Dear Sirs / Ms,

ATTACK ON THE DEFENCE WHITE PAPER

The paper fails to address the following essential elements which flow from the Military History of Australia.

1. THE POLITICS
   a. Wars are the continuation of Politics by another means (Clausewitz) Therefore, Avoid Military Agreements such as by: -
      i. The UK with Belgium which forced Australia into WW 1;
      ii. Howard - now says “I was misled by US on Iraq”;
      iii. Frazer- now he says “I was hoodwinked by US on Vietnam”.
   b. Commerce & Trade Agreements do not preclude Military Conflicts – But a credible Defence Force may.
   c. In WW1 the Anglo- Japanese Treaty of 1902 stopped Australia seizing German Colonies North of the Equator which Japan used to attack Australia in WW2 – Watch our back.
   d. Australia failed to have an effective Expeditionary Force on standby for contingencies such as WW1 and WW2 – Hence the need to have Permanent Australian Marines like the UK; US and Dutch.

2. STRATEGICALLY AUSTRALIA IS A MARITIME NATION – Therefore, Australia must adopt a creditable maritime strategy to underpin its diplomacy and
   a. Create a credible trained amphibious force of the three services for immediate deployment – viz
      i. Form Permanent Australian Marines with strong versatile RAN and RAAF support.
      ii. Possibly by converting 2 Cdo Regt to 1 Aust Marine Regt and if necessary increasing the strength of 1 Cdo Regiment ARes by ARA Company as the ready reserve company.
b. Have flexibility of Command in the Amphibious Force – Navy at sea and Army on land – only one Boss at any one time.

3. RESOURCES
   a. Volunteers will be available at the beginning of a campaign such as WW1, WW2 and Korea but a Militia structure is required to provide Officers and NCOs with engineers, medical and logistical units. Therefore, recreate the Militia to mirror the ARes.
   b. Stores and equipment are required at the beginning and throughout a Campaign. Therefore, large permanent comprehensive stocks in Depots and a viable Defence Industry are required.

4. OUR AIM IS TO DEFEND - Therefore, it is essential that our forces must be structured to defend Australia and not to fight wars of or for other nations.

5. OUR ENEMY – In a military appreciation the Aim is followed by assessing our enemy or enemies. Therefore, it essential the White Paper defines our Enemy or enemies.

6. RELATIVE STRENGTHS – “God is on the side of big battalions” Therefore, we must assess the military strengths of our enemy or enemies and assess our capabilities and organise our forces to combat those strengths.

7. THE TARGETs – Our enemy or enemies will target specific Australian resources, industries, ground, ports, airfields etc. Therefore, it is essential that we define those resources, industries, ground etc that our enemy or enemies seek and locate and organise our forces accordingly.

8. SURVIVAL – Historically, those nations which engage in war deteriorate in equity, skilled manpower and status. Australia is a small Nation. Therefore, Australia must be a belligerent nation with forces designed to defend its borders and not engage in the destructive wars of conscious of others such as the UK, the US etc.

Yours Faithfully,

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