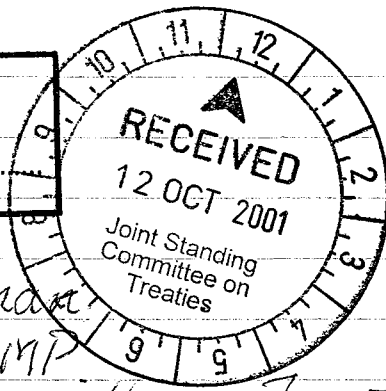


Submission No. 46-1



46 Dennis St.
Kakemba 2195
Sydney
9/10/2001

The Committee Chairman
Mr. Terry Bartlett MP
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Dear Sir-

I have received a further letter (Canberra 27/9/2001) from the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties to inform me that the Committee has "not yet completed our examination of the Govt. proposed implementing legislation, exposure drafts of which were provided to us on 30th August 2001."

Perhaps the Committee may then accept a further submission from myself which is as follows:

Since 30th August 2001 we have witnessed and know of the terrible events in the USA on 11th September. Even as I write this submission American troops may be operating in Afghanistan, Australian Special Forces may soon be there in support. This must concern all Australians as it would all Americans, and equally both Govts. The USA Govt, if my information is correct, will not join or come under the International Criminal Court, let alone ratify the Statute. If I am not correct about this the Committee can contact me. The reason the USA gives, or one good reason, is possible legal action by the ICC against American soldiers.

I believe that the Australian Govt should feel

the same about Australian soldiers. We still have
Australians held prisoner in Afghanistan. I am sure
Australians do not wish to see any of us
convicted or charged or held in prisons anywhere
overseas by any court, ICC or not. We cannot be
sure about the future, certainly as the world is
at the present time. I believe it is in Australia's
best interest to ~~not~~ not ratify the Statute of
the ICC, certainly not at present and perhaps
not at all. I wish to thank the Committee for
being allowed the opportunity to make a further
submission which I appreciate very much.

Yours sincerely
Ron Barnett