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I would like to make the following submission to the senate inquiry into Australian Defence Force superannuation and pension scheme.

I retired from the Australian Army after twenty years' service in 1984 under the then DFRDB scheme. I was offered the process of commuting four year's pension to a cash payment and having repayments taken from my fortnightly pension. That rate was based on my life expectancy which would repay the full amount of the commutation. I accepted this.

Fortunately for me I have lived for five years past that life-expectancy but unfortunately, the government still takes those repayments out of my pension. WHY? I have repaid the loan. I accepted the commutation so that I could have the benefit of the money while I was making repayments - just like any loan. At no stage did I accept making repayments forever and I was not advised of that liability.

My second issue is the rate of CPI increases to my pension. Because of the method employed by the government the increases do not offset inflation hence my pensions has been greatly eroded in over forty years.

I request that the inquiry consider my submission within the terms of reference items (f) and (h).

Mr Thomas E Williams