

VVAG - VIETNAM VETERANS ACTION GROUP



From the Desk of the Secretary 24th March 2009

The New Zealand Government (all MP's) have received the Tax package 2 weeks ago. The Ministers auto response acknowledged receipt of same. The same amount as in the RNZRSA submission to the Law Commission rewrite of the War pensions Act. A compensation package which included the tax package was sent to all the MP's over 6 weeks ago. Once again this was acknowledged by the auto reply of same. These were asked to be tabled and discussed. This has not happened and I have not received any indication if the Government ever intend to do anything at all. The submission that we put in has a similar end result of the RNZRSA submission to the Law Commission rewrite of the War Pensions Act. This submission addresses our concerns expressed in our submission to the New Zealand Government. We are asking as an Act of Faith for the Government to give us our tax package.

A disturbing point has been raised in the RNZRSA submission to the Law Commission rewrite of the War pensions Act.

It was agreed in 1916 and reaffirmed in 1954 that the War Pension is to be assessed at 50% of the mean average male weekly wage. This has not happened!! The New Zealand Government appear to be ripping off the Veterans hundreds of millions of dollars in entitlements.

It appears that the New Zealand Government are guilty of section 116 of the Crimes Act "*Conspiring to defeat justice and perverting the course of justice*"

This only one of several criminal actions being committed by the New Zealand Government. *This carries a jail term of up to 7 years.*

The persons responsible should be held to account. As previously stated the Government have had plenty of warning but continue to ignore the gravity of the situation. The question must be asked why can criminal activity allowed to flourish and why should any MP's have immunity from criminal actions?

Its more than time for the Government to stand up and face their collective responsibilities and ignoring them is perpetrating a crime and the persons responsible should be charged.

The Vietnam Veterans have had to put up with 40 years of consecutive Governments misfeasance and criminal activity. To many people have died unnecessarily too much unnecessary grief. "Failure of Duty of Care" It took until December 2006 just over 2 years ago to come to any solution and last year the apology from the NZ Government. The time has come to walk the talk.

Bruce Weir Secretary/ Spokesperson VVAG