



Submission No 52

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

Name: Mr G R Kent

Submission to The Parliamentary
F111 Reseal Deseal

Mr G.R.Kent

[REDACTED]

In Jan 1878 I was posted to 3AD Amberley during that year I was sent to Deseal Reseal I can not recall the exact date. I was told to enter an F111 and get into the fuel tank in aprox the middle of the Aircraft I was shown how to scrape off the old sealant around the joints in the tank. I was told to ware only my shorts and t-shirt, no protective clothing was provided and there was no breathing apparatus provided. I was instructed to enter smaller areas off the main tank and to carry on working. I recall there being a strong chemical smell there was also some residual liquid in some of these smaller areas which was brown in color and had a pungent chemical smell. I came in contact with this liquid on several occasions on my shoulders, arms and hands. At the end of that day I was told to report back to my normal place of work, I was to learn the next day the person that took my place had arrived at work late and some what under the weather, He was sent to Reseal Deseal as a form of punishment.

In aprox !986 I was diagnosed with Asthma, many years later I developed a Depressive Disorder combined with this Disorder was reoccurring bad dreams, a fear of confined spaces, I became withdrawn and consistently took out my fears and anger on my family. Over many years claim after claim was submitted to D.V.A. most of which was rejected any mention of F111 Deseal Reseal was met with the answer of "there is no proof".

I and many others exposed to the chemicals used in the F111 Reseal Deseal Program were ignored, We have been let down by the Government of Australia the handling of our Health has been and continues to be Inadequate.

As a member of the F111 Deseal/Reseal Support Group I stand behind the Group and offer the Committee of the group my full support.

G.R.Kent