



Submission 90

Inquiry into RAAF F-111 Deseal/Reseal Workers and their Families

Name: **Name Withheld**

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 3 July 2008 1:16 PM
To: Committee, JSCFADT (REPS)
Subject: F111 Reseal/Deseal Sub Committee Inquiry

Defence Sub-Committee Secretariat
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2602

1 July 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

My husband and I are members of the Resealer/Desealer Support Group

I am writing to you on behalf of my husband so that he can be included in **Defence Sub-Committee Inquiry**
My husband's name is, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was a civilian Resealer/Desealer and was employed from 1991 to 1992 by Hawker de-Havilland who was under contracted to the RAAF Base Amberley.

He was employed as a Sealant Control Officer who worked 8 hours a day in the Sealant room with little ventilation or protective clothing mixing chemical which were then placed into tubes, handed to the men who then took them into the tanks.

My husband is now paying the price and so am I from the damage that those chemicals he mixed for approx 18 months he spent working at the RAAF Base Amberley.

The first of his many symptoms started to appear soon after he no longer worked at the base. Such as

Reflux,

Hyperacidity,

Heartburn,

Esophageal inflammation,

to the extent that his esophageal had to be operated on which has now left him with the inability to be sick and the **Vagus nerve** damaged, to the extent that through medication to treat other conditions which has developed through the chemicals has created a huge weight gain and because of the esophageal operation has been denied the treatment of lap banding to help control his weight. With the inability to be sick the banding could cause him to choke on his vomit and kill him.

From then on his has developed

Irritable bowel syndrome

Ulcers,

Diarrhea,

Polyps removed from his bowel.

High cholesterol,

Immune system related disorders,

Allergies and skin diseases from chemical burns,

COAD

Sexitual disfunction

The list goes on and on

He also suffers from

Anxiety and depression, and for the last 9 months has not been able to go to his place of work.

My list can go on and on.

All because of the work he did for the Commonwealth at the RAAF Base Amberley as a civilian worker.

When my husband first started to get sick he would say to me don't you worry we will be alright the government will look after us.

Time has proved him wrong. But he still believes. I don't.

To many people are starting to die now from their conditions and the Government is still holding inquiries hoping for a way out instead of excepting the fact that it is there responsibility. All the money that has been wasted by the Government over the years with enquiry after enquiry trying to wriggle out of their duty towards the Resealer/desealers.

The Government knew the damage that these Chemicals could create and still used them.

Why are so many sick people having to **beg** to be look after through no fault of there Own?

Not only did my Husband work as a resealer/desealer but my Son [REDACTED], a 17 year old boy went to work as a Civilian resealer/desealer, in the tanks, working for Hawker de-havilland, contracted to RAAF Base Amberley. He is also suffering medical problems associated with the effect of the Chemicals.

4/07/2008

As a Mother how do you think I feel about my Childs future?

Some one must be responsible and accountable for these tragedies.

[REDACTED]

PS. I Would like a reply that you have received this submission. - Thanking You [REDACTED]