



Submission No 27

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2010 - 2011

Name: Mr Peter Goon

Organisation: Air Power Australia

Subject: JSCFADT Submission: A Line Has Been Crossed . . .
Attachments: 12-05-08_A Line Has Been Crossed_JSCFADT Submission.pdf

Dear Senator Furner and Dr Jensen:

On advice from colleagues of yours in the political arts, this submission is made to you and your Committee on a very grave matter; both for ourselves and the respect we all have for the Parliament.

Within the professional defence analysts' community, Air Power Australia is also respected; both for the robust and rigorous analytical skills demonstrated and professionally, as well as for the accurate assessments published on the Air Power Australia website. The website is used as a reference source by many military, strategy & intelligence, and security establishments. These include test pilot schools, T&E organisations, intelligence training centres, strategy bodies and diplomatic stations around the world, particularly in the Asia/Pacific region.

Air Power Australia papers and technical reports are cited by the US RAND, CSBA, and IASC think tanks, but also the US Naval Postgraduate School, US Naval War College, and a large number of universities. Even Lockheed Martin/Ft Worth Division has used material published by Air Power Australia, though in violation of copyright.

The independent analytical techniques employed by the domain experts of Air Power Australia and the results they produce are well understood within this community, as is their importance and value to the needs of the community and those who depend on their expertise.

However, as a result of appearing before and providing evidence to your Parliamentary Defence Oversight Committee, we find ourselves, both professionally and personally, the subjects of baseless criticisms, derisive assertions and multiple abuses, not to mention defamatory pronouncements, on a grand scale and of the most damaging kind. These draw upon the Parliamentary processes we engaged in, at your Committee's request, and, in turn, bring these same processes and the Parliament, itself, into disrepute.

We observe similar if not the same quite inappropriate behaviours and abuses have been directed towards our professional colleagues at REPSIM Pty Ltd.

If private citizens who seek what is right and what is best for the defence and security of Australia are to be treated this way, then Australia and its Parliamentary processes are at risk of serious jeopardy.

In keeping with the words of our Prime Minister, "*. . . a line has been crossed about respect for the Parliament of Australia*".

Please advise what remedies are available to the Parliament and ourselves to address such behaviours and obtain redress for the damages these have and continue to cause.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Goon

Peter Goon

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Head of Test and Evaluation
Co-Founder, Air Power Australia
Peter Goon and Associates

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"Our job is to be so capable and so well prepared that the other guy just wants to stay neighbourly."

"The pivotal role of Defence is the maintenance and sustainment of peace in our region."

Australian Defence Force Leadership prior to 2000
