



**Submission No 48**

**Inquiry into RAAF F-111 Deseal/Reseal Workers and their Families**

**Name: Mr Raymond Bennett**

25 June 2008

Mr R Bennett  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The Secretary  
Joint Services Committee  
RAAF F-111 DESEAL-RESEAL

Dear Sir/Madam,

To clarify my position regarding my work within the Deseal-Reseal program, I did not put the sealant in the fuel tank lines but I was inside the tanks acting as a safety man in case the person repairing the tank lost consciousness while sealing the tanks.

My whole responsibility was to pull him out if he became distressed or overcome by fumes. Air was pumped into the tank from a machine, which we both breathed and the air was filled with the fumes of the sealant.

Although employed at 482 SQN the fuel tank repairs carried out were similar to those carried out at 3AD, but it seems the personnel were treated differently when it came to compensation.

In the matter of lump sum payments, a sum of \$40,000 was deemed sufficient for the highest payment. I consider that to be insufficient and the payments in relation to the Tiers were flawed and inconsistent as it didn't take into account the ongoing medical problems of those in and outside the Tiers.

I think there needs to be a review of administration and settlement procedures as the lump sum payments has divided fellow work mates.

There have been many false claims by personnel not immediately involved. The only people to be considered for this review should be the people who worked in the fuel tanks.

Yours sincerely,

Raymond Bennett