

24 May 2020

Attn: Committee Secretariat/Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

Thank you for your time regarding this submission in support of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the above inquiry. As Australians, it is very much appreciated.

- Implications for Australia's Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade policy, particularly with respect to strategic alliances and regional security.

Regional security is paramount to Australia's national interest and therefore we need to ensure that as an island nation, we have secure borders, and strong defence capability, on sea, land and air. Whilst Federation is a key foundation of Australia's history, we can do without State leaders in Victoria, adopting the stance of National Leaders. The Victorian government have not been elected by all of the Australian population, and represent only their State constituency, yet the consequences of their choices affect the entire country to its detriment. The surrender of the Port of Darwin to Chinese control for a 99 year lease now threatens to be followed by China's debt-trap on the Belt and Road to 'win win' happiness)!!!!

- **Threats to the global rules-based order that emerged due to actions by nation states during the coronavirus pandemic, and how such threats can be mitigated in the event of future crises.**

*The lead disruptor, the Chinese state (the Chinese Communist Party, its organs of state security and the People's Liberation Army) needs to be brought to account by the international community, through international institutions, that will shine 'the spotlight' on just what exactly is happening. Due to the inhumane treatment of animals, in ghastly wet-market settings, and indifference to the well-being and health of its own citizens, the coronavirus pandemic has emerged and has now touched all aspects of human activity. The virus clearly originated in wet markets in Wuhan, China, and it is China that can be identified as the initial contributor of this awful catastrophe to millions around the globe. The Chinese state needs to be made to be answerable to the global community, for the impact, and be seen to make restitution to so many who have innocently suffered, and over 300,000 who have **died as a result***

- **The impact on human rights**

The impact will go down in the history books, and will reflect the indifference by state leaders, concerning their own private 'bubble of power, money and comfort' – regardless of the well-being of humanity, environment, wildlife etc. None of the

latter matters to such people!! Surely the World Court and international justice system can again bring them in to account, together with punitive financial restitution on their individual 'offshore' holdings? They do exist for sure!!!

- **Supply chain integrity/assurance to critical enablers of Australian Security (such as health, economic and transport systems, and defence.**

Senator Jim Molan MP and colleagues, have been trying to make Australia aware of this for so long. We are in a precarious situation for fuel supply, and now we learn it is to be stored in the USA???? Why???Australia has massive amounts of spare empty land which could be developed with huge storage facilities, let alone the jobs it would create. Why can't we build our own storage facilities? Our forebears, built the Snowy Mountains scheme, railways, Sydney Harbour Bridge, and that was all after the two major World Wars!!!! What is going on here, why can't we think outside the box!!!

- **What policy and practical measures would be required to form an ongoing effective national framework to ensure the resilience required to underpin Australia's economic and strategic objectives.**

Bravo to the Australian Defence and National Security community, thank God we have them...otherwise by now we could be 'bending the knee to Beijing.' Also a 'brownie point' to the Government of the Day...Morrison and Colleagues, they are fully seized as 'Sir Humphrey' would say, in the danger all around us, and are no longer available for 'smoke and mirrors'...from the East!!! Transparency and balanced media reporting, the Truth to Power must always continue...The national Framework must always be regularly reviewed and open to scrutiny, don't leave too many years in between Reviews.

- **Any related matters.**

Our fathers served in two major world wars. One on the Somme in Flanders, and almost given up for dead on a cobblestone road, and the other in the dust and sand of the Middle East. As 'Old Australians now' for that is what we are, we are very very worried by the definite and multiple attacks – not always visible as it is waged in the 'grey zone' through Chinese political warfare – to seek to reduce the special nation of ours, to a servile and vassal state of People's Republic of China!!! Please KEEP WATCH, BE VIGILANT...SO MANY OF US ARE COUNTING ON THOSE WE HAVE ELECTED TO KEEP THIS SPECIAL FREE DEMOCRATIC and rule-based country safe. Our Allies need our support as never before, the Truth MUST BE SPOKEN TO POWER...and we must stand together on all fronts. It will be a big big victory to our adversaries, if they can take over completely the following:

1. Hong Kong
2. South China Sea

3. *Taiwan*
4. *Divide Australia by doing deals with the states individually*
5. *Disrupt and threaten our distant supply chains – FOOD/FUEL/EVERYTHING*
6. *Coerce the ASEAN states and the Indo-Pacific region*
7. *Own and Control critical infrastructure in Australia*
8. *Seek to control the domains of space and cyberspace*

*From two true 'dinky di' Australian Patriots.
Bronwen and Ron Davis*

