

Chief Minister.
Hon Shane Stone .
Northern Territory Government.
Parliament House
Darwin.

1/9/97

Dear Shane .

Congratulations on your substantial win. You have the **courage** , and the **vision**, and now you have the **mandate** to change the waterfront. If you organise the change as well as you organised the election, the change should occur without disruption.

We are the only Port in Australia to have four private wharves operating without MUA ,and I hope that, not only will you go down in History as the Chief Minister that built the railway , and introduced statehood ,but also changed the monopoly of the MUA on Government wharves .

May I suggest that Perkins should **not** be given the contract for the Oil supply base. If they win it, they will be concentrating their efforts on construction ,and trying to get a return on their investment ,not on trying to operate their own ships on the new wharf with TWU labour. If Perkins try and start loading and unloading rig service vessels at this early stage with TWU labour, this will cause an unnecessary dispute which the oil exploration companies will not support. This will compromise the whole strategy of trying to get another union on the East arm wharf.

It would be better for the Territory to have a new player for the Rig supply base who will bring some overseas expertise into the area and some outside capital investment. The operator may have to accept the status quo of MUA for the present but could move to TWU at some later stage when the dust settles.

I hope you saw the 60 minutes program on the "**Rorts on the Waterfront**" on Sunday the 31st August. Before Margaret Thatcher took on the waterfront in the UK, she had 12 months of publicity in local newspapers TV and radio about the rorts on the waterfront ,so that when she eventually opened up the wharves to non union labour the wharfies had no public support, as a result the picket lines did not work , and there was no disruption to shipping .

I look forward to the next 4 years of Territory Development under your leadership .

Kind Rgds Roger Rooney.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'R' followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line extending to the right.