
Sent: Wednesday, 17 September 2008 14:01
To: White Paper
Subject: WWW Submission: 8. Defence Industry [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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Submission: With a relative currently serving in the military I am concerned about the amount of equipment they currently buy personally as they seem to feel that the standard issue is inadequate.

I would like to see the military become in time, self sufficient. Catered by the military for the military. Privatisation of equipment, food catering, clothing, housing etc has due to the nature of business, become a profit driven exercise. This privatisation has not been limited to the military, but is an exercise by both state and federal government to give responsibility to private enterprise to supply what was traditionally a governmental responsibility.

Our serving men and women deserve the best, as they take on roles that are neither understood or appreciated by many in our society. Yet faced with a threat we would expect them to perform at their best to defend us. At least equip them adequately!

I know this is not something that can be accomplished quickly but a defence industry that is made up of defence personal who know what is needed is a start. It should not be decided on profit, or quick administration but by perceived future need.

In times of perceived increased threat, and uncertain global climate, we need to be prepared. If we equip properly then the retention rate of those few who wish to serve may feel their sacrifice is both understood and valued.

I agree to my submission being published on the Defence website

I agree to my submission being quoted in the Community Consultation Report