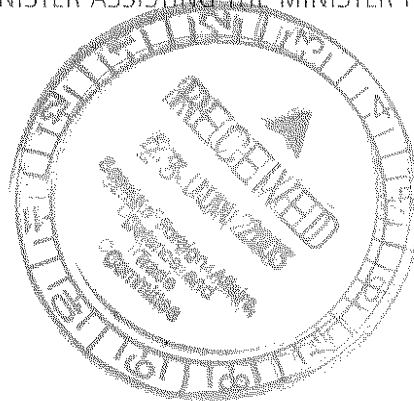




THE HON DANNA VALE MP  
MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE

Mr Brenton Holmes  
Secretary  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence  
and Trade Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Attention: Pam Corrigan

Dear Mr Holmes

I wish to provide an amended response in relation to two questions on notice from the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee Secretariat, having been placed by Senator Bishop.

These are:

- the second part of question 12 asked on 22 February 2003 for statistics on claims in respect of East Timor service and
- question 10 asked on 5 May 2003 which requested an update of these statistics

I am advised that my Department discovered an error in the method used to extract statistics on claims made under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*. This led to incorrect responses being provided.

Attached is an amended table which provides the correct data as at 14 June 2003.

Yours sincerely

DANNA VALE MP

Encl

20 JUN 2003

### Claims under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

Depending on their date of enlistment, ADF personnel may only be entitled to claim under the VEA in respect of their deployment in East Timor.

Others may have additional eligible service under the VEA. Without examining individual cases it is not possible to say that the conditions claimed were caused by service in East Timor or by other eligible VEA service.

The table below shows the number of claims made by each group by condition as at 14 June 2003.

Classification	East Timor Service Only				East Timor Service and Other Eligible Service			
	Acc	NIF	Rej	Total	Acc	NIF	Rej	Total
Infectious and parasitic diseases	165	0	8	173	3	0	6	9
Circulatory system	3	0	5	8	0	0	27	27
Congenital anomalies	1	0	2	3	0	0	12	12
Digestive system	41	0	17	58	3	0	43	46
Endocrine system	0	0	3	3	1	0	7	8
Genitourinary system	2	0	2	4	0	0	10	10
Ill-defined conditions	7	92	3	102	1	210	8	219
Injury	199	1	61	261	3	0	80	83
Mental disorders	221	1	69	291	20	1	57	78
Musculo-skeletal system	317	0	124	441	16	1	287	304
Neoplasms	3	0	3	6	0	0	1	1
Nervous system, sense organs	188	2	35	225	21	9	59	89
Respiratory system	8	0	2	10	1	0	11	12
Skin and subcutaneous tissue	54	0	12	66	8	0	39	47
Blood and blood-forming organs	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2
Not coded	18	1	7	26	8	0	4	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1227</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>1678</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>958</b>

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ACC = a condition accepted as being due to or aggravated by eligible service.

NIF = the claimed condition was not found to be present.

REJ = condition refused as not being due to or aggravated by eligible service.