



CHIEF OF
THE DEFENCE FORCE

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

CDF/OUT/2010/167

Dr Kathleen Dermody

Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES – 10 FEBRUARY 2010

1. I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Additional Budget Estimates hearing held on 10 February 2010 concerning the death of Mrs da Costa in East Timor.
2. Following the lunch break, I sought to correct record of my earlier response to Senator Trood and also to provide further detail on the accident (page 35-36 of Proof Hansard 10 February 2010). I stated that *'I am informed in this correspondence that Mr Costa Exposto was quite understanding of the circumstances, and we assisted with the funeral arrangements. We paid for the funeral. That completes the story.'* This information was incorrect as the ADF did not assist with the funeral arrangements and nor did the ADF pay for the funeral.
3. I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

A.G. HOUSTON, AC, AFC
Air Chief Marshal
Chief of the Defence Force

15 March 2010