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Peter Reith will be available for interview during November.

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THE REITH PAPERS

by Peter Reith

'There aren't too many people from my time in politics that I would trust completely. Reith is one of them.' AMANDA VANSTONE

Peter Reith was a senior cabinet minister under John Howard from 1996 to 2001. He was the face of the government's tough waterfront reforms and architect of sweeping industrial laws, a major contributor to the Fightback policy, a potential leader of the Liberal Party, a key player in the introduction of the GST, an influential republican in the 1999 referendum and Minister for Defence during the time that it was wrongly claimed that asylum seekers had thrown their children overboard.

A relentless diary keeper, Peter Reith kept extensive records of those tumultuous years in over a hundred notebooks he filled with recollections of conversations with his colleagues, discussions in cabinet and his private views and predictions.

The Reith Papers is the best of those diary entries from the heart of a government that changed Australia.

Following his retirement from politics in 2001 Peter Reith was a member of the Independent Tax Reform Commission in the United Kingdom. From 2003 to 2009 he was a director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Peter Reith recently reviewed the 2010 election on behalf of the Liberal Party and currently provides political commentary on Sky News and has a weekly column in the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

'A fascinating real-time account of an important period in our political history, written by one of the important players. His diaries give us valuable insights into the trade-offs between pursuing policies in the national interest and the political imperatives.'

JUDITH SLOAN

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