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The Secretary
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
Parliament House
CANBERRA.

Dear Sir/Madam,

COASTWATCH - SOME BRIEF COMMENTS

1. New Technologies

Deployment of airships for coastal surveillance should be reconsidered.

These provide a stable platform for equipment and a comfortable, long-range, long-time-aloft alternative to expensive fixed-wing contract aircraft.

2. An Australian Coastguard Service

We have an enormous coastline, small population and limited resources.

Introduction of a " Fourth Force " [above], with disparate capital equipment, policy, systems, personnel, procedures, etc., is an unnecessary waste.

Use the R.A.N.'s resources. Where Australian and International Treaty Law demands, R.A.N. vessels can carry Customs, Immigration and Police members to extend the scope of their existing capacity and in compliance with those Laws.

Yours Faithfully,

PETER STAGG.