



ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

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MEDIA RELEASE

RETIRED POLLIES CRY POOR –

RETIRED MILITARY MEMBERS KNOW HOW THEY FEEL !

Former federal politicians are reported to be angry that they will be deprived of the same increase in their generous pensions as serving parliamentarians are about to be granted in their pay, and they have threatened to launch court action to protect their interests.

Their hypocrisy is breathtaking, says Alliance of Defence Service Organisation's spokesperson and National President of the Defence Force Welfare Association, David Jamison.

The Alliance simply asks: where was their concern for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and their families when fair indexation of military superannuation pensions was considered ?

For too long military superannuants have seen the purchasing power of their superannuation pensions – and therefore their standard of living – deteriorate because of inadequate indexation arrangements for their pensions. Indexation arrangements were changed for other government pensions decades ago in order to maintain purchasing power and relativities with wages growth – but not for military superannuants despite Senate committees saying they should be.

Parliamentarians laud the sacrifices made by members of the ADF and their families at photo opportunities and commemorative activities, often stating “they shall not be forgotten”..... then why have they allowed modest military superannuation pensions to significantly decrease in purchasing power over the past years and generous pre 2004 federal parliamentarians' pensions significantly increase?

Let We Forget ? – it seems many have

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* The Alliance comprises the Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA); the Naval Association of Australia (NAA); the Royal Australian Regiment Corporation (RARC); the Australian Special Air Services Association (ASASA); and the RAAF Association (RAAFA).