



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 14 March 2002**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

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<b>Questioner</b>		<b>Responder</b>	
<b>Speaker</b>	Mr SNOWDON,MP	<b>Question No.</b>	

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**Mr SNOWDON** (Lingiari) (3.22 pm)—Mr Speaker, I wish to make a personal explanation.

**The SPEAKER**—Does the honourable member claim to have been misrepresented?

**Mr SNOWDON**—Yes, I do—in a heinous fashion.

**The SPEAKER**—Please proceed.

**Mr SNOWDON**—During question time, Minister Tuckey produced a press release, a copy of which I have here. He said that somehow or other this press release inferred that I did not support the establishment of a facility for refugees and asylum seekers on Christmas Island. In this press release I said, among other things:

This announcement has come as a surprise to the community. While not opposed to the building of a facility, islanders want input to maximise benefits for the struggling Christmas Island community.

**The SPEAKER**—The member must come to the point on which he has been misrepresented.

**Mr SNOWDON**—I have; I am just trying to explain. In addition, had the minister heard the debate on the migration legislation this morning, he would have heard me articulate clearly that I had discussions with the people of Christmas Island about this very issue, proposing such a facility, in September and October last year. I seek leave to table the press release.

Leave granted.