

Attn Senator Kimberley Kitching

Good morning

My name is William Harrison, an ex member of the Aust Defence Force, having served for 22 years (Jan 1966 to Sep 1988) with the Army both at home and overseas (South Vietnam, Papua New Guinea), attaining the rank of Warrant Officer Class One in the Corps of RAEME

It is with some pleasure to see that the subject of the administration of the DFRBD Act is finally going to be addressed in some seriousness. I say this for to date all enquires and approaches to the Government have been met with what I would call "blocking tactics" rather than in the vein of open and receptive discussion, dialogue or conversation.

The organisation to which I subscribe.....the ADFRA..... has been trying to put our case to willing hearing ears for some years now with no other result than that of obscurtion...which hopefully this Inquiry will remedy.

To add my voice to their submission would be to say that upon my discharge I was told at a Resettlement Seminar that Commutation was good thing to do as it gave one the monies needed to transition into the civilian life at a level commensurate with those civilians of equal standing..ie buy a home.

The idea being that the monies advanced to us would be repaid out of our Superannuation payments until the debt of the advanced monies was repaid...such repayments to be calculated on life expectancy on discharge.....in other words reductions to one's Superannuation payments would cease once the debt was repaid

As an aside.I also believed that my Super entitlements would be adjusted by/to the rate of inflation.....not the Consumer Price Index (CPI).....but that might be an issue for another day

It was made apparent to me that this was not the case some time ago and so I started checking to find out that the issue was already being looked into by the ADFRA.....but to no avail.....hence this mail in support of the Inquiry...not for myself but others whom have not fared so well in life..... particularly the TPI recipients and widows of deceased members.....whom should be treated with decency

I wish you success in gaining the goals you have outlined in your Terms of Reference

Regards

William Harrison