31/3/01 P O Box 40 Buddina 4575 Qld Phone 07 54931418 E/Mail peterkeo@powerup.com.au

The Committee Secretary Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Jsct@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir,

I wish to oppose the ratification by Australia of "The Statute for an International Criminal Court". I refer to the "National Interest Analysis" page 5 part1 article 4, which allows such a court to operate in ones country.

We already have a criminal court in this country and I suggest that it is more likely to dispense justice than one formed buy a multitude of foreign nations, some of which probably have systems distinctly inferior to our own.

Part 2 obliges us to dispense privileges and immunities to those foreigners involved which effectively puts them above the law that they wish to impose on us.

As a sovereign nation Australia must remain master of its own destiny and must not submit to the whims and wishes of a committee composed of people of many foreign powers.

Already Australia is suffering from rules that are being imposed on it via the multitude of treaties to which she is signatory and this must cease. It certainly must not be expanded.

The World Trade Organisation may well force Australia to import suspect product that could destroy our industries because of one such treaty. Enough is enough.

A treaty ostensibly about the rights of women calls on signatories to embark on a process of total and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament. What gross stupidity! How much thought was given to the possible consequences of that treaty before we signed it?

There is almost certainly a hidden agenda behind this latest move to have us become part of this proposed statute, just as there obviously was with the treaty that commits us to disarmament. Let us not be caught yet again?

The Australian justice system is based on the British justice system, which is considered the best in the world. Let us not dilute or pollute our system with a mish- mash of a dozen or more almost certainly inferior systems and risk having an Australian tried, convicted and punished by a system which has a high probability of being seriously flawed.

As a sovereign nation we must not bend to the will of others. This statute has the potential to have a massive impact on our sovereignty and it is time to call a halt to such invasion of our absolute rights. The process reeks of an agenda of globalism and a world dictatorship of which we should have no part.

P J Keogh