



Senator the Hon David Feeney
Parliamentary Secretary for Defence

Dr Kathleen Dermody
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

19 NOV 2012



Dear Dr Dermody

I write to correct evidence that I gave at the Senate Estimates hearing held on 17 October 2012, concerning changes to recreation leave travel for members of the Australian Defence Force.

In answer to a question from Senator Kroger on how personnel were advised of the change in policy (page 77 of *Proof Hansard*, Wednesday, 7 October 2012, 17:11), I stated that: "... as I understand it Air Force and Army have one, Navy has two – was obviously reinstated and notifications flowed from the reinstatement." This statement may have given the impression that the pre-budget construct of recreation leave travel, in particular two trips per year for sea going personnel, were reintroduced.

The reintroduced arrangements provide for the following: Members without dependants who are trainees may be provided with up to three return recreation leave travel trips in a leave year. Any other eligible members without dependants, including members undergoing training, may be provided with one return recreation leave travel trip in a leave year. This applies to members without dependants in the Navy, Army and Air Force alike.

I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.

Yours sincerely

DAVID FEENEY