

FILE NOTE

DATE: 21 August, 2002**FILE NO:****RE:** Hutchins & AOA

Attending Bill Toppin.

I said that in my view there was nothing Hutchins could do about the material on AOA's website. I said I was not aware of any law which prevented people publishing correspondence even if the parties intended the correspondence to be private. I said that if such correspondence contained defamatory material the defamed party would have a cause of action in defamation and if the circumstances were extreme enough may be able to obtain an injunction preventing further publication. I said I doubted if Hutchins would want to bring defamation proceedings against AOA and he agreed that this would not be a good tactical move. I said that there is probably some comfort in the fact that it seemed a fairly obscure website and I doubt if many people would find their way to it. I also said that the tone of the stuff written by AOA suggested that he had moved on from his complaint against Hutchins and this may well be the end of it. He thought this would be my advice and he agrees the best course is to let sleeping dogs lie.

RCM