

Fraser demands answers

FORMER Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, wants to know how and why his name has appeared on an internal Telecom memo, following the alleged bugging of a 'phone conversation with COT founding member, Alan Smith, about a year ago.

Mr Fraser told the Observer he had spoken to Mr Smith, who runs the Cape Bridgewater Holiday Camp, about 12 months ago.

Mr Smith telephoned Mr Fraser seeking advice about his on-going problems with the national telecommunications carrier.

Following startling revelations that Telecom has been carrying out unauthorised "monitoring" of telephone conversations, Mr Smith learned recently that an internal Telecom memo contained details of his conversation with the former Prime Minister.

Mr Smith obtained a copy of the memo under Freedom of Information. He then contacted Mr Fraser again last week and informed him about the matter.

Mr Fraser told the Observer he was surprised, and that he would be sending a letter to Telecom demanding an explanation.

Mr Smith said the memo did not contain any details of the original conversation itself.

"It doesn't say much," Mr Fraser said. "It notes that the conversation took place and who was involved."

Mr Fraser added that while he experienced occasional problems with telephones at his property, Nareen, he said that he had not experienced problems such as Mr Smith outlined.

Casualties of Telecom have lodged complaints about unauthorised phone "monitoring" with the Federal Police, who are now investigating the complaints.

← THE PERIOD TO WHICH THE ORIGINAL PHONE CALL TOOK PLACE WAS IN APRIL 1993.

YET TELSTRA IN DEFENCE OF MY ARBITRATION STATE VOICE MONITORING (MCT) DIDN'T START UNTIL JUNE 1993. FINISHING IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1993.

(SMK) CLAIM DOCUMENT NOT VIEWED BY DMR + LANCES YET SUBMITTED UNDER ARBITRATION SHOWS TELSTRA WERE AWARE OF PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS MADE OVER THE PHONE IN APRIL 1994

IT IS CLEAR FROM THE ABOVE - MALCOLM FRASER ISSUE 1993 - AND THE ISSUE OF APRIL 1994 SHOWS AT LEAST A 12 MONTH PERIOD TELSTRA LISTENED TO MY PRIVATE PHONE CALLS.

RE - ORAL HEARING TRANSCRIPT 10/10/94 I SUBMITTED TO THE ARBITRATOR THAT I WANTED THIS ISSUE ADDRESSED AS PART OF MY CLAIM.