

The Combined Armed Forces Federation UK  
'Researched Report & Addendums'

Copies of our 'Researched Report & Addendums' have now been forwarded to every Member of Parliament, Defence Representatives in the House of Lords for each of the three Political Parties, and the principal National Newspapers and Television Companies.

Members are requested to write to their Members of Parliament, preferably typed, requesting them to bring this issue to the attention of the Government demanding to know why Occupational Pensions and Gratuities are not being paid for accrued years of service to those servicemen and women serving prior to 1975, and in accordance with existing Parliamentary Legislation. Also what the Government intends doing about it as a matter of urgency?

Members can download a copy of my letter to Sir Peter Viggers MP dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008 and/or write in your own words from the information provided below, plus any additional comments you wish to make. Remember Members can order a full copy of our 'Researched Report and 'Addendums' for half the normal price of £25, including postage at £12.50 by contacting the Secretary General. It could become an historical document!

Sir Peter Viggers MP has been requested to refer the matter to the parliamentary and health service ombudsman who has also been forwarded a copy of our report.

The nominal role of our membership to date has been forwarded by Sir Peter Viggers to the Prime Minister as a petition setting out the individual years of service to this country.

Responses from MPs to date to our report have been very positive.

\*\*\*\*\* Letter to Peter Viggers \*\*\*\*\*  
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Sir Peter Viggers MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

15<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Dear Sir Peter Viggers

The Combined Armed Forces Federation UK  
Researched Report & Addendums

Please find enclosed copies of above which sets out the claim by members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces serving prior to 1975 to Occupational Pensions and Gratuities, Quid Pro Quo, with Members of Parliament and Civil Servants, as well as all other employees with accrued years of service towards Occupational Pensions and Gratuities, prior to 1975.

This claim is in accordance with legislation scrutinised, approved and authorised by Parliament as follows. References are included in the Researched Report and Addendums.

1. The Sir James Grigg Report in 1958 on Armed Forces Recruitment, for those members of the Armed Forces subsequently employed in Government Service as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1959.
2. The Social Security Act 1973 and Social Security and Pensions Act 1975, Transitional and Transfer arrangements for **all** those employees with accrued years of service towards Occupational Pensions and Gratuities both **before and after April 6<sup>th</sup> 1975** to provide equal access for **all men and women**.

These transitional and transfer arrangements were introduced for those members of the Armed Forces serving after 1975, but not for those members of the Armed Forces serving prior to 1975, when they should have been.

This claim cannot therefore be brushed aside as a legacy issue. This is a matter of **'Monies Owning'** and **'Debts Outstanding'** to pre 1975 members of the Armed Forces in accordance with existing Parliamentary legislation.

Additionally this claim cannot be brushed aside due to the recent downturn in the economy as a consequence of the reckless behaviour of irresponsible Bankers. The Armed Forces pre 1975 are just as entitled to be paid their pensions and gratuities as Members of Parliament and Civil Servants serving pre 1975. The only justification the Government might have for not doing so would be if it was decided to withhold Members of Parliament and Civil Servant's pensions in the immediate future. **Quite clearly this is not going to happen.** In any case, at present, the Government needs to ensure as much money as possible is circulating in the economy!

I am given to understand you are a Member of the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee and no doubt questions will arise as to where the money to pay these Armed Forces Pensions and Gratuities, in addition to the amounts outstanding since they were due, along with compensation, will come from? May I suggest one source could be a **'Windfall Tax on City Bonuses'** amounting to £19 Billion last year for example! There are many other examples of profligate accumulations of finance I could suggest but in the final analysis, if needs must, the money can be found by raising **Income Tax and perhaps even a 'Windfall Tax' especially on the super rich.** Also on those having made fortunes over the past 25 years or more! And it should not be forgotten these pre 1975 Members of the Armed Forces, along with everybody else paid Income Tax at 33% during their working lives, in order to recover from the last economic depression created by the Second World War.

I will also be putting in the post to you separately, a full list of our Membership to date which you are requested to forward to the Prime Minister as a petition on behalf of our Members. It details their years of service they gave to this country without recognition. Previous Petitions have been submitted to the Prime Minister without response or even acknowledgement!


You have been very helpful in the past regarding my enquiries and much of my research has been ably assisted by your references to the House of Commons and House of Lords Research Libraries. They have already requested copies of the Report.

Would you now please place our Researched Report and its findings fairly and squarely before the Prime Minister and Parliament, and bring this matter to an immediate conclusion. The introduction of an emergency and adequate Administration to do so will be necessary without question. Many of our Members are in their twilight years. Some have already deceased!

This letter to you will be placed on our Web-site [www.caffuk.org.uk](http://www.caffuk.org.uk) for the benefit of our Membership.

We will look forward to your continued support for which we are very grateful.

Yours sincerely



David Robson  
Secretary General  
The Combined Armed Forces Federation U.K.

\*\*\*\*\* Addendum \*\*\*\*\*  
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The Combined Armed Forces Federation UK  
Researched Report

ADDENDUMS

The following extract from Issue 234 Autumn 2008 of the Civil Service Pensioners Alliance, and written by the retiring General Secretary Brian Sturtevant, arrived too late to be included in our Researched Report. The extract from the Social Security Act 1973 should also have been included and follows the comments on the National Insurance Fund by the Combined Armed Forces Federation.

National Insurance Fund Surplus - CSPA

For years we have been saying that not only is the National Insurance Fund in surplus, but also the surplus is being spent on things other than National Insurance benefits. At first the Government did not even acknowledge there was such a thing as the National Insurance Fund, then we were able to get the Government Actuary's report which detailed the surplus, namely for the last financial year £47 billion, with a forecast rise to the financial year 2012 – 2013 of £114 billion. The Government had to acknowledge the money was there, and now finally, the Government acknowledge that this money is being spent on things other than National Insurance. Mike O'Brien QC, MP, the Pensions Minister, in reply to one of our local groups who was pressing the campaign for spending the National Insurance Fund on National Insurance benefits, replied that "The surplus is invested in public services such as schools and hospitals. The National Insurance Fund operates within the wider fiscal framework and it gives the Government the flexibility to determine its spending priorities in light of the overall economic conditions prevailing in the UK. If this were not the case, the Chancellor would need to raise the equivalent through other means such as raising taxes".

So there you have it. The Alliance was right all along. The money is there to pay improved pensions; the Government instead want to use that money to keep other taxation low. It seems immoral to us that money is taken from working people and their employers to pay National Insurance benefits, the principal one being the State pension, and then it is used on other items. We therefore can afford to re-link the State pension to earnings now and can afford a significant improvement in the basic State pension. The money is there, it is being used for other things. We need to continue to press our MPs that money put aside for pensions is spent on pensions.

Comments by the Combined Armed Forces Federation UK

We are indebted to Brian Sturtevant and the CSPA for pursuing this matter.

It just about sums up the thanks and gratitude you get for paying Income Tax at 33% all your working life, rebuilding this country after the devastation of World War 2 and providing latter day Government Ministers with a free University Education. They shift the burden of taxation onto pensioners and people on low incomes, then, as if that was not enough, use our pension contributions to limit their own burden of taxation!

We wonder if J.K. Rowling knew where the money for new schools came from and whether she would be prepared to donate £1 million to The Combined Armed Forces Federation UK for our pensioners to share? And would any future Government please stop using taxpayers money to run the rest of the world and concentrate on using it to run this country instead? Let other country's taxpayers pay for the "Red Carpet" treatment for a change!

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SOCIAL SECURITY ACT 1973 38/SCHEDULE 16

Section 63 (1)

SCHEDULE 16

Requirements as to Preservation of Benefit under Occupational Pension Schemes.

Part 1  
Interpretation

Paragraph 3 (1)

"Pensionable Service", in relation to a scheme and a member of it, means service in relevant employment which qualifies the member (on the assumption that it continues for the appropriate period) for long service benefit under the scheme, **including service before the appointed day.**

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If you wish to quote from this Researched Report please do so.

David Robson (Editor)  
Secretary General  
The Combined Armed Forces Federation U.K.