FILE GOPY

SUBMISSION



The Inquiry Secretary,

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories Department of the House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

It seems ironic that at this time Australian troops have been fighting in Iraq to give the people of Iraq **DEMOCRACY**, while right on Australia's doorstep they cannot give this freely to Norfolk Island. Also Australian troops went to ensure that the people of East Timor were given their inalienable right to self-determination – then steal their oil.

Why send these 'committees'? They have never taken notice of what the People of Norfolk Island say at referenda.

How can we believe or trust promises of the Australian Government when it is over two decades since we were promised internal self-government? Australian committees have done everything possible to hinder this passage.

As a Norfolk Islander I have listened to and met members of these SELECT Joint and Standing Committees for the past thirty years – they come and go, all experts from Australia; How can they possibly know what is best for Norfolk Island? We are a different People with a different culture, and as my forebears fought for their rights – future generations will do the same so that we are not wiped out as A PEOPLE.

Jan Wobbes Jan Nobbs