Reviewer's report

Title: Traumatic events, other operational stressors and physical and mental health reported by Australian Defence Force personnel following peace-keeping and war-like deployments

Version: 2 Date: 3 May 2012

Reviewer: Danny Horesh

Reviewer's report:

I believe that in the revised version of the text, the authors have dealt nicely with most of my comments, especially with the subjective/objective exposure distinction.

While I believe this revision now makes the ms suitable for publication, there are still several issues worth correcting;

1. I suggest the authors find a way to include their response to me regarding gender in the manuscript itself. Readers may want to know this.

2. While the authors did add reliability data to the measures section, they mostly relied on data from previous studies. I see no reason why they should not calculate Cronbach's Alphas from their own study. Also, for some measures, there is still no psychometric info (e.g., "A 67 item symptom checklist").

3. I felt like the authors did not fully address my comment regarding the low response rate. I recommend that they at least note this as a weakness in the limitations sections.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.