

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

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Inquiry Title: Effectiveness of Australia's Military Justice System

Submission No: P58

Date Received: 16 June

Submitter: Ms Jennifer Mackenzie

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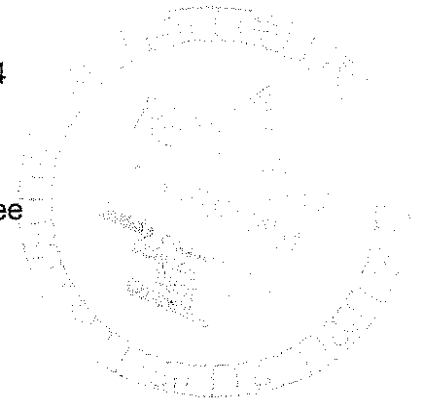
Email:

Name/Contact: Ms Jennifer Mackenzie

Date Authorised: 21 June

11 June 2004

The Secretary
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee
Suite S1.57
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Secretary,

**THE COMMITTEE'S INQUIRY INTO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AUSTRALIA'S
MILITARY JUSTICE SYSTEM**

I am writing in response to certain evidence given by Mr Clark to the Committee on 9 June 2004.

At page 85 of the transcript, Mr Clark says:

"If you take the Everest board of inquiry, which I appeared at, a Lieutenant Colonel Neuhaus - ... - was appointed. He is the brother-in-law of the personal assistant to the chief military judge in the Defence Force legal service. 'How did you get the job?' 'I know people in the Defence Force.' How do I know that? Because I had a conversation with Colonel Neuhaus, as one of the board members, as we were trekking at 15,000 feet in Nepal and I was very short of breath. 'I am curious. How did you get this appointment?' 'My sister ----"

I am Lieutenant Colonel Neuhaus' sister-in-law. I do work as the assistant to the Chief Judge Advocate. However, I can assure the Committee that I had absolutely no part in Lieutenant Colonel Neuhaus being approached to sit on a particular board of inquiry. The Board was appointed by Chief of Army. To some degree, it is flattering that Mr Clark should think that as an APSL6 in the Public Service, I would be able to influence a decision of this nature to be taken by a Service Chief. It is, however, untrue.

Since Mr Clark's evidence, I have spoken to Lieutenant Colonel Neuhaus. He tells me that no conversation of the kind described by Mr Clark ever took place between them.

[REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Mackenzie".

JENNIFER MACKENZIE