

February 24th, 2016

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Final Supplementary Submission to: The Foreign Affairs,
Defence and Trade Committee
Australian Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Transmitted by email to: fadt.sen@aph.gov.au

Subject: The Planned Acquisition of the F-35 Lightning II (Joint Strike Fighter).

Submission by: Mr Marcus Kollakides

1. Introduction.

To the Chairman and Committee Members, thank you for your procedural fairness in affording me this post-closing date opportunity to comment on other Submissions not posted at the time of closing. I have responded as quickly as possible and shall confine my comments to just one such Submission, a disgraceful yet ever so timely submission from the **Sir Richard Williams Foundation (SRWF)**. Before examining the SRWF submission to illustrate how **we were hijacked into the F35** it is first necessary to give some context.

I do not know anyone who wants the F35, or who believes the F35 will be cancelled. The F35 deal seems to have been designed from the outset as an un-dumpable fraud. Nevertheless here goes.

To put the SRWF Submission into context.....

2. The F35 JSF weakens ANZUS.

Since 1951 ANZUS has been the bedrock of peace in the Pacific. To quote ANZUS:-

***Article II:** In order more effectively to achieve the objective of this Treaty the Parties separately and jointly by means of continuous and effective self-help and **mutual** aid will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack.*

***Article III:** The Parties will consult together whenever in the opinion of any of them the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the Parties is threatened in the Pacific.*

ANZUS is indeed about maintaining the peace through credible deterrent. The bedrock of that peace in the Pacific has been **American air supremacy** and ours when we used to have it.

ANZUS is about three friends, Australia, New Zealand and the USA consulting frankly with each other when things go wrong, helping ourselves, and when needed, helping each other.

The F35 incapacitates ANZUS by failing to provide air superiority. Therefore we are obliged under the ANZUS Treaty to say to our friends in the US, hey, the F35 decision has been hijacked by the Corporations. That the strategy used by F35 proponents including the SRWF circumvents our Governments and endangers ANZUS and

the Pacific peace ANZUS which has ensured. We are obliged to inform the US we in Australia face rising threats which must be deterred by first class air superiority fighters, not the second rate and merely multi role F35.

3. The Strategy behind the F35.

The F35 is like a virus for profit injected into each of the participating F35 nations. The corporate strategy operates by extension through unethical or unsuspecting Defence officials. The aim, to secure the F35 by avoiding open comparative evaluation and through agreement by unelected officials, to present the F35 to each Government as an un-dumpable *fait accompli*. Then to fight off criticism of performance downgrades, accurate assessments of the F35 as "double inferior", defend cost rises and delays, by obfuscation and lies. So far this has been a successful strategy. The SRWF submission helps to show us how this strategy was put into effect and how it continues to operate.

The F35 deal illustrates how national security comes second to profit and cronyism driving self interested career advancement. The JSF proponents gamble that once locked in, each Government will find itself politically hamstrung from taking the electoral heat which might attach to cancellation of the F35 order. The solution to completely overcome that of course is found in ANZUS itself and as the treaty says, to talk to our friends in the US and work together for a **mutual** solution, to cancel the F35 and get something which is actually capable of maintaining the peace.

Some uninformed members of the public exhibit passing support for the F35 and the campaign seems to be on to encourage them via TV shows like 60 Minutes. An FOI request is on foot to see if the ADF funded or encouraged that.

The public has experience of Corporate malpractice as with the banks so we have a fair idea when something smells bad. And there is definitely a bad smell coming out of the top floors at Russell Hill as to how they could preside over the stitch up that is the F35.

4. Incest Instead of Separation.

Some folks should not be getting into bed with certain other folks.

Neither Australia nor the US can tolerate the incestuous and continued efforts of Lockheed Martin and other members of the military industrial complex to cultivate and reward serving and 'retired' personnel in our Defence establishments.

We all understand and uphold the requirement to maintain the proprieties of ethical separation.

- The requirement to maintain a healthy separation of doctors from big Pharma.
- The separation of Church from State.
- Yet there is NOT as the F35 deal proves, any healthy separation of serving or former Defence people from the Corporations.

This business model: -

- Subverts our Government
- Catastrophically damages ANZUS.
- Produces low utility weaponry for highest possible profits.
- Puts our pilots and all of us at terrible risk.

We need to shut down that business model.

5. The F35 purchase is a Threat to ANZUS

As the F35 cannot control the sky, then who will ?

The US has insufficient F22 Raptors to do the job. Russia and China are already overtaking US missile, sensor, radar and military aviation technology. Anything said to the contrary is dishonest.

It is not the business of Lockheed Martin to maintain the strength of ANZUS or peace in the Pacific. Lockheed Martin is solely concerned with dollars.

China is demonstrating its stated intention to dominate its own sphere. Indonesia has publicly stated it aims to become more militarily powerful than Australia. It already has the quality of Sukhoi fighters to accomplish that ambition and by 2020 Indonesia will have the quantity of them to quickly destroy the RAAF. So then what ? We just do as they say or else ?

Even as the US is trying to "contain" China now, many people forget the parallels of what is happening in our own backyard here and now with the 1930's when the US tried to "contain " Japan and how surprised people were when Japan saw no alternative other than war. Folks may forget how we had utterly failed to equip the RAAF with air superiority fighters of the time, like the Spitfire, and how that lack of credible deterrent brought about the attacks on Darwin.

Likewise the F35 is not a credible deterrent. Not a peacekeeper. Just a tempting target.

The media likes to score cheap points about Australia's sovereignty and needing to become a Republic which has no bearing on our actual sovereignty. Yet they fail to analyze the Lockheed Martin F35 strategy which actually does dangerously circumvent our Government, our sovereignty and in the process threatens the peace by debilitating the deterrent strength within ANZUS.

6. Cultivating the Ranks.

The **Sir Richard Williams Foundation (SRWF)** has become a desecration of Sir Richard Williams' good name. Its overly professed pompous patriotism is the hallmark of scoundrels.

The SRWF presents itself as:-

"an independent research organization whose purpose is to promote the development and effective implementation of national security and defence policies as they impact on Australia's ability to generate air power appropriate to its unique geopolitical environment and values".

The SRWF is in fact part of the SOP (standard operating procedures) at the heart of the business model of most Corporations in the military industrial complex. Operations like the SRWF are anything but unique. They have been set up for the purpose of engendering profit throughout the ANZUS and other Western Alliance countries which are indeed 'the customer base'.

Consider the claim "independent" alongside some **SRWF 'Sponsors' ...**

- **Raytheon**
- **BAE Systems**
- **Boeing**
- **Northrop Grumman**
- **General Atomics**
- **Canberra Airport**

Then consider what might be the reasons behind such notables being on the SRWF Board...

- **Air Marshal Errol J. McCormack AO (Retd) Chair**
- Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO (Retd), Deputy Chair
- Group Captain Anne Borzycki (Retd), Executive Officer
- Major General Anthony Fraser AO, CSC (Ret'd)

- Air Marshal John Harvey (Retd)
- Major General Jim Molan AO, DSC (Ret'd)

(<http://www.williamsfoundation.org.au/Board>
22nd February 2016).

They say that for every garden there is a nursery. So we have ...
The Sir Richard Williams Foundation (SRWF) proudly advises us the "2014 5th Generation Air Combat Capability - Essay/Article Competition winner of the **A\$3000 essay prize** for 2014 is SQNLDR (*name removed by me*)

7. The F35 has Data Fusion. So does Corruption.

The business model is simple. Fuse the data, meaning share (mis)information between:-

- **Serving Military Officers**
- **Retired military officers in "Consulting" or "Foundations"**
- **Mandarins in Defence Organizations**

Then....

- **Through these people we are then "helped" with "impartial" technical information originating from Defence related Corporations.**
- **Provide emissaries with juicy post Service remunerations and perks.**
- **Network the whole bunch so that a united front of heavyweights agree on the deal and present it to Government with promises that will never be kept and no way out.**
- **Fuse and remove the separation of Corporation and Defence.**

This is the basic business model pioneered by the Mafia and Standard Oil a century ago. It is the same business model successfully emulated by the military industrial complex in the United States and then replicated into every country in the Western Alliance including the ANZUS partners. The F35 deal appears to be the culmination of that strategy.

- *For suggested reading of the recommended read is the definitive work by Anthony Sampson "The Arms Bazaar: From Lebanon to Lockheed, 1977"*

The SRWF website also states "The Sir Richard Williams Foundation conducts its operations independently and has no political or industry ties."

It also says "Errol McCormack retired from the Royal Australian Air Force in June 2001 as Chief of Air Force. Since his retirement from the RAAF **he has established a company providing consultancy services for companies working with the Australian Department of Defence.**"

Air Marshal Errol J. McCormack AO (Retd) is also "**the non-executive Chairman of Chemring Australia**" the author of another pro F35 Submission to this Inquiry.

8. In a Nutshell

The F35 is ALL about:-

- **Sales**
- **Career cronyism**
- **Profit**

What's missing from the F35 "Deal" are:-

- **Sovereignty**
- **Our future national security**
- **An effective deterrent**
- **An aircraft capable of underpinning ANZUS and keeping the peace.**

9: Russell Hill treats us all as Mushrooms.

Throughout the F35 saga is the unmistakeable techno arrogance of officers and officials who "know better".

"Errol McCormack retired from the Royal Australian Air Force in June 2001 as Chief of Air Force." He was in the saddle when this disastrous F35 deal was done. The F35 for Australia is his baby.

10. F35 Brass Tacks:

Ten questions the Senate might ask:-

(i) Around 1998/1999 did (current SRWF Chairman) but then Chief of Airforce, RAAF Air Marshal Errol J. McCormack, travel to the US and meet with US Airforce General Richard Meyers.

(ii) In that meeting did not General Myers inform McCormack that the USAF wanted Australia to have the F22 Raptor ?

(iii) Did Myers explain to McCormack that it was possible because the law passed by Congress to protect stealth technology was only tagged so as to restrict Congressional funding for the aircraft such that funding was not to be used for marketing the aircraft so that would not occur and therefore would not prevent a sale to Australia and furthermore that the USAF had assessed the RAAF as no greater security risk to stealth technology that was the USAF itself. So we could have the F22 Raptor and he wanted us to buy it.

(Gen. Myers became Americas top Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff from October 2001-2005. He then retired and became a Board member of various companies including Northrop Grumman and United Technologies Corp whose subsidiary Pratt & Whitney, is the maker of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter engine) So you see how the business model works.

(iv) Did Lockheed Martin hear about this and begin a campaign to thwart Australia buying the F22 and instead to steer Australia towards what to Lockheed Martin would be the far more profitable F35 ?

(v) When Air Marshal McCormack returned to Australia did he change tack and hoping to become CDF, did he put it to the CDF at the time, Admiral Chris Barrie a deal along the following lines. That he McCormack would save the ADF some money by scrapping (our most potent deterrent), the F111 fleet (a full 20 years before the end of its operational lifespan and in return for which, the two of them McCormack and Barrie would tell the Australian Government they had worked it out with US officials that we should buy the F35 Joint Strike Fighter.

(vi) As part of these discussions did McCormack also encourage Barrie to support him to become the next CDF, telling Barrie that the F35 order could if got Barrie's support, then McCormack would push for the F35B vertical take off model to go on the planned Canberra class ships and thereby satisfy the RAN's desire for restoration of a fixed wing fleet Air Arm ?

(vii) Did Admiral Barrie ultimately recommend McCormack for CDF ?

(Or as probably not given the public support General Cosgrove had after Interfet (East Timor - Sep 99 - Feb 2000) and Cosgrove becoming CDF in 2002.)

(viii) Where are the costly RAAF assessments done at the time which found conclusively the F111's could be fully operational and effective to 2020 and BEYOND ?

(ix) When PM Howard shook President Bush's hand on the F35, had he (and probably Bush) already been hijacked by officials behind the scenes into a *fait accompli* F35 deal ?

(x) In terms of the infamous decision to scrap the F111 and thus the only air deterrent we had, thereby leaving us with only the various forms of F18 Hornets our vulnerability was increased exponentially. This must have added to the urgency factor in the pro F35 campaign.

Contrary to what SRWF likes to say about the F35 being unique, it is in truth just another vulnerable multi role aircraft and not an air superiority fighter. In fact the only unique aircraft was the F111 which could carry its precision bomb load at supersonic speed at treetop level.

So apart from a koala, there was nothing, there is nothing, and as far as we know will be nothing which could stop an F111.

So this question is...

...If Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston (Chief of Airforce 2001 - 2005 and CDF 2005-2011) ordered the dispersal to museums or the destruction of these aircraft by bulldozing them into a hole in the ground, was it done to reduce the chances of us backing out of the F35 deal by reason of desperately needing to augment the F18 Hornets ?

- **Conclusion:**

It has become increasingly fashionable to celebrate the ANZACS. F35 proponents like to wrap the plane in our flag, Yet this saga is not about a patently "double inferior" plane as is the F35. It is about the corruption of due process verging on treason that will endanger ANZUS and our future peace. The evidence indicates this not hyperbole but fact. Put an end to the Lockheed Martin business model which subverts our national interests. Cancel the F35.

Thank you.