

~HILLSBOROUGH LIMOUSINS~

Graeme Wicks and Val Wicks (C.Dec)

3rd September 00

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing committee on Treaties
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir or Madam:

We would like to take this opportunity to submit to the committee our feelings concerning Australia's involvement with the World Trade Organisation. This submission will be in question form.

- It is quite obvious that WTO rulings can over-ride decisions made by individual countries. Does this mean the WTO is opposed to individual sovereignty and the rights of countries to decide their own futures?
- If the WTO demand that countries adopt **their** laws concerning trade and commerce, what position does any country's government have in the decision-making procedures on these issues?
- Who elected the head of the WTO and its members, and to whom are they accountable?
- Why does our government think an over-seas, international body is more fit to make decisions regarding Australia's trade than the Australian government is?
- Is it undemocratic for government to bind treaties on following governments when the majority of the population might oppose them?
- Why has there never been a referendum held to ask the Australian people whether they wished to be bound to rules made by an international body?
- Taking in geographic and cultural differences, how can any country submit to one set of rules, or does the WTO make different rules for different nations and cultures?

- Is the WTO linked to the United Nations whose agenda is apparently to have a ‘one world government’ with one set of rules for all.
- If so, how will this ‘one world government’ benefit Australians.

With the introduction of the National Competition Policy, we have seen innumerable people lose their livelihoods (dairy farmers to name just one) Some of these people have been successfully making an adequate living from their chosen field for several generations.

- If this “new world order” or “new world economy” as some like to call it is so good, how will these people benefit in the long run?
- If this “New World order” is so good and so beneficial, why hasn’t the Australian government taken it to the Australian public with the sure knowledge they would have no trouble winning the population over?
- Why has the “New World order” been introduced by stealth?"

We regret including some of this supposedly irrelevant material, but we believe the WTO is inextricably linked to the UN and the “New World Order”. We therefore, as the Australian government’s employers, demand the government withdraw itself from the UN, the WTO and the concept of the “new world economy”. Australia has the most enviable social system in the world and is well able to make decisions that are good and just, firstly for Australia and also for the rest of the world. We were never asked if we wished to be bound to an international body, and we resent being so.

Yours sincerely

GRAEME AND VAL WICKS