

Date: 15 December 2016

To: letters@smh.com.au

Subject: We do not need America's 'protection'

Dear Sir

Once again a high-ranking American military officer has presumed that it is OK for him (a foreigner) to tell us about strategically significant events, going to happen on Australian sovereign territory. ('Fighters to Launch from Australia...', December 15).

When will the wisdom of Malcolm Fraser, who described the USA as a dangerous ally, sink in? When will Australians realise, after 115 years of nominal independence, that we now really are big enough, old enough and ugly enough to stand on our own two feet and look after our own affairs? We do not need America's 'protection' and would be more secure without it.

Admiral Harry Harris has simply outlined developments that will serve the interests of the United States. For him whether or not Australian interests are served is incidental and beside the point. Against the background of rising tensions between China and the US, the last thing Australia should be is a de facto US aircraft carrier.

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