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The Secretary, Enquiry into Unemployment
Australian Parliament, Canberra ACT 2600.

Dear Sir/Madam.

I am 62 years old, caused to retire early by Employers Business decreasing and health problems. In this job I held for 32 years, Hands on Manager of Maintenance and Instalations. When I started, I was the fifth employee in this Heat Treatment Electroplating of Metals Plant. As years went by the employees number rising to 70 only to reduce at a much faster rate. Although I gave notice being unable to cope with the pressure that was put upon me, I have since realised I was squeezed out by an appointed General Manager, who had been Employed by Owner to either make it work or close it.

It is quite obvious to me that Australias Unemployment problem is largely related to Cutting of Australias Import Tarriff. The idea of free world trade is not working, many countries are said to go as high as 300% import tariff on some things, as well as other import control restrictions.

Too many imports are coming into Australia compared to exports. Monthly Trade figures show this. Statistics compared, like Tariff reduction, to Unemployment also show this. Other people that I know also agree this is obvious not just on paper, that by their own experience in employment.

Australian employers can not ever compete with Imports from cheap labour countries, this also relates to Aust., Manufacturers going "overseas" for cheap labour and reduced taxes. "Makes things cheaper" answers given to me by Alexander Downer, Min. Foreign Affairs, in a person to person discus., in his office. Probably so, but higher taxes to cover Unemployment, both personal as well as on still Australian Companies etc. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Ron W. Talbot