

A Message from the Chief of the Defence Force



During the next year you will make one of the biggest financial decisions of your life - you must decide whether to stay in the DFRDB Scheme or transfer to the MSBS. If you leave the ADF with more than 20 years of service, the value of your superannuation entitlement from either the DFRDB Scheme or the MSBS is likely to exceed the value of your house. In the MSBS, 10 years of service would entitle a SGT (E) to benefits of up to \$100,000. Clearly your decision requires careful thought.

I urge every member of the ADF to consider the following matters.

- Research your decision thoroughly. As well as your Personal Information Statement, there are three booklets in this package explaining the benefits available in both Schemes. Every member will have the opportunity to attend an information session conducted by trained advisers. A computer disk is available which enables you to estimate the value of benefits in both Schemes and there is a 008 "hotline" you can call. Do not be afraid to ask questions.
- Think about your career options, family circumstances and the lifestyle you expect to lead after you leave the ADF as well as the monetary value of the benefits available. The timing and form of your superannuation benefit may be as important as the dollars you get.
- Think for yourself. Do not be too influenced by what your mates are doing because their career plans and family circumstances may be quite different to yours.
- Remember both schemes are "packages". Do not make a decision based on one feature which appeals to you without considering all the others.
- Do not rush your decision. You have until 30 September 1992 to decide what is right for you and your family.

More than 70 per cent of ADF members serve for less than 20 years. For this group, the choice is clear cut as the DFRDB Scheme offers no superannuation benefit for these members.

For all others, the choice is not between a good scheme and bad scheme, but between two excellent schemes. Some time spent considering which Scheme suits you best will pay handsome dividends.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P.C. Gration'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

P.C. Gration
General