

CRUELTY AT IT WORST! THIS HAS BEEN THE CASE FOR FAR TOO LONG!

Every time we see a truck loaded with animals heading for a port, we feel ashamed to be Australian. We have all driven alongside, or behind a 4 tiered road train carrying sheep and have been distressed, and sickened by the sight of limbs of trapped sheep sticking out of the bars. Their faces and heads squashed against the rails, and we have felt the absolute despair when we looked into the eyes of these helpless creatures. □□□□□

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Australian public deceived as the Australian Government finalises a secret deal..

While Australians discussed and debated the politics of the sheep coming back to Australian land, the Government had done a secret deal to send the sheep to Eritrea .

The ship was thought to be returning back to Australia but was in fact headed toward The African Port of Massawa. By the time the story had broken the deal had been struck, the ship had berthed and the offloading began.

The Howard Government has paid \$10 million of taxpayers money to Eritrea along with 3000 tonnes of fodder (worth an additional \$1 million), a payment for the country to take the remaining animals aboard the Cormo Express -"ship of death".

We understand approximately 5500 sheep have died in appalling conditions however real numbers may never be released.

Warren Truss, Minister for Agriculture said..

"We make no apologies for the fact that the negotiations have been undertaken largely in secret"

What is the real cost of this debacle to the taxpayer?

How long has the taxpayer of Australia been supporting this appalling trade? **A trade which sees the main beneficiaries the EXPORTERS getting wealthier.**

A trade which sees thousands of animals suffer and die on these death ships. Those who survive face a painful slow death by cruel and inhumane religious slaughter methods.

The Cormo Express is yet ANOTHER example of appalling mismanagement by the industry and Government with an eventual cost to the country of \$10 million.

How much of that \$10 million **DID** the taxpayer fund? [1].

In November 2012, another widely reported investigation by Animals Australia brought attention to the slaughter of 22,000 Australian sheep in an ESCAS-approved feedlot in Pakistan, after weeks at sea upon the initial consignment being rejected by Bahrain due to claimed fears of disease. The video footage of the cull, obtained by Animals Australia "shows absolute chaos with animals being dragged, beaten, having their throats sawn at with blunt knives and thrown into mass graves -- some of them still alive hours later." [30] Animals Australia's Campaign Director, Lyn White, stated of the incident: [2].

[1] http://www.liveexportshame.com/cormo_history.htm

[2] http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Live_export#European_Union_Legislation

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