

**Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
References Committee**

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Inquiry Title: Effectiveness of Australia's Military Justice System

Submission No: P13A

Date Received: 9.02.04

Submitter: Ms Liddell

Organisation:

Address:

Phone:

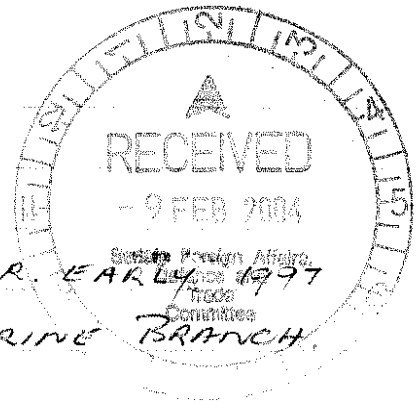
Fax:

Email:

Name/Contact: Ms Dulcie Liddell

Date Authorised:

IN ADDITION



I AM NOT SURE IF IT WAS LATE 1996 OR EARLY 1997 MATTHEW TRANSFERRED FROM THE SUBMARINE TO SURFACE SHIPS

AFTER HE HAD ACHIEVED THIS HE WAS ACCOSTED IN A NIGHT CLUB BY 4 OF THE CREW OF THE SUB HE TRANSFERRED FROM. HE WAS BASHED NEARLY SENSELESS AND LEFT LYING IN A GUTTER HE WAS BADLY BRUISED WITH GASHES. HE RECEIVED MEDICAL ATTENTION (THIS IS NOT ON HIS MEDICAL FILES) I HAVE CHECKED THEM. THE MEDICAL OFFICER NEVER REPORTED SO CONSEQUENTLY, THESE YOUNG MEN WERE NEVER REPROACHED OR HAD ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST THEM.

THESE YOUNG MEN INTIMIDATED HIM BASHED HIM AND LEFT HIM LYING IN A GUTTER. BECAUSE ACCORDING TO THEM, HE SHOULD NOT HAVE TRANSFERRED, THEY DIDN'T APPROVE. SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT OF "WE FIX OUR OWN PROBLEMS WE'LL FIX YOU." WAS SAID. THEIR LOGIC IS ONCE A SUBMARINER ALWAYS A SUBMARINER - YOU DON'T LEAVE SUBMARINES

AFTER THE "WESTRALIA" DISASTER. A CLOSE FRIEND OF MATTHEWS WHO WAS GIVING HIM HER TIME MORAL SUPPORT AND HELP WAS TOLD BY HER CHAIN OF COMMAND TO STAY AWAY FROM MATTHEW ALSO THE PSYCHIATRIST. THIS WAS WRONG BECAUSE THEIR FRIENDSHIP (NOT ROMANTICALLY INVOLVED) WAS HIS LIFELINE AT THIS TIME. SHE HAD BEEN A GREAT HELP TO HIM FROM DAY 1, WE WERE SO THANKFUL HE HAD THE SUPPORT AND CARE FROM HER. HE NEEDED WHEN

WE WERE LIVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF AUSTRALIA
AND COULDN'T BE THERE, IT WAS FINANCIALLY IMPOSSIBLE

THIS YOUNG LADY IS NOW OUT OF THE
NAVY AND SHE ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED FOR
FEAR OF REPERCUSSIONS AS SHE STILL SEES THESE
PEOPLE WHO I UNDERSTAND ARE STILL SERVING. I FEEL
THIS IS INTIMIDATION AFTER THE FACT.

Riddell.