



FROM THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE  
AND THE CHIEF WHIP

29 July 1988

*Dear Charles,*

AUSTRALIA CONSTITUTION ACT

*at Nat  
(20 July)*

I have had sight of your letter to Paul Stockton of 25 July. It is not entirely clear whether you still consider the "lodging" of the House of Lords Record Office copy of the Act to be a possibility. Your third sentence, I note, relates only to the PRO copy.

As you will know, the copy kept in the House of Lords Record Office is the "Original Act", endorsed by the Clerk of the Parliaments. It is part of a series dating from 1490. The House of Lords Record Office is, of course, the Record Office for Parliament as a whole. Any attempt to remove the Lords Record Office copy from the Victoria Tower would therefore be likely to arouse the most spirited resistance in both Houses.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Paul Stockton (Lord Chancellor's Department), Stephen Wall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Alison Smith (Lord President's Office), Nick Gibbons (Lord Privy Seal's Office), Brian Hawtin (Ministry of Defence), Michael Saunders (Law Officers Department) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

*Sincerely,  
Robin Walters.*

R H WALTERS

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AUSTRALIA : Relations PT 2



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