



Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN)

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 23 December

2019

Bushfires a National Security Threat

- **Bushfires in Australia a real national security issue in contrast to talked up threats of hostile nations in our region**
- **Climate change a significant cause of the fires**

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Bushfires in Australia are a real national security issue in contrast to talked up threats of an alleged hostile nations in our region, according to the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN).

Australians are heading into a Christmas day of smoke, fires, death and devastation, with no significant rain projected for weeks, anxiety is rising about when this catastrophe will end.

Many are asking why our leadership isn't acknowledging climate change as a significant cause of the fires and **why is the Australian Defence Force and its highly trained personnel not taking a more active role in fighting the fires- instead of exhausted volunteers and fire fighters?** said Annette Brownlie, Chairperson IPAN.

"Lack of public admission of links between increasing temperatures and human-made climate change is not just a failure of analysis but also a betrayal of all Australians."

"Australia's decision to spend \$200 billion on military hardware including Joint Strike fighter jets and submarines over the next 10 years must be challenged as it is evident that climate change consequences such as drought, rising temperatures and bushfires will demand this money be spent providing genuine national security rather than engaging in wars unrelated to the defence of Australians."

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