

Telex
Western Union International, Inc.

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1983-08-25

: WARREN JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AMERICA'S CUP 1983 CHALLENGE LIMITED
C.: NLR, IR, J. SLOOFF
FROM: NETHERLANDS SHIP MODEL BASIN,
DR. VAN DOSSANEN
OUR REFERENCE: F 44359

YESTERDAY, 24 AUGUST, WE RECEIVED YET ANOTHER VISIT FROM
A DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF THE NEW YORK YACHT
CLUB. I THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT TRANSPIRED AT THAT MEETING.

RICHARD S. LATHAM, AN OFFICER OF THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB
SITTING ON THE AMERICA'S CUP SELECTION COMMITTEE, AND MR.
WILL VALENTIJN, WHO PRESENTED HIMSELF AS A RELATIVE OF JOHAN
VALENTIJN, THE DESIGNER FOR THE U.S. LIBERTY/FREEDOM SYNDICATE
REQUESTED THAT I SIGN A TWO PAGE "AFFIDAVIT" THEY HAD
PREPARED CONCERNING THE WORK WHICH THE NETHERLANDS SHIP MODEL
BASIN AND NLR AEROSPACE LABORATORY DID FOR MR. BEN LEXCEN
AND THE AUSTRALIA II'S SYNDICATE.

THIS AFFIDAVIT CONTAINED MANY INCORRECT STATEMENTS WHICH ATTEMPTED
TO SUGGEST THAT BEN LEXCEN WAS NOT SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA II.

I REFUSED TO SIGN THE DOCUMENT, AS THE CONTENTS WAS INCORRECT.
WHAT IS MORE DISTURBING TO ME IS THAT NEW YORK YACHT CLUB
REPRESENTATIVES ASKED ME TO SIGN THIS AFFIDAVIT KNOWING THAT
THE CONTENTS IS INCORRECT, BECAUSE THEY WERE TOLD SO BY ME
MUCH BEFORE.

BY MY TELEX TO MR. EDUARD DU MOULIN OF THE LIBERTY/FREEDOM
SYNDICATE, DATED 26 JULY, 1983, FOR WHICH MR. VALENTIJN IS
THE DESIGNER. I STATED CLEARLY THAT MR. LEXCEN HIMSELF
DESIGNED AUSTRALIA II, AND THAT THE NATIONAL AEROSPACE
LABORATORY AND NSMB PROVIDED ASSISTANCE SOLELY PURSUANT
TO A TANK TESTING CONTRACT, AS YOU WILL RECALL. MY TELEX
WAS IN RESPONSE TO THE LIBERTY SYNDICATE'S EXPRESSED INTEREST
IN PURCHASING THE DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA II'S KEEL.

FURTHER, ON AUGUST 9 AND 10, MR. WILL VALENTIJN AND ANOTHER
GENTLEMAN VISITED ME TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA
II. THEY TOLD ME THEY WOULD BE MAKING A FULL REPORT OF THEIR
VISIT TO THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB. I INFORMED THEM AGAIN THAT
MR. LEXCEN WAS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA
II, AND EXPLAINED FULLY THE NATURE OF THE TESTING WORK WHICH
I PROVIDED TO MR. LEXCEN. MR. LATHAM YESTERDAY ACKNOWLEDGED
THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THIS REPORT, BUT NEVERTHELESS ASKED
ME TO SIGN THIS AFFIDAVIT.

MR. LATHAM FURTHER INFORMED ME THAT THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB
WAS CONSIDERING CHALLENGING THE DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA II BASED
ON WORK DONE WITH THE NSMB AND NLR AEROSPACE LABORATORY.
I INFORMED HIM THAT, BASED ON THE WORK DONE BY MR. LEXCEN
HERE, THERE WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY NO TRUTH TO A CLAIM THAT
AUSTRALIA II WAS DESIGNED TO ANY EXTENT TO ANYONE OTHER
THAN MR. LEXCEN.
I TOLD HIM THAT WE ACTED SOLELY PURSUANT TO MR. LEXCEN'S
DIRECTIONS AT ALL TIMES. I FURTHER INFORMED MR. LATHAM
THAT THE COMPUTER SUPPORT WORK PROVIDED BY NLR AEROSPACE
LABORATORY AND TANK TESTING BY NSMB FOR MR. LEXCEN IS
SIMILAR TO THE COMPUTER SUPPORT WORK AND TANK TESTING PROVIDED
BY THE BELT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY HERE TO THE DESIGNER
OF MAGIC AND LIBERTY IN 1981.

I FIND THE NEW YORK YACHT CLUB'S POSITION AND EFFORTS ON
THIS MATTER TO BE DEEPLY DISTURBING AND OFFENSIVE. I HOPE THEY
WILL HAVE THE GOOD SENSE TO RESIST FROM FURTHER UNTRUE CHARGES
ATTRIBUTING THE DESIGN OF AUSTRALIA II TO ANYONE OTHER THAN
BEN LEXCEN. IN THIS REGARD, I AM PREPARED TO HAVE MY COMMENTS
ON THIS MATTER MADE PUBLIC.

REGARDS.
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