



28 February 2010

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
PO Box 6100, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary,

SENATE INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED CHANGES TO MILITARY SUPERANNUATION

I wish to object to the proposal to introduce the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC) as the overseer of the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme and the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme. In particular, I strongly object to any ACTU participation in the control of any military schemes.

I served in South Vietnam in 1969 and I still remember the Seamen's Union refusing to man the ANL resupply ships, *Jeparit* and *Boonaroo*. These ships then had to be commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy to get the job done. An ugly Australian experience and I don't think union attitude has changed since then. ACTU representation on any board controlling military superannuation must not be permitted at any cost. Maybe the members of your Standing Committee are too young to remember this incident so I hope you can remind them please. Some may recall the difficulty the Army had when trying to load its tanks onto one of the ships. Another ugly story.

I think the Military Superannuation Schemes should remain separate from other government schemes, with a separate governing body without ACTU representation.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Damien Condon
RAAF Wing Commander (Retired)