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27 October 1994

281.

C/94/195

Mr Wynack

Mr John MacMahon
Australian Telecommunications Authority
PO Box 7443 St Kilda Road
MELBOURNE VIC 3004

Dear Mr MacMahon

As I promised during the interview on 22 September 1994, enclosed is a copy of a transcript which was made by AUSCRIPT from the audio tape of the interview. I have enclosed a copy of the tape in case you wish to confirm the accuracy of the transcript.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

John Wynack
Director of Investigations

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**TRANSCRIPT
OF PROCEEDINGS**



AUSCRIP

95/0600-01

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**COMMONWEALTH AND DEFENCE FORCE
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**RECORD OF INTERVIEW
CONDUCTED ON
THURSDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 1994**

INTERVIEWERS:

**JAMES HINDS, Senior Investigation Officer
JOHN WYNACK, Director of Investigations**

INTERVIEWEE:

MR JOHN McMAHON

provided to AUSTEL and some other people in the period prior to the date of his FOI application which was 24 November; he specified that date. And we were interested to ascertain whether AUSTEL has a record of the documents of Telecom which it examined in the 12 months prior to November 1993.

MR McMAHON: No, we would not.

MR WYNACK: How did you examine documents during your investigation?

MR McMAHON: We - we firstly put a direction on Telecom to make available to us all relevant documentation. The - Telecom came and said, "Look you know these are live documents that we're working on, etcetera. Rather than flood you and disrupt ourselves, would it be acceptable to you that we establish a room at Telecom headquarters in which we assemble all relevant documentation that you have sought? Where there are additional folios going onto those files you know we will continue to put them on so that you have the advantage of seeing any additional material that's coming on." And the chairman agreed to that, that we would have full access to all documentation in a viewing room in Telecom and so our personnel went over there and were able to assess - access them and where they saw material that they wanted to copy and to consider and put on - back on our record here, they took copies at the time.

MR WYNACK: So when you wanted additional information, that is, information which your people perhaps couldn't find in the viewing room, how would you go about accessing that? Would you write to Telecom or

MR McMAHON: Yes, well, you know the rules were essentially that everything relevant was to be there. So everything should be there. You know, where we did seek additional material - we might have got a clue to its existence from examining the files - yes, we did write to Telecom and ask them can they provide us with something specific in addition.

MR WYNACK: And presumably their response would be in writing and would say they're now in the viewing room, or would they deliver them to you, or was the viewing room generally regarded as the - - -

MR McMAHON: Yes, you know my recollection is there were a couple of documents which involved them in processing some material and drawing up some additional charts which they forwarded to us eventually. Other things - if it was a file to which we saw references being made in the