

Submission No: 46
Date Received: 24-3-05
Secretary:

To: The Committee Secretary,
Parliamentary Joint C'ttee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD,
Parliament House, Canberra.

Dear Secretary,

I believe the ASIO Act as amended is destructive of civil liberty in Australia. It permits detention of citizens on mere suspicion, so that mere rumour could be enough to cause an indefinite imprisonment. This is the kind of law which permitted the secret police of past totalitarian states to oppress the citizenry. It was to save us from this that we fought World War II, and the Cold War was said to be for a similar purpose.

I see this law as being a corruption of the principles on which Australia Fair was built.

I am quite sure that at present few of my fellow-citizens realize what this law implies for our country - just as few of my fellow-citizens realize that the law is now, however briefly, under review:

Why wasn't this review prominently publicized? Why is the deadline for submissions so soon?

This law enables a police state to develop here. A good law would do the very opposite.

Yours sincerely,

Rosemary Dunlop.

