

Submission No. 9

(Robertson Barracks)

From: Jav and Debbie Jovanovich (and family)
Date: Monday 14 April 2008

SL 14/4/08

To whom it may concern, I offer this correspondence to voice my family's concerns regarding the proposed future development of the Robertson Barracks and the increased impact that the development will have on the rural residential area of Knuckeys Lagoon.

The current volume of traffic that travels to Robertson Barracks via Farrar and Brandt roads most certainly exceeds the design criteria of the two roads, which have been designed for local traffic only. Despite this fact, and signage on McMillans Rd indicating that "No Through Traffic to Robertson Barracks" via Farrar Rd and signage on Campbell Rd indicating "No Through Traffic to Casuarina" via Brandt Rd, hundreds and hundreds of cars use this route daily. The proposed increase of personnel numbers will certainly exacerbate the problem!

Due to the excessive traffic volumes, as residents of Knuckeys Lagoon, we continually have to persevere with:

- vehicles overtaking us when we have indicated to turn into our residences
- roadside rubbish, including many alcoholic beverage containers
- vehicles speeding greatly in excess of the 60kmh limit
- high powered motorcycles speeding and wheel standing
- vehicles crashing through fences (usually alcohol related)
- vehicles cutting the corner of Brandt and Farrar roads
- heavy vehicles (military trucks and floats) using Brandt and Farrar roads, despite the 5T load limit sign on Campbell Road

As residents of Brandt Rd, my family and I have been attending numerous community meetings over several years to hear how this problem will be addressed. We have heard from Defence personnel that the 'master plan', once it is formulated, will address our concerns. Now it is proposed that Robertson Barracks is going to be further expanded with no mention of addressing the excessive traffic volumes through our residential streets.

The residents of Knuckeys Lagoon realise the importance of the Military and Robertson Barracks to the whole community and to our Nation. We do not complain about the live firing at all hours, helicopters flying over head and other defence related activities that occur.

We do hear about the tens of millions of dollars that Defence will be spending in the NT, and how good Defence is for our community. Surely a small percentage (probably less than 1%) of this substantial budget can be used to improve the access to Robertson Barracks and return our neighborhood to the peaceful rural residential place it was before Robertson Barracks was built.

Trusting this meets your approval.
Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards
Jav and Debbie Jovanovich (and family)
Knuckeys Lagoon