Executive summary:

Re-allocate funds from overseas purchase options to equipment manufactured in Australia. Purchase costs are say 30% of sustainment and disposal.

Government own and develop manufacture capacity in Australia.

Fund research by DSTO, CSIRO, Universities, Australian industry.

Topics include General, Defence Budget and Finances, Personnel, Science and Technology.

Factors influencing defence of Australians include:

Finance:

Over the last decade Australian foreign debt has been increasing.

Over the last decade Australian Governments debts have been increasing. Total Australian debt $5,000 billion.

Australia cannot afford to buy the proposed quantity of foreign defence equipment and lacks capacity to sustain it.

Governments need to restrict foreign purchases.

Purchase cost of foreign equipment is about 30% of sustainment and disposal costs. Sustainment needs to be factored into a 10 year defence plan.

Foreign suppliers retain intellectual and modifications property. Relations can change in decade. Study history and Japan secret attack on Pearl Harbour

Manufacturing capacity:

In WW1 and WW2 Australia had effective manufacturing capacity which was rapidly converted to war needs. Refer also to Government factories eg Clothing Factory, Aircraft Factory. Australian manufacturing capacity is now almost extinct.
Manufacture capacity in Australia needs re-building. Shipbuilding needs orders now or it will collapse in 2015. The result is that locally produced defence material will cost more than foreign purchases. This may equate with reduced quantity but provides for more security in supply.

Establish a government owned and controlled Australian Manufacture Defence Organisation (AMDO). Purchase land. Re-new defunct factories. Purchase closing car manufacture production lines. Manufacture basics and advanced items such as batteries, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), robots. Employ 50% government employees with 50% Australian industry.

Incorporate technical training and development in AMDO.

The Collins was an excellent development project and is an effective platform. Replacement submarines must be built in Australia.

**Liquid fuel:**

All diesel and 90% of liquid fuel (eg aviation, petrol) is imported. If sea transport is interrupted Australia will die in 3 weeks. Alternate supplies from within Australia must be developed.

**Research and Development:**

Australian research has declined in the last decade while search by foreigners has increased. Research (including pure research) needs expanding. Increase funding to DSTO (for research), CSIRO and Universities.

**Land:**

Defence land has been sold in the last decade. eg Airports sold (Canberra National Capital), Playing fields sold to housing developers. Moorebank/Holsworthy land compressed with units concentrated after land was sold. It is now an attractive terrorist target.

All defence land must be retained.

Suburban training depots should be re-established to attract more part-time defence personnel.

**Morale:**

Morale and government respect have been reduced. Civilians replaced service personnel in defence establishments.
Bands have been destroyed.
Uniformed personnel now move in civilian dress.

Leadership is needed to re-establish Australian pride.

**Defence force strength:**

Total uniformed defence force, all services, full time and reserve, is about the same as the population of North Canberra and is less than number of Australians killed in WW1.

Civilians guard and provide services in defence establishments. For security reasons they should be replaced with service personnel.

Defence forces should be increased by 10% per year, cumulative, with larger increase if threat is detected. Experienced ranks and instructors are need to cope with any expansion.

**Part time defence personnel:**

These are referred to as reserves. In fact Australia has no reserve units ready for deployment.

Part time personnel require some basic knowledge of service needs but are on the roll, ready for more intensive military skill development. More are needed, finance is needed. Part time service should be facilitated with benefits provided to employers and self-employed.

**Terrorism within Australia:**

A strategy is needed to address terrorist threats within Australia. The perceived threat may impact on efficiency of administration and movements of defence personnel.

Some additional skills development may be needed for defence personnel to provide assistance, if required, to civil police.

**Summary:**

Reduce expenditure on purchase of foreign equipment (eg cancel purchase ($12 billion) of 28 JSF F35/A fighters which will be outmoded by UAVs, robots and rockets by the time they are delivered). Move finance to items shown below.

Stimulate Australian industry, involving greater unit cost but with improved Australian self reliance, skills, development, security and National Pride.

J F Brett RFD ED