Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Defence Amendment (Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal) Bill 2025

Public Hearing in Canberra on 16 October 2025

Department of Defence correction of evidence

Proof Committee Hansard: Page 34

Please note also that we have one correction of evidence that we wish to make. In the below exchange the number '14' should have been '13.' As we took the detail of the breakdown of the 14 on notice, we intend to correct the record in the response to the question on notice.

Senator DAVID POCOCK: Maybe on notice you can tell us how many complaints have been received about non-family members making submissions and then also, to your other point, how many cases there have been of international scholars or others making recommendations.

Rear Adm. Boulton: I might pass to Ms Cole. She has some data on other affected people.

Ms Cole: This might help you. Since the establishment of the Tribunal, for honours, we can see that we have 14 'other' people. In terms of the breakdown of the 'other' category, be it an historian or an interested party, I don't know that level of detail. I just know that they were not the member affected, the family, the witness or a chain of command. But I also have the breakdown of those people.

Senator DAVID POCOCK: Of those 14, how many of their families took exception to that?

Ms Cole: We don't have that level of detail today. We'll get it for you on notice.

Corrected text:

Senator DAVID POCOCK: Maybe on notice you can tell us how many complaints have been received about non-family members making submissions and then also, to your other point, how many cases there have been of international scholars or others making recommendations.

Rear Adm. Boulton: I might pass to Ms Cole. She has some data on other affected people.

Ms Cole: This might help you. Since the establishment of the Tribunal, for honours, we can see that we have 13 'other' people. In terms of the breakdown of the 'other' category, be it an historian or an interested party, I don't know that level of detail. I just know that they were not the member affected, the family, the witness or a chain of command. But I also have the breakdown of those people.

Senator DAVID POCOCK: Of those 13, how many of their families took exception to that?

Ms Cole: We don't have that level of detail today. We'll get it for you on notice.