

Submission No.52.....

52 Verbena St.,
Mt. Gravatt, Qld, 4122
12 Feb 2001.

The Inquiry Secretary
Mr. Bob Morris
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Dept. of House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600.



Re. Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

"Statute of International Criminal Code"

Dear Sir,


As a citizen of Australia I feel obliged to register my objection to the consideration of any foreign proposals that will be binding upon my fellow citizens, To wit, "That Australia should accept the statutes of an International Criminal Court".

Our elected representatives are morally responsible for issues which have a direct effect upon their electors and should therefore seek the advice of those electors in matters of such gravity by way of referendum.

The citizens of Australia should not be bound by the decisions of a foreign body irrespective of how august this body might appear. One might recall how the rights of Australians to access the Privy Council have been denied. But to embrace any foreign control will smack of hypocrisy and a lack of any proper loyalty to ones own society even to the point of treachery.

If our law makers and senior jurists are so bereft of ideas to bring our system of justice to a plane comparable with that of the International courts without selling out our right to some control of ourselves then perhaps they should step aside for someone who has the courage to inform the public at large as to the content of these "International statutes" and further to deny any foreign power another chance to control our future.

I urge the Committee to reject this proposal.


Frederick Howie