

**VICTIMS OF ABUSE
IN
THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ASSOCIATION INC.
A0059257W**

The Voice For The Voiceless



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Fact Sheet No 4 – Problems With The DART

1.0 What Is The DART?

- DART stands for the Defence Abuse Response Task Force.
- It was set up by the Former Labor Defence Minister and Attorney General to amongst other things manage a “reparation scheme” for victims of abuse in the Australian Defence Force.
- It says it will refer allegations of abuse, “where appropriate” to police.

2.0 Who Heads It?

- Major-General Les Roberts Smith RFD QC.
- A Reserve Officer who has also served full time.

3.0 What Is Wrong With Major General Roberts Smith RFD QC?

- His relationship with Defence – this should be completely independent of Defence
- Serious allegations have been made of him regarding his railroading of an innocent aboriginal woman for murder – Jeanie Angel,

A conviction that was subsequently overturned on submission of both Crown and Defence. He has been accused of in the trial of Jeanie Angel of not allowing evidence that would have shown her innocence – See <http://netk.net.au/Aboriginal/Aboriginal64.asp>

As electors we say that this is a matter of great concern.

4.0 Claims forms And Process Provides Great Distress

- In completing the Claims Paper Work the victim is made to remember yet again, the hateful events of their abuse without any support. This leads to depression and on occasion to thoughts of suicide.
- The DART has been made well aware of this but refuses to amend the Form or provide counselling until after they have assessed the claim. Most, if not all this information , they require for the Personal Account Form has already been supplied by the Victims through the DLA Piper Inquiry.

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5.0 Defence Still Refuses to Co-Operate

- On at least one occasion, Attorney General Investigators were prevented from investigating abuse by Military Authorities.

6.0 Counselling Ineffective

- The DART will provide Counselling after they have paid you out but only for 5 – 10 sessions.
- Yet the impact of the of the abuse will be with the Victims a lot longer, long after the DART is a dusty file in a Government Archive.
- Something better must be done.

7.0 More Information

For more information contact Jennifer Jacomb, Public Officer And Secretary of Victims Of Abuse In The Australian Defence Force A0059257W on 0414 724 565 or by email to jennifer@adfabuse.com.

Our Website is www.adfabuse.com.

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The Australian Defence Force And Abuse:-

"It was Hubris that made Angels into Devils.

It is obstinacy that keeps them in Hell"