



**Submission No 20**

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

**Name: Mr Anthony Soper**

A. J. SOPER

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Inquiry into RAAF F-111 Descent - Recall

1. The final health care scheme should include future health problems which may arise in the future
2. I had great difficulty in having services paid for and I am reluctant to continue using these services
3. The lump sum promised to me was rejected, even though I could prove I had spent a considerable amount of time in the F-111 fuel tanks.
4. The ex gratia scheme was badly managed with little help from the operators
5. Cross agency cooperation was ineffective.
6. Documentation & records were constantly frustrated by Veterans Affairs
7. The delays caused by my claims ~~to~~ were held up for 5 years. My health has worsened since
8. The scheme should be removed from Veterans Affairs, since they refuse to recognise Chemical exposure is a serious health problem.

9. The chemicals used were dangerous and no protective gear was supplied.
10. The handling of ex gratia compensation claims was flawed from the start. The Air Force was incapable of handling this issue.
11. I first started using paint strippers and chemicals in mid 1971. In 1975 I was constantly sick from the chemicals and complained of this. I eventually went AWOL and was jailed for 28 days. The Air Force knew and hid the details of the dangers of these chemicals. I hold the Air Force fully responsible for my present health problems. I was forced into the legal system as I have not received any justice from the government.

Regards,



ANTHONY JAMES SOLER.