

# SUBMISSION TO THE JSCT RE AUKUS

BY

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## Introduction

The AUKUS arrangements currently being amended are a recipe for disaster and will see Australia become a pariah in our own region. The USA, which is signatory to the agreement, is in its death throws and seeks to destabilise our part of the world by conducting a war against China.

Currently the USA is bullying countries like ours in the region to support its attempts at maintaining its hegemony. We must not be bullied. I remind you that China is our largest trading partner, and without that trade, Australia's economy would be severely compromised. Many countries in our region are opting to join BRICS as it is based on a multi-polar world, not one dominated by the USA.

## Military Aspects

One of the initial parts of AUKUS entails Australia purchasing second hand and new nuclear powered submarines from the USA & UK. It must be noted that these submarines are not for our defence, rather they are being bought to maintain the USA's hegemony and subsidise the UK's ailing defence industry.

To defend Australia's waters we do not need nuclear powered submarines! They are too large for our shallow coastal waters and flies in the face of recent significant developments in

battery technology which makes diesel electric subs now much more suitable for Australia's defence. If there is one thing to learn from other current military conflicts, it is the prominence of drones. We would be far better served by using our own manufactured drones in the air, on land and under the ocean. Nuclear powered subs are rapidly losing their effectiveness and stealth capabilities as they can now be readily detected.

## Our Location

In its desire to confront China, the USA has chosen Asia as the venue for its conflict. It is far enough away from the USA, or so they think. The USA is bringing conflict to our region, and what is worse, we are inviting them to come here. Memories of the USA's war in Vietnam and its destabilising effects are still being felt in Asia today. Many of our regional neighbours, including Indonesia, are politely pushing back against any anti China measures.

As in WW2, Australia's location means that we are a long way from any support out of Europe or America. Australia is far better off creating binding alliances with our immediate neighbours. Moreover, we need to be more self sufficient with equipment for our defence. The way it stands, we are almost wholly reliant on the USA for much of our major materiel, which in turn, gives the USA far too much leverage against us. The scuttling of the submarine contract with France should serve as testament to this.

## Economic Aspects

Australia cannot afford AUKUS! We have already given money to the USA & UK to upgrade their shipyards. Whoever heard of such a deal! This is economic lunacy! It reminds me of the F35s. We sign blank cheques for the USA & UK to rob us blind. Meanwhile, we kick sand in China's face and risk losing our largest trading partner. Should we proceed with AUKUS, Australian generations to come will rue this decision. There won't be money left for anything else.

## The Spooks

For many years now, I have been gobsmacked by some of the so called intelligence coming out of ASIO & ASD. To put it bluntly, it is regurgitated tripe out of the USA! The USA makes this stuff up to serve its own ends, and we swallow it hook, line and sinker. History shows that the USA lies about such matters. Who will ever forget the Gulf of Tonkin incident in Vietnam, the WMDs in Iraq etc etc? I would be extremely suspicious of any anti China rhetoric coming from the USA and using such information as the basis for bolstering our defence through the USA's MIC.

## Our Sovereignty

It is already patently obvious that the USA has an unhealthy influence over the Australian government. AUKUS will only further exacerbate this and we will become the USA's lap dog to do its bidding. It is time to stand up for Australia and our own defence, and not to engage in some orchestrated conflict at the USA's behest. Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan,...Australia has already lost too many good people following the USA.

## Conclusion

I am an old man now and hope that someone reads this. I genuinely believe that AUKUS will sound the death knell for Australia's:

- Defence
- Economy
- Sovereignty
- Independence

John Tonkin

