



ADSO ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS and PARTNERS

MEDIA RELEASE

OPEN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER

The Hon Kevin Rudd MP
Member for Griffith
630 Wynnum Road
MORNINGSIDE QLD 4170

4 September 2013

Dear Prime Minister

On ABC's Q&A on Monday 2 September 2013, you repeated an oft quoted conviction of yours that you stand for a **Fair Go** for All Australians. I'm not sure that you were aware but there were veterans in the audience at the time who had wanted to pose a question to you on that very statement. They were denied the opportunity. We thus invite you to respond publicly now to the very question that we had submitted to Q&A.

Question: *Our question is on behalf of some 207,000 members of Australia's military superannuation schemes, and 30,000 of our most seriously injured Diggers.*

Prime Minister, you have repeatedly said you believe in a "FAIR GO FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS, NOT JUST SOME, BUT ALL AUSTRALIANS."

There are thousands of members of Australia's Defence Family who are excluded from Labor's recent announcement on Defence pension indexation. They include military widows, those forced into early retirement, and even current members of the ADF who have been on battlefields for the past 10 years. All of these Australians either rely, or will rely, on an income stream from their military super that Governments had promised would not erode through cost of living increases. But that hasn't happened, and won't happen under Labor's new policy.

It gets worse. Our most disabled troops were deliberately denied a major pension increase that age pensioners received in 2009, causing financial distress for many military families.

*The question to you is this: **What can you say or do for members of our Defence Family who feel totally excluded from Labor's FAIR GO FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS?***

Yours Sincerely,

David K Jamison AM

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