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**Sent:** Thursday, 4 September 2008 17:48  
**To:** White Paper  
**Subject:** WWW Submission: 4. Air Force/Air Power [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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Submission: Further to earlier submissions on air power and equipment. Continual research into equipment and performances and it still is clear that our service personnel are not being equipped with the best available units. Aircraft such as the FA 18, Super Hornet FA18 and the F35 JSA Strike Fighter all these aircraft are still only into the 3rd and 4th generation aircraft in the performance and equipment levels proposed for the RAAF. The only aircraft the F111 was considered to be 5th Generation is to be retired and replaced by the FA18 Super Hornet which by experts is considered to be 4th generation equipped. If we compare the important features of the aircraft those being equipment, radars, speed, stealth, weapons load and range then the aircraft that the defense department is proposing for our personnel to use are just not good enough. Our region in the Asia Pacific is being swamped with up market Russian Aircraft and equipment and that is mainly 5th generation aircraft which has superior performance, range, speed weapons, radar now than the equipment we will get in 2016 or similar.

The old adage that their maintenance and staff may not be as good is not going to hold up when or if it comes to the crunch a considered sub standard pilot in a 5th generation aircraft ie S35/s30/s27 will make success by our F18 and similar impossible. My suggestion is that we should demand access to at least 50 F22 Raptor aircraft to sit as the 5th generation aircraft for our air force with a support of the ordered 3rd and 4th generation aircraft. As you are aware and have read all the available reports the F22 can be used in either role/fighter/bomber and is totally superior to other known aircraft. Cost is irrelevant without these aircraft and as has been proved over the years air superiority is essential without it we lose .

I agree to my submission being published on the Defence website