



Defence
Improvement

SRA 21/2003

28 July 2003

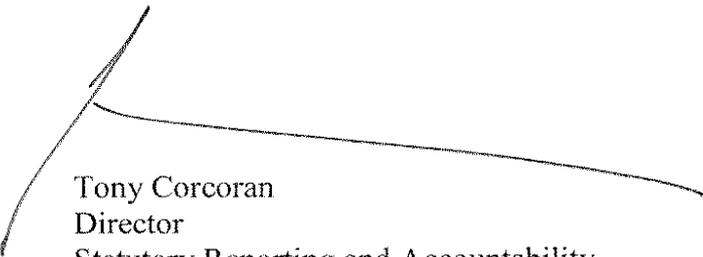
Mr Brenton Holmes
Secretary
Senate Legislation Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr ~~Holmes~~ *Brenton*

Please find attached two letters of correction from the Senate Legislation Committee budget estimates hearing held on 4-5 June 2003. The corrections are from Air Marshal Houston on the subject of air traffic controllers and Air Commodore Austin on health checks for deployed personnel.

If you have any questions, please contact Kate Yapp (02) 6265 6534.

Yours sincerely



Tony Corcoran
Director
Statutory Reporting and Accountability



CAF ~~749~~/2003

2 July 2003

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

Dear Mr Holmes

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Senate Legislation Committee budget estimates hearing on 4-5 June 2003 concerning the air traffic controllers that were recently deployment to the Middle East.

In answer to a question from Senator Hogg (page 407 of *Proof Hansard* Thursday 5th June 2003), I stated that "One from each base and one base provided two." This information was incorrect. Those numbers should be three air traffic controllers from Darwin, two from Townsville and one each from Edinburgh, Nowra, Oakey, Pearce, Tindal, Williamtown, Amberley and Headquarters 44 Wing.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

A.G. HOUSTON
Air Marshal
Chief of Air Force



DEFENCE PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE
DEFENCE HEALTH SERVICE BRANCH

CP2-7-121, Department of Defence, CANBERRA ACT 2600

DHSB 408/2003

Mr Brenton Holmes

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

Dear Mr Holmes

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Senate Legislation Committee budget estimates hearing on 4 June 2003 concerning medical examinations for ADF personnel returning from active duty in the Middle East.

In answer to a question from Senator Chris Evans (page 252 of Proof Hansard Wednesday 4 June 2003), I stated that "It was a health check. I would not call it a comprehensive physical and biochemical examination of the individuals. The reality of the circumstances is that we could not do that, nor were there any clinical indicators to warrant such a degree of intervention".

This information was incorrect. It was in fact a health briefing. The briefing included:

- information on the health actions required in the post deployment period;
- arrangements for pharmaceuticals required in the post deployment period to be dispersed to members at or prior to their return to Australia; and
- the completion of the medical insert slip whose purpose was to document health threats to which the member had been exposed in the Middle East area of operations and to assist with the post deployment health actions of the member.

Any personnel who had concerns following this brief had the opportunity to see a doctor who would address their specific concerns.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

T.K. AUSTIN, AM
Air Commodore
Director General Defence Health Service

Tel: 6266 3919
Fax: 6266 3933

17 June 2003