

Honourable Members,

I served my country for thirty years both within Australia and outside Australia as my duty called. I ended my service on the sixth July 1981 and have continued to assist our help to our close neighbours by volunteering to work in Papua New Guinea on two occasions

When I joined the RAAF in 1951 we were under the 1948 scheme DFRB, this changed in 1958 and again under the recommendations of the H/Woodward report in 1972 and became the DFRDB under which I retired in 1981.

During the Whitlam era changes took place without the serving members being advised. My personal result of this is, I commuted part of my pension and repaid the sum by my actuary life expence at which time the payment should have stopped.

It is now approaching four (4) years and the sum is still being taken from my pension. I have not only paid the original sum but am now giving the government money each fortnight, which is not the way the original scheme was to operate.

With this new attack on our scheme people who have never served their country in the manner of a servicemember will have the control over the scheme. The five (5) members appointed by the minister will further prejudice the board against the people they are to serve, as their alliance is to the Minister who appointed them to the position. There is more in the bill about their payment and their appointment than there is about how the system is to correctly function.

Service members have never received special treatment, but this Bill goes a long way to ensure that serving members and retired members remain not second class citizens but closer to tenth class citizens

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely

V.F.Dollisson
RAAF Retired