

77 Arthur Circle, Forrest,
A.C.T. 2603, Australia,
3rd July, 1975.

Mr N.D. Ing,
Assistant Treasury Solicitor,
The Treasury Solicitor,
Metthew Parker Street,
LONDON SW1H 9NN, England.

Dear Mr Ing,

I am sorry not to have replied to your cable and letter of the 20th June. I did, however, take immediate action on the former by explaining my present position in a detailed letter to Mr Gavin Hewitt of the British High Commission in Australia and requested him to forward the gist of it to you by telegram, followed by a copy of the letter itself by surface mail. No doubt you will have received both by now.

I have since seen my medical adviser again, and he has confirmed that in the present state of my health, which has unfortunately deteriorated since I first approached Mr Hewitt on the 8th April, a precipitate journey to England followed by the trauma of an early examination and cross-examination in Court could have the most deleterious effect on my physical and psychological condition.

I could not in any case travel without my wife, who has been on permanent cortisone treatment for chronic asthma for five years. Thanks to modern improvements in treatment her daily dosage has been progressively reduced and she is due to discontinue the use of steroids from tomorrow. She will require attention and care during the next few weeks, however, and in particular will need to avoid rapid changes in temperature and humidity and any undue exertion.

I am indeed sorry that this was not made clear to you in my letter of the 14th June, but through ignorance of British judicial procedures I had conceived that the stage for the introduction of new witnesses in a trial already proceeding had long since passed, and that my comments on Mr Rotan's evidence were merely required for the guidance of Mr le Quesne in re-examination.

I have suggested to Mr Hewitt that should my evidence be considered of sufficient importance it might be taken by Commission in Australia, or that should this not prove possible arrangements could be made for both my wife and

myself to travel to London under conditions which would provide adequate safeguards for the maintenance of our health during the journey and while giving evidence.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Maude.