02/05/2002 08:13 96045991

RSL J DEIGHTON

PAGE 01

96045991



	ICC		
Submission	No.	250	

## **RETURNED & SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA**

ABN 73 941 765 364

(Victorian Branch) Inc.

Reg No. A0028777L

LEVEL 1, 377 LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA. AUSTRALIA 3000 TELEPHONE: (03) 9604 5999 FACSIMILE: (03) 9604 5992

BGB:camwww.rslvic.com.au

Email: rslvic@rslvic.com.au

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

State President: B.C. RUXTON AM OBE

State Secretary: JOHN P.A. DEIGHTON AM MC

1 May 2002

K Wilkie Esq MP Labor Party – Swan Hill FAX: 0894704138

Dear Mr Wilkie

I am writing to say that I am aghast at the prospect that Australia may ratify the I.C.C. Statute.

The statute is hopelessly vague (e.g. "wilfully causing great suffering", "outrages upon personal dignity" and so on). And whenever it wanted to, the I.C.C. could overrule our courts and extradite our Defence personnel by the simple expedient of claiming we are "unwilling" genuinely to prosecute.

I am sorry to say that Daryl Williams' statements on this have been highly misleading.

The RSL is strongly opposed to ratification. Ratification would ham-string our Defence Force, who would be prevented from acting effectively by the threat of false and contrived claims.

Please do not in any circumstances support ratification.

Yours sincerely

u Purton

B C Ruxton State President

> "The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance" LEST WE FORGET