




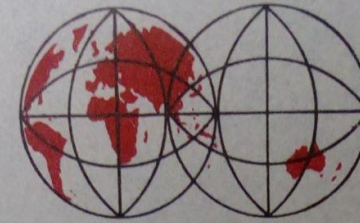
OVERSEAS STUDENTS
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEES
– THE ORIGINS OF STUDENT
SUPPORT IN AUSTRALIA?

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“The presence of these students here is also helping to enrich Australian life.”

“AOCCOS Invitation pamphlet,” 1956



A O C C O S

AUSTRALIANS
WELCOME
STUDENTS
FROM
ABROAD

An invitation to join the work
of the Australian Organizations'
Co-ordinating Committee for Overseas
Students in New South Wales (AOCCOS).

...‘the arrival of Colombo Plan students was one of the most conspicuous and striking examples of Australia’s aid program, which had an immediate impact on the lives of many Australians’...

Daniel Oakman, 2002



NAA: A1501 A79-9

‘many will be leading members of their communities when they return home, and it is important to give them a real insight into the way Australians think and live.’

Will You Make Them At Home?, 22 February 1955. The Argus 9.

Lady Maie Casey standing beside a small aeroplane
<http://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/378460>



The Organisations
'banded together in a
Co-ordinating
Committee with the
aim of helping
visiting students and
making them feel
truly welcome in
Australia.'



‘helping visiting students and making them feel truly welcome in Australia.’



Hospitality



Accommodation



Host Families & orientation



Publications

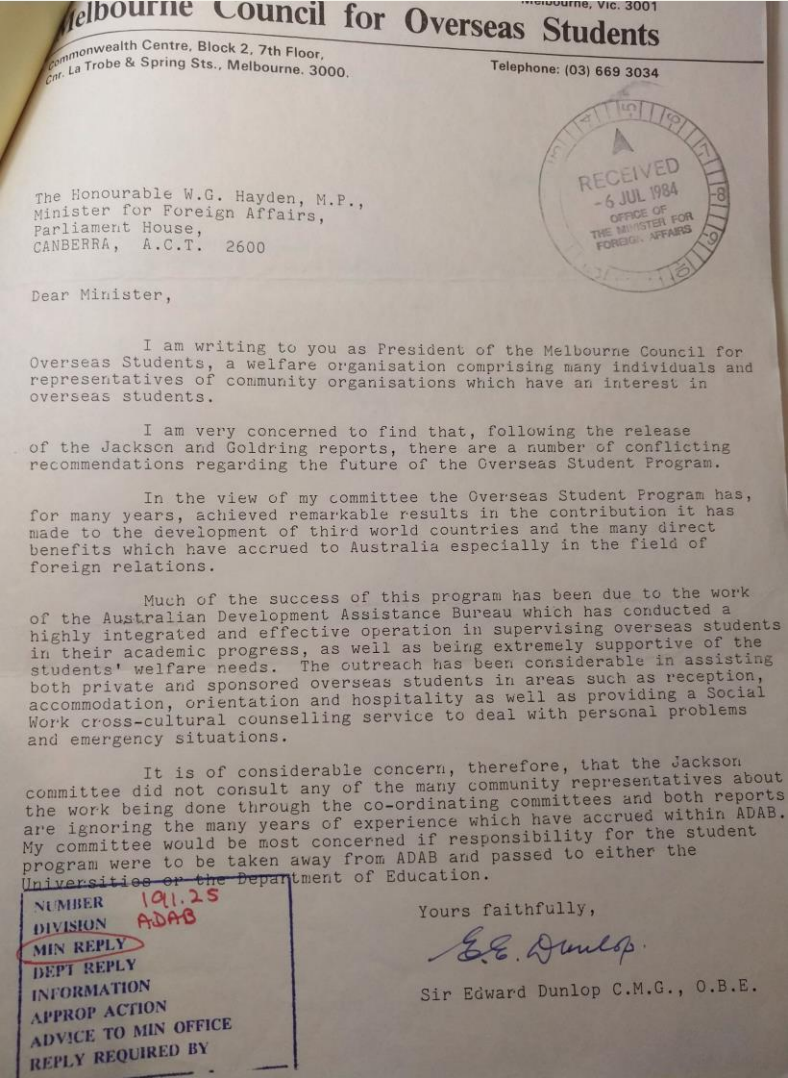
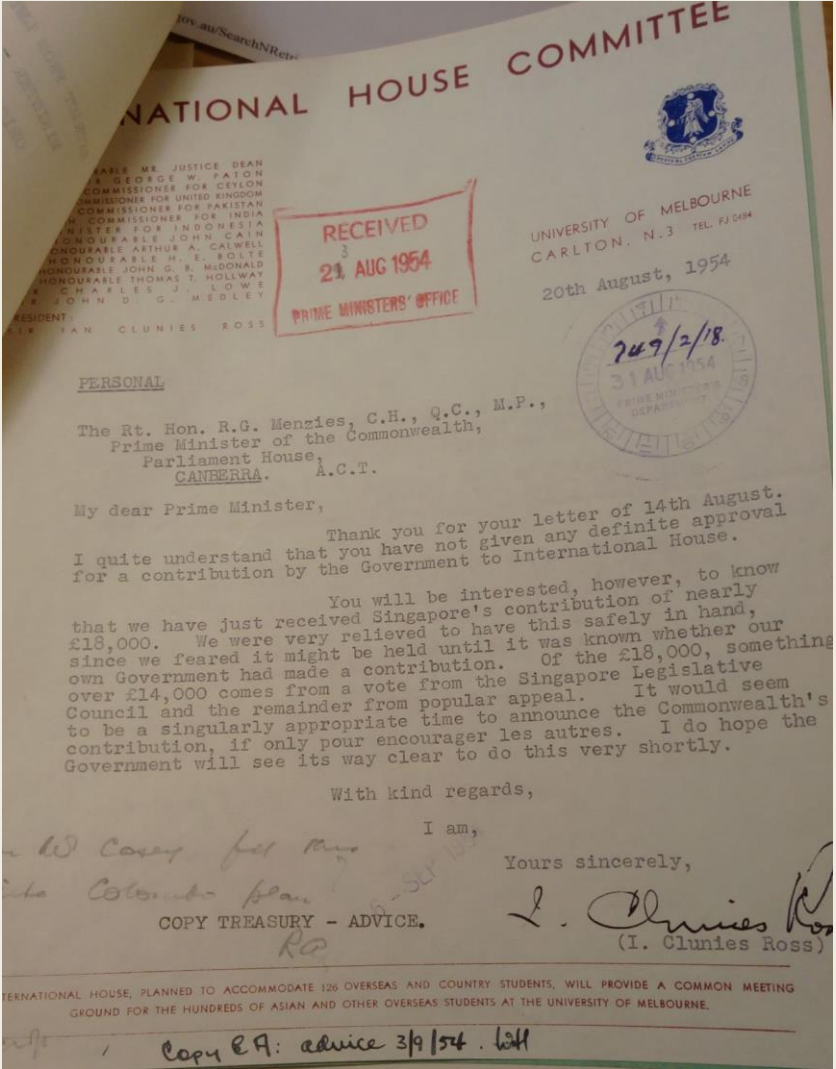


Committee of Presidents



International Wives' Group

Also...political influence



Or a tool of the Government?

the sinister role of ADAB in Overseas Students' affairs

Government departments have always terrorised overseas students. Generally speaking, government departments fall into two categories. The first category are the "bad guys". They go around chasing overseas students, demanding you to see them about such heart-attacking things as visa requirements, course approvals, progress reports, fee payments, deportation, etc. Generally the officials of this type of government departments are petty, bullying, pig-headed, arrogant, completely unreasonable and inconsiderate. Overseas students normally go through hell, as these officials are big and petty bullies of the Education and Immigration Departments. The second type of government department, likes to see itself as "good guys". These departments organise a few picnics and barbecues, give a little bit of money away to try and give an image of 'helping overseas students'. This is important to the governments which want to go to internat-

ional forums and say how helpful they are to Third World countries. But these departments are mere window dressings and when the crunch comes, they are not prepared to give any help whatsoever. Government department type 1 clobbers overseas students and government department type 2 pretends to give first aid.

However there is even a more sinister role of government department type 2. This is typified by the government agency called the Australian Development Aid

the home countries for national independence and national liberation. Through this period, a number of events exposed that ADAB, acting as a government agency is actually working against the interests of overseas students. These events include the issue of discriminatory fees against overseas students and the political asylum issue. While overseas students' organisations led by NOSS, fought strongly on these issues, ADAB did nothing but try to explain away government policies. Their true role i.e. white-washing government policies, became very obvious. It was issues like these which strengthened overseas students' organisations, led by NOSS, but weakened ADAB.

Seeing that National OSS was winning more and more support among overseas student organisations, ADAB officials started a campaign of slander against NOSS.

At every turn, ADAB backed right-wing students in their attempts to smash NOSS. In 1977 without proper consultation, ADAB withdrew unilaterally its \$8500 grant to NOSS. In 1978, ADAB selectively cut off the usual travel grants for delegates to their national conferences, such as NOSS and MUSA (Malaysian Union of Students in Australia). ADAB cunningly practised divide-and-rule policy by offering grants to other overseas student groups whom they can accept politically.

ADAB at one stage also schemed with AUS bureaucrats to try to set up a phoney, tame-duck department purporting to be

Who's who?



Lost connections?



VISION & MISSION

We are inspired by our work and are committed to our organisation and our members, because we have a strong believe in what we do.It is our passion for our work and life

[VIEW MORE](#)



STUDENT RIGHTS

A member is an autonomous student representative organisation associated with and recognised by a tertiary education provider in Australia or a national student representative body.

[VIEW MORE](#)



MEET THE TEAM

As the national main student representative body, CISA present you relevant information related to your studies in Australia from a student's perspective.

[VIEW MORE](#)

What now?

The Co-ordinating Committee model offered a deeper, stronger and more entrenched connection between the Australian community and international students. High profile support for international education came not from the sector itself but from the broader Australian community and business world. There was a sense in these Committees and Councils that international education is not just an “export industry”, but also part of Australia’s connection and contribution to the broader world.