Australian Government

Department of Home Affairs

Freedom of Information Request - FA 23/02/00089

The Australian Citizenship Act 2007 (the Act) and its preceding legislation has never required people who wish to acquire Australian citizenship to give up a previously acquired foreign citizenship.

However, up until 4 April 2002, the previous Australian Citizenship Act 1948 (the old Act) did contain an automatic loss provision (section 17 of the old Act) by which an adult who acquired the citizenship of another country may have automatically ceased to be an Australian citizen.

In some circumstances, a child of a person who lost their Australian citizenship may have lost their Australian citizenship as a consequence (section 23 of the old Act).

Any information regarding possible loss of British citizenship should be directed to the British authorities responsible for British citizenship matters.

Caveats:

- *This information is provided for the specific purpose of this request.*
- *It is the responsibility of the area providing the Department of Home Affairs information to external stakeholders to ensure that the disclosure is in accordance with the ABF Act, Australian Privacy Principles or other relevant legislation.*

Released by Department of Home Affairs under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*