



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

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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.

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Yours sincerely

B C Ruxton

State President