A word for our fallen heroes.

Last week's air crash in the Congo brought a tragic end to six of Australia's mining heroes.

People such as those we lost in this unfortunate tragedy, have been responsible for giving Australia an international reputation for fair and straight dealing, second to none.

Those of us still engaged in the industry have this challenging legacy to uphold.

Ours' is an industry marked by its close camaraderie but a dangerous and difficult one. However, we can meet this challenge, despite the torpedoes fired below water level from time to time.

Let's keep Australian mining strong!

I remember Lang Hancock saying, "A healthy dog can always survive a few political fleas."

Our thoughts, at this time, are with the families, friends and work colleagues of these Australian mining heroes.

Ron Manners,

Mannkal Economic Education Foundation

West Perth

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