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From: kevin mclaughlin [SMTP:kemar@ssc.net.au]  
Sent: Friday, July 06, 2001 9:59 AM  
To: jsct@aph.gov.au  
Subject: International Criminal Court.

Submission No. 220

Committee Secretary, Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, Department of House of Representatives Canberra. 2600.

I would like to add my voice to the many concerns that are being expressed about the proposal that Australia ratifies a Statute for an International Criminal Court (ICC).

It is interesting to note that the United States of America has serious reservations about the ICC. It appears that the ICC could take away a country's independence to the right to defend itself and its interests.

I note that the R.S.L. is also opposed to the ICC Statute for basically the reason that could see Australia's peacekeeping operations affected in our region of the world.

I understand that The Joint Standing Committee has not yet reported to the Government even though this matter has been under consideration for some considerable time. Would it not now be appropriate for the Committee to make a report to the Government before the Federal Election due later this year?

I believe that this Statute would be against Australia's national interest and I urge the Committee to reject the proposal.

Yours Faithfully

Kevin McLaughlin  
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