14 October 2002

**Breaking News - Chief Minister Clare Martin Transcript**

**Program:** 8.30AM 8DDD FM MORNING PROGRAM

**Date:** Monday, 14 October 2002

**Reporter:** FRED McCUE

**Interviewee:** CLARE MARTIN

**Re: Bali Bombing**

Talking to the Chief Minister Clare Martin now.

**RepTR**

And Clare Martin good morning, thanks very much for coming in.

**MARTIN**

FRED GOOD MORNING AND I CAN JUST UPDATE YOU ON WHAT'S COMING IN ON THE NEXT FLIGHT. WE'VE GOT, EXPECTING 25 INJURIES, INJURED PEOPLE COMING IN ON THE NEXT FLIGHT.

**RepTR**

When is that Clare, around about ten o'clock?

**MARTIN**

OH LOOK THIS IS, WE'VE HAD TO BE FLEXIBLE. I THINK IT'S IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF HOURS. AND THERE'S 21 WHO ARE ON STRETCHERS AND TWO DESTINED FOR I.C.U, SO OBVIOUSLY TWO VERY CRITICALLY INJURED.

**RepTR**

Obviously you've been pretty busy, I know that, I was speaking to your staff yesterday afternoon. What's it been like over the last 24 hours, who have you actually been talking to?

**MARTIN**

WELL WHAT WE DID, AS SOON AS THE NEWS CAME THROUGH, GOT TOGETHER THE COUNTER DISASTER COUNCIL, WHICH WAS THE KIND OF APPROPRIATE BODY TO GET TOGETHER, POLICE AND GOVERNMENT, HEALTH, AND TO TALK ABOUT WHAT IN FACT THE IMPACT COULD BE ON DARWIN, HOW WE NEEDED TO GET READY IN TERMS OF BEDS AVAILABLE FOR THE HOSPITAL, HOW WE HAD TO READY THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY. AND SO THAT WORK WAS DONE ALL YESTERDAY. I TALKED TO FOREIGN MINISTER ALEXANDER DOWNER'S OFFICE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND SAID, LOOK WE ARE PREPARED IN A MEDICAL SENSE. WE'VE CLEARED THEATRES, WE'RE WORKING WITH THE STRETCHERS AND TWO DESTINED FOR I.C.U, SO OBVIOUSLY TWO VERY CRITICALLY INJURED.

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**RepTR**

Obviously you've been pretty busy, I know that, I was speaking to your staff yesterday afternoon. What's it been like over the last 24 hours, who have you actually been talking to?
ESTABLISH SOMETHING LIKE 150 LOCAL PEOPLE ARE THERE ON ANY
WEEK AND, BUT WE’VE HAD TO USE THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS NUMBER
TO SAY TO ANYONE IN THE TERRITORY, LOOK IF YOU WANT TO FIND
OUT ABOUT SOMEONE WHO IS FAMILY WHO IS IN BALI WHAT THEIR
STATUS IS THEN THE BEST THING TO DO IS TO RING THAT FOREIGN
AFFAIRS NUMBER. AND THAT’S A 1800 NUMBER, IT’S 1800 00 22 14. SO
THAT’S 1800 00 22 14. WE’VE ALSO GOT A LOCAL NUMBER THAT YOU
CAN RING INTO DARWIN HOSPITAL TO FIND OUT WHETHER, YOU
KNOW, ANYONE WHO’S COME IN...

REPTR
Essentially whether you know anyone there.

MARTIN
...IS ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW THAT PERSON. SO DO YOU WANT ME TO
GIVE THAT NUMBER?

REPTR
Sure.

MARTIN
THAT’S 1800 300 028, 1800 300 028. SO IT’S JUST BEEN
EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT TO FIND OUT WHO FROM DARWIN OR
THE TERRITORY HAS ACTUALLY BEEN IN BALI, WHAT THEIR STATUS IS,
BUT WE ARE CONTINUING TO PURSUE IT. I MEAN IT REALLY DOES
RAISE ISSUES ABOUT JUST HOW WE, YOU KNOW, WE IDENTIFY WHO’S
BEEN TRAVELLING AND HOW QUICKLY WE CAN DO THAT.

REPTR
Okay so rather than posting lists the best thing to do is to call either of those
numbers. That’s the 1800 00 22 14, that’s the emergency one in Bali, and
1800 300 028 at the Royal Darwin Hospital.

MARTIN
YES, THOSE NUMBERS, YEAH.

REPTR
Did you discuss when you talked to Alexander Downer security and what it
means now because obviously it’s proven absolutely that Australia is certainly
in no way insulated from what’s happening in the rest of the world as far as
terrorism is concerned?

MARTIN
LOOK I HAVEN’T SPECIFICALLY SPOKEN TO ALEXANDER DOWNER I
SPOKE TO HIS OFFICE. THE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW READY THE
TERRITORY WAS WENT STRAIGHT THROUGH TO ALEXANDER
DOWNER. BUT AS FAR AS OUR SECURITY STATUS IS, FOLLOWING
SEPTEMBER THE 11TH WE WENT INTO A SECURITY STATUS OF WHAT’S
CALLED C.T. SPECIAL RISK, THAT’S COUNTER TERRORISM SPECIAL
RISK. SO IT’S A HEIGHTENED SECURITY AWARENESS AND THAT’S
BEEN IN PLACE. I MEAN YOU SEE THE KIND OF OBVIOUS REACTIONS
 THERE AT THE AIRPORT, THE EXTRA SECURITY AT AIRPORTS NOW.
AND WHAT WE’VE GOT IS THE EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE AT
POLICE HEADQUARTERS AT BERRIMAH ARE NOW OPERATING 24
HOURS A DAY. AND WE ARE TAKING A CAREFUL LOOK AT WHAT
SECURITY ISSUES MIGHT BE FOR DARWIN. SO WE ARE IN A
HEIGHTENED SECURITY SITUATION AS WE HAVE BEEN FOR OVER A
YEAR NOW. BUT WE ARE LOOKING AT THOSE ELEMENTS. SO WE ARE
DOING IT CAREFULLY, WE DON’T WANT TO THINK THAT THE PEOPLE IN
THE TERRITORY SHOULD BE, YOU KNOW, UNNECESSARILY ALARMED,
BUT WE ARE TAKING A SENSIBLE AND CAREFUL LOOK AT WHAT OUR
SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ARE.

REPTR
When you do that what type of things are you looking at, I mean obviously
we’ve got a military installation, a fairly substantial military force here. I’m
assuming you are going to be looking at areas like that?
WELL WE ARE LOOKING AT THOSE WHOLE RANGE OF AREAS. NOW I DON'T WANT TO BE, YOU KNOW, ALARMIST. WHAT WE ARE DOING IS DOING IT SENSIBLY, WE ARE DOING IT CAREFULLY. BUT YOU KNOW WE ARE IN A HEIGHTENED SECURITY RISK STATE AFTER SEPTEMBER THE 11TH.

REPTR
Clare Martin I'll let you go, thanks very much for your time this morning.

MARTIN
THANKS FRED.

ENDS.

This transcript is taken from a tape recording, and freedom from errors, omissions or misunderstandings cannot be guaranteed.