

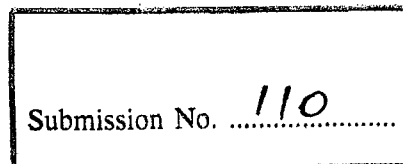
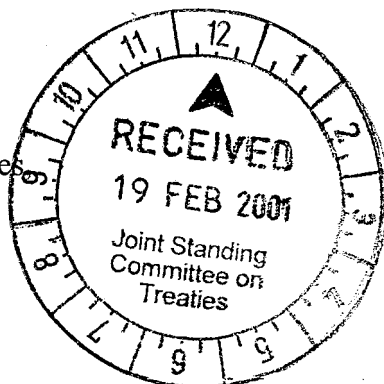
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12 February 2001

The Inquiry Secretary,
Mr Bob Morris,
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Dept of House of Representatives,
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2000



Dear Sir,

RE: JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TREATIES

- 1) As a caring Australian born citizen, and 60 years an elector on the Federal rolls I object to the Governments attempt to make Australia a party to the proposed International Criminal Court.

Reasons:

- a) Sovereignty of Australia rests in the permanent residents, as in any other country. Nobody owns the country but the People that live here.
- b) Sovereignty is exercised by the Federal Government, having received that authority from the States by consent. The States received it from the British Parliament at Independence, the British Parliament having acquired it by occupation at various dates. Without occupation there can be no Sovereignty.
- c) The exercise of Sovereignty is a sacred trust. It was given by consent of the States, which consent did NOT extend to a right to give or trade it away.
- d) In light of the foregoing it would be a gross act of treachery to the Australian People to enter Australia into an agreement of the nature of the proposed International Criminal Court, without having first obtained the consent of the People by referendum.
- e) Likewise, to even contemplate entering such an Agreement as the proposed International Criminal Court without first obtaining permission from our People is an illegal act, making those concerned liable to serious charges of misconduct, and retribution is not beyond the realm of possibility.

R. F. SHERLOCK