AND UNDER-COVER SURVEILLANCE AND SECRET DOSSIERS HAVE NO PLACE IN OUR SOCIETY. AND FINALLY, PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE PEACEFULLY ABOUT THE THINGS THEY BELIEVE SHOULD BE HEEDED BY OTHERS - NO MATTER WHETHER THEY BE FARMERS, STUDENTS, WORKERS OR MANAGERS. A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT SHOULD ACT TO PROTECT THIS RIGHT, AND PEOPLE EXERCISING THIS RIGHT MUST BE PROTECTED FROM UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE.

ROLL

DEMONSTRATE

DON

THE BODY OF ENGLISH LAW AND PRACTICE WHICH WE INHERIT, THE CONCEPTS UNDERLYING THE LAWS WE HAVE MADE OURSELVES, THE FABRIC AND STRUCTURES OF OUR PUBLIC, LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTIONS, ALL BEAR WITNESS TO THE DESIRE MEN HAVE HAD FOR POLITICAL AND INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY. MANY OF THESE RIGHTS ARE BEING SLOWLY ERODED AND THEY

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TELEVISION SCRIPT.

STATION:	DURATION:	TITLE
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<p data-bbox="299 574 404 607"><u>AUDIO</u></p> <p data-bbox="64 607 837 907">COULD FADE <u>WITHIN</u> A SEASON IF PEOPLE ARE NOT PREPARED TO DEFEND THEM. AND THAT IS WHAT MY GOVERNMENT WILL DO - AND WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE US DO.</p> <p data-bbox="366 1002 586 1033">GOOD NIGHT.</p>		<u>VIDEO</u>