SUBMISSION NO. 39

The Secretary,
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT 2600
Australia

Sir,
Re Inquiry into the Timor Sea Treaty (May 2002) and
the Exchange of Notes between East Timor and
Australia (Timor Sea) (May 2002)

I understand that the Australian people are requested to
comment on the above agreements - and to your Inquiry.

It seems that the present Australian Government has
withdrawn
from the International Convention of the UN in favor of
overwhelming
the small nation of East Timor - in its infancy - by the
strength
of the Australian Government's size and experience.

It seems that the Australian people are misled into
thinking that
we are supporting East Timor to re-establish peaceably.
Instead
we are extending further the misery and anguish of the East
Timoresians as they have suffered by our actions in the
past.

Australia should be bound to acknowledge the right of East
Timor
to their oil and gas fields as laid down by the UN
Convention on
the Law of the Sea, and respect the boundaries which should be
in place through the jurisdiction of the International
Court.

Our military force is only as great as the people who serve
in it
and they, our NGO's and individual peoples who have
contributed
to the support and recognition of East Timor as a nation, are
insisting that Australia treats the re-establishment of the Democratic Republic of East Timor with genuine concern. That the people are not used as political pawns.

My submission is
* that the seabed boundaries are equitably decided according to International Law between East Timor and Australia.
* that the people of East Timor are able to regain their just assets and the careful development of their resource as they wish it;
* that the UN should arbitrate on whatever debate follows, if a fair and just solution is not found.
* that Australian is committed a responsibility to PROTECT the East Timor peoples from the greed and savagery they have experienced in the past -
* that exploitation has no place in future agreements.

Yours sincerely

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