

I joined the Army Cadets at 14 years old at Pulteney Grammar School. I was firing Bren and Vickers Machine guns at 15. In my last year I was promoted to Under Officer in charge of a Specialist platoon. Around the age of 18 when I left school to study criminology at Adelaide Uni I was asked to join the AUR instantly with the rank and pay of corporal. The Army hoped I would continue Cadets with Duntroon. I was given the oak leaves sleeve notification I was above average on the Vickers MMG 303. By the time I was 22 I decided against Duntroon and as a Prizeman (6 prizes) went to Cambridge University instead, where I am now a Non Resident Senior Member and examine PhD theses for the Big 8 Universities. The results of 7 years of being in the Cadet Force and the CMF firing machine guns without hearing protection has resulted in me being very deaf. Deafness was not noticeable in academe. I was detected as deaf by an honours student I was supervising writing a thesis on Auslan who told me I was deaf and relying on lip reading. I checked this with 2 ENT specialists and found out that she was correct. After promotion to the Director of Uni Research Centre, The Kockums Scandinavian Studies Centre my job with Swedish Defence Industry required sound hearing. I made a claim for OHS Compo on the advice of Telex. The Commonwealth when forced agreed eventually that my deafness indeed was correctly diagnosed as being due to machine gun noise. I made many requests for OHS compensation but was rejected on basis of the application being too distant from the injury. I enclose a copy of me in my day job at a Submarine launch superimposed with the 4 pairs of hearing I aids I purchased my self during the standoff with the DSVA. When in 2001 my request for OHS Compensation was again rejected I sent an Appeal against the Judgement to the DVA. On this occasion my appeal against this decision was accepted. In 2003 a three foolscap page Revocation of the 2001 Determination was issued by Mr Oolong of the DVA to accept full liability for my condition. This I hoped final outcome was helped by my local member Dr Southcott being a GP and the then PM John Howard being deaf; his Hearing Specialist was domiciled in Adelaide. I think I am the only living veteran to have a Determination Revoked. I think that by law the Revocation of a Determination against a Decision cannot be un-revoked, but this is what has happened to me. From 2003 to 2011 as required by law the DVA paid for Widex in-ear aids through a Firm called Telex, later sold to Bloom. Widex is not the most expensive supplier and aids they paid for were in the up to \$8,000 band. I had paid this amount myself around 4 times as the phot with the Dechainaux launch shows. My Director of a Research Centre post was i part paid for by Swedish Defence Industry while the Collins Subs were built in my home town, Adelaide, an employment which required precise understanding of Swedish as well as English. An enormous disastrous change occurred when the DVA issued White Cards and left it to Health who to decide who was to be paid what. The last but one head of the AMA has lamented the current position. The DVA decided NEVER to exercise OHS Rehabilitation again despite the equality precedent of all OHS victims on the deaf. In my case since 2011 it is the same amount paid by any person over 65 claiming deafness. I did not want a White Card for the same reason I did not join the RSL. I am the victim of a Freeze which has disrupted my career as an author. See Stockholm Tony Amazon. I remain a great supporter of the Australian Armed Forces and donated the War Chest of my Great Uncle Jack to the AWM. I have asked Brendan Nelson to value and then the Commonwealth could offset my generosity to okay the \$9,450 they owe, or let me have it back to auction to pay for future aids if nothing comes of my submission, which seems likely. Uncle Jack was twice recommended for the Croix du Guerre, twice rejected, but when he took 1,800 prisoners after leading a Light Horse charge, an MC was awarded. His sister and my Great Aunt Janet were in action from 1914-8. He a in the 9th Light Horse, she the Principal Matron of Northern Command and an MBE. I currently live in their house. My father was President of the SA Air Force Association, and later an honorary member of Central Command Officer's mess and awarded the AM. But I never returned from a war zone: My Real Enemies have been the DVA. By 2016 the last pair of DVA subsidised DVA hearing aids had reached the end of their useful life, and I had to pay for a new pair myself, a considerable cost for a pensioner, but vital to be able to function without hearing loss. The OPM rang me at home when I complained to Turnbull, and Turnbull's office told me on the phone to get another prescription and hearing loss report from my GP and the DVA would refund the money. They didn't. The call has been denied. Despite pleas on my behalf by the RSL Advocate, Geoff Yates OAM, the Leader of the House, Christopher Pyne, Sen Xenophon and another of his Senators, and Ms Nicholle Flint MHR, my local member - all failed. The DVA Melbourne DC even wrote without success to the new female Secretary of the Department; the SA Minister Hamilton Smith: Professor Simon Carney, a world famous ENT Specialist who is my doctor have all tried to help me an failed. The Ministers of the DVA and the current PM Morrison via his junior Minister has told me to see my Audiologist and get aids suitable for my illness. I currently have a second DVA white card, just as

useless as the first one as MY specific injury is deemed by Health and algorithms as non existent, and therefore not a specific injury to be treated via the White Card. This means I am unable to get treatment using this card although, Professor Carney was given on the telephone by the DVA while I was in his rooms the OK to give me a Cochlear implant (\$25,000) at clearly a much greater cost than the hearing aids. This means have been made to pay a staggering gap of \$9,450 since 2011, as the DVA clearly intends me to make do with the most basic standard hearing aid supplied by the Health Department- who do not even have the correct name of my current audiologist on their many archives, and which is not suitable for my deafness and does not provide the range of hearing amplification I need to function . My specific complaint against the DVA , is according to my anon legal advisor Class Claim has who has put in writing that he has NOT given me any advice (a safety escape I recognise) and that am unable to obtain compensations as deafness is regarded a unimportant by the DVA : if I were suicidal the answer would be different. The DVA has made a new Determination in 2003, then refused over and over again after 2011 to acknowledge my need for mid cost Range hearing aids.It is implying that my condition does not exist, or is not subject to their liability or that I am intent on defrauding them, all of which are untrue and unacceptable. I have comprehensive records of the whole process, testing, appeals, payments and would be happy to make a further detailed submission including this evidence if the enquiry sees fit and appreciate out if you might be able to make a guess at what amount the DVA should pay after 3 years of lying, denying and hoping I am dying.

