



*The Adjutant General*

Office of the Adjutant General  
Trenchard Lines  
Upavon  
Pewsey  
Wiltshire SN9 6BE

01980 615402

AG/12/1/7

Major General C W Orme AM  
Head People Capability  
People Strategies and Policy Group  
Department of Defence  
Russell Offices  
Canberra  
ACT 2600  
Australia

14 December 2008

*Dear Craig,*

Thank you for hosting part of my visit to Australia last week and for allowing me to take up so much of your time and that of your staff. It was really helpful to hear from your people how you have approached the challenges in the personnel area that are common to both our countries. You have gone further than we have on a number of issues, particularly in aspects of housing, remuneration and welfare. We can learn a great deal from your experience and those briefings were exactly what I travelled half way round the world to hear.

I would be grateful if you would pass on my thanks to those who provided the invaluable briefings on personnel issues: Phil Minns for his insights into personnel strategy for the future, Gerald Fogarty for his comprehensive coverage of manning, Anthony Gill and Stephen Rudzki for their explanation of health policy, Bronwyn Gray for standing in at short notice to explain the Defence Community Organisation, Mark Cunliffe and Tania Mathewson on legal issues, Tim Barrett on recruiting, Ken Birrer on retention, Brian Paule and Mark Kelton on pay and allowances, Rob McKellar and Allan McClelland on Housing and last but by no means least Rob Brown and Glen Tye on the Financial Services Consumer Council (a really good idea).

Finally, thank you for lunch in the mess and the opportunity to chat through a variety of issues. If I can ever return the favour when you are in this neck of the woods, please don't hesitate to call.

*Can you,*

*Bill.*

*Copy & Distribute  
thru outlook led 2.1.1*