



RSL Media Release

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RSL Welcomes Government Announcement of Additional Assistance to ADF Personnel Wounded in Action

The Returned and Services League of Australia (RSL) welcomes the announcement by the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, the Hon. Warren Snowdon, that additional housing and removals assistance will be made available to Defence Force Personnel wounded in action who require a live-in carer to aid their rehabilitation.

RSL National President Rear Admiral Ken Doolan said:

"The RSL is pleased the Government has taken this initiative. We have been concerned about this issue for some time and trust that this additional assistance will improve the quality of life for personnel wounded in action."

"For its part the League continues to be proactive in seeking ways of providing assistance to the serving men and women of the Australian Defence Force, particularly those who are away from their families and serving overseas."

"It is significant in this context that the RSL recently launched the RSL Support Pack. Provided through the RSL's Australian Forces Overseas Fund (AFOF), on behalf of the broader Australian community, the RSL provides this pack to every member of the Australian Defence Force seriously wounded on overseas service who requires treatment through the NATO medical facilities in Germany and later long term hospitalisation in Australia. The RSL Support Pack consists of an airline style carry case, tote bag, throw rug, ANZAC Biscuit Tin, sports shirt and shorts, socks, notebook, pen, a broad range of toiletries items, a wet pack, an iPod and a large Australian Flag."

"This RSL initiative in support of those wounded in action is a tangible demonstration of the League's support for the nation's fighting forces. Our aim is to provide some form of comfort to service personnel during their recuperation and a reminder that the members of the League care about the well being of our service personnel and take positive actions such as this to support them."

"Also, the RSL, the RSL & Services Clubs Association and the Department of Defence have joined forces to establish Operation CARE."

"This scheme provides up to one week's rest and recuperation at sites throughout the country for selected Defence personnel and their immediate family, where the Defence member has been repatriated to Australia as a consequence of wounds received in combat areas."

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