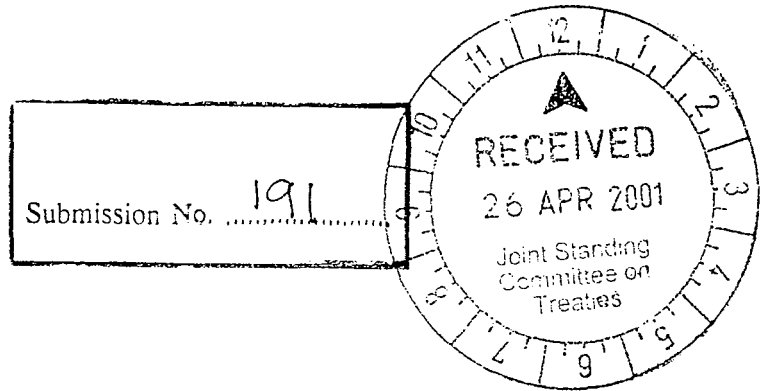


Bernard & Winsome Rusterholtz
4 Silky-Oak Drive
Glenvale Qld. 4350



6th April, 2001.

Mr. Andrew Thompson
Chairman Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir,

Submission
concerning the Proposed International
Criminal Court.

We oppose the establishment of the above mentioned Criminal Court
and we oppose the ratification of it by Australia.

Some of our reasons are as follows:

It would diminish Australian sovereignty by passing judgement on
Australian legal proceedings if it considers them inadequate.
Australian jurisdiction should never be ceded to a foreign court.
It would put our servicemen when operating abroad at risk of
being extradited for prosecution for spurious reasons.

The legal proceedings of such a court would not include the
safeguards provided by our own system of justice such as the
right to cross-examine all witnesses for the prosecution, the
right of trial by jury, and it would mean the replacing of our
'innocent until proven guilty' by 'guilty until proved innocent'.

We are aware that certain members of the public service advocate
Australia's ratification of the proposed International Criminal
Court. It is not their place to do so.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bernard & Winsome Rusterholtz", is written over a faint rectangular stamp area.