Statement of Principles

concerning

HEPATITIS A

ICD CODE: 70.0, 70.1

Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 subsection 196B(2)

- 1. Being of the view that there is sound medical-scientific evidence that indicates that **hepatitis A** and **death from hepatitis A** can be related to operational service rendered by veterans, peacekeeping service rendered by members of Peacekeeping forces and hazardous service rendered by members of the Forces, the Repatriation Medical Authority determines, under subsection 196B(2) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, that the factors that must as a minimum exist before it can be said that a reasonable hypothesis has been raised connecting **hepatitis A** or **death from hepatitis A** with the circumstances of that service, are:
 - (a) living in conditions of overcrowding or poor hygiene within the 60 days before contracting hepatitis A; or
 - (b) having received, within the 60 days before contracting hepatitis A, a blood transfusion or blood products injection; or
 - (c) inability to obtain appropriate clinical management for hepatitis A.
- 2. Subject to clause 3 (below) at least one of the factors set out in paragraphs 1(a) to 1(c) must be related to any service rendered by a person.
- 3. The factor set out in paragraph 1(c) applies only where:

- (a) the person's **hepatitis A** was contracted prior to a period, or part of a period, of service to which the factor is related; and
- (b) the relationship suggested between the **hepatitis** A and the particular service of a person is a relationship set out in paragraph 8(1)(e), 9(1)(e), 70(5)(d), or 70(5A)(d) of the Act.
- 4. For the purposes of this Statement of Principles:

"blood products injection" means the injection of material extracted from human blood;

"hepatitis A" means infection with a 27nm, positive strand ribonucleic acid (RNA) virus that causes hepatitis A antigen, attracting ICD code 70.0 or 70.1;

"ICD code" means a number assigned to a particular kind of injury or disease in the tenth edition of the *International Classification of Diseases* 9th Revision, effective date of 1 October 1993, copyrighted by the US Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities, and having the Library of Congress number 77-94472.

Dated this	day of	1994
The Common Seal of the)	
Repatriation Medical Authority)	
was affixed to this instrument)	
in the presence of:)	

KEN DONALD CHAIRMAN