

I feel that what I have to say is relevant to the way allegations of abuse were dealt with in the past, specifically to the reporting of abuse at HMAS *Leeuwin* in 1963. Stevan Coll, a former junior recruit and a person with many years service in the RAN, publicly stated on the ABC's *7.30 Report* last year that when he did report multiple cases of abuse to the Naval Dockyard Police in *Leeuwin*, he was told to 'go away and make the best of it.' I have spoken with Mr. Coll on several occasions and he is content to have gone on the record and has not lodged any complaint through the DLAPiper Review. I was abused during my time at *Leeuwin*, also in 1963, but I did not report those incidents, partly due to downright fear and also the knowledge that things would very likely get worse for me. I have lodged a complaint regarding my treatment at JRTE. We, as junior recruits, were at the absolute bottom of a tightly-organised hierarchy, powerless even to complain about ill-treatment. Yours, D.A. Heath